



*The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.*

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*Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.*

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



The Department of Theatre and Dance at SUNY Potsdam present

# NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD

Lori Allen Ohm, Author

from the George Romero/John Russo classic film

Thursday, October 27, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.\*

Saturday, October 29, 7:30 p.m. & midnight

Sunday, October 30, 2 p.m.

Black Box Theater,  
Performing Arts Center

\* ASL Interpretation is available at the Friday, October 28 performance



# Night of the Living Dead

Lori Allen Ohm, Author

from the George Romero/John Russo classic film

## CREW

Stage Manager..... Emily Bailey  
Assistant Stage Manager..... Ryan Holahan  
Light Board Operator..... Nicholas Rondinelli  
Backstage Crew..... Hailey Morgan  
Sound Board Operator..... Denaisha Clarke  
Director..... Jay Pecora  
Set Design..... Todd Canedy  
Assistant Set Design..... Abigail Duncan  
Light Design..... Tom Grabowski  
Prop Design..... Emma (Josey) Milligan  
Scenic Carpenter..... Robert Woods  
Sound Design..... Phil Valuzzi III  
SFX Consultant..... Anna Maguire  
Program Design..... Sheila Neal  
Publicity..... Alex Jacobs, Donna Planty, Mindy Thompson  
Principle Photography..... Jason Hunter  
Poster Design..... JP Manke  
ASL Interpretation..... Third Eye Interpreting, LLC  
Oct 28 interpreters are Elijah Southwick and Kaitlin Levine

### Special Thanks:

DRAM 333 Make-up class, Daisy Cox, Thriftique, Dean Imai, Provost Hersker, President Neisser, and Bill Beauchamp

## Setting

Place: Farmhouse in Middle-America | Time: Late 1960s

## CAST OF NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD

Barbara..... Megan Fregoe  
Johnny..... Jemdryl (Queen) De La Cruz Bueno  
Ben..... Aaliyah Caballero Cortez  
Helen Cooper..... Madyson Bloxham  
Karen Cooper..... Emma (Josey) Milligan  
Harry Cooper..... John George  
Judy..... Carter Shults  
Tom..... Phil Valuzzi III  
Chief McClellan..... Jonah Miller  
News Anchor..... Luka DeLara  
Bill Bardough..... Nicholas Labrozzi  
Dr. Grimes..... Lauren Micklewright  
Deputy..... Walker Moore  
Zombies..... Joseph Agori  
Emily Champion  
Kiara Chase  
Elaine Goris  
Aislinn Hertle  
Anna Maguire  
Alyssa Normington  
Em O'Donnell  
Jenna Switzer  
Lendhi Zamor

## CONTENT WARNING

Please be advised that the following are used in this play:

- Gunshots
- Blood
- Extreme gore
- Flesh eating
- Strobe lights
- Extreme violence

Also please note that one of the scenes shows a white male police officer shooting and killing a Black woman.

## BIOS



**Joseph Agori** (Zombie) is a senior from Brooklyn, NY. Previous performance credits include Macbeth at Brooklyn Theatre Arts, Smokey Joe's Cafe at Brooklyn Theatre Arts, and Color In Motion here at SUNY Potsdam. Joseph is very excited to bring his talents back to the Black Box Theater this semester as a zombie! He would like to thank Jay Pecora and the rest of the cast for welcoming him to be a part of this show. Joseph hopes you have a good night and enjoy the show!



**Emily Bailey** (Stage Manager) is a junior Theatre major from Corinth, NY. She has performed and held production roles in theatre and opera throughout high school and here at SUNY Potsdam, and she is thrilled to be making her debut as Stage Manager in this frightening production! Notable credits include Costume Design for the award-winning Crane Opera Ensemble's Zazá, Wardrobe Management for the SUNY Potsdam Dept. of Theatre & Dance production of Ready, Steady, Yeti, Go!, and The Ghost of Christmas Present in Scrooge with The King's School Drama Club. Emily hopes to pursue a career in Costume Design & History. She would like to thank the theatre faculty for opening doors for her to pursue higher opportunities, her mother for being a backbone of honest encouragement, and Sarah Lueck for making sure her cat gets fed during long nights at rehearsal.



**Madyson Bloxham** (Helen) is a senior Theatre major with a concentration in Technical Theatre from Gouverneur, NY. Previous performance credits include Cinderella, The Little Mermaid Jr., Alice in Wonderland, The Addams Family, Mutually Assured Destruction, Foot-loose, The 8 Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life, Big Fish, The NSAs Guide to Making Friends and Influencing People, The Drowsy Chaperone and Aladdin Jr., all from the Gouverneur High School Drama Department. This is her first performance in 4 years. She is excited for her college performance debut in Night of the Living Dead as Helen Cooper. She would like to thank her professor Josh Vink for getting her to audition, Jay Pecora for casting her and the entire theatre and dance department for putting on such a fun show! She hopes you have a ghoul-tastic time!



**Aaliyah Caballero-Cortez** (Ben) is a senior entering her last semester here. The Bronx native's background in theatre started with The Possibility Project, an after-school program in NYC for highschoolers where she learned how to create musicals from scratch and put it on with her cast-mates Off-Broadway, as well as strengthen her acts of activism. She has gone on to do productions during her time at SUNY Potsdam that include Love and Information, "Plays Across the Walls", Every 28 Hours, and Our Town. Although she's afraid of horror, she is delighted to be playing Ben in this frightening production. She thanks her Mom and close family members, as well as close friends Rosa, Imani, Queen, Hannoy and more for their overwhelming support. She also thanks her mentors/professors Jay Pecora and Joshua Vink for challenging her and pushing her to be the best performer she can be.



**Todd P. Canedy** (Scenic Designer) received a BFA in Communications, Emphasis in Technical Theatre from Chapman University and an MFA in Scenic Design from California State University, Fullerton. Todd is an Associate Professor of Design in the Department of Theatre and Dance and has been at SUNY Potsdam for 13 years.



**Emily Champion** (Zombie) is a sophomore Biology Major from Watertown, New York. She has been in a production of Snow White for a local theater production in Alma, Georgia. She has always wanted to rip someone's throat out. She would like to thank her aunt, Beth, for her support, and her parents for her teeth. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Kiara Chase** (Zombie) is a freshman majoring in Arts Management from Ogdensburg, NY. Previous performance credits include Aida with Ogdensburg Free Academy and Seussical with ACT Children's Theater at St. John's. She is super excited to be joining the cast of Night of the Living Dead as a zombie! She would like to personally thank Dantae Rodriguez, and Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer, along with her other friends and family for inspiring her to continue theatre. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Denaisha Clarke** (Sound Board Op, Wardrobe) is a sophomore dance major from Brooklyn, NY. She is very excited to be working crew with such an amazing cast. She hopes you will enjoy the show!



**Jemdryl (Queen) De La Cruz Bueno** (Johnny) is a senior majoring in Theatre with a minor in Acting. He is from Manhattan, New York. Previous Performances he has done are Dracula, Almost Maine, Secret in the Wings, and She Kills Monsters from Lower Manhattan Arts Academy. He has also done Love and Information, Ready, Steady, Yeti, Go!, and Our Town, from SUNY Potsdam. He is very excited to perform Night of the Living Dead! He would like to thank his Mom and his brother for always supporting him! He hopes you enjoy the show!



**Luka DeLara** (News Anchor) is a senior Theatre and History double major from Ravena, New York. Previous performance credits include the Ugly Duckling in Shrek the Musical with the Cue Theatre, Sister Mary Lazarus in Sister Act with the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk CSD, and the Son in The Trail to Oregon with SUNY Schenectady which was canceled due to COVID. This is Luka's first production with the Department of Theatre and Dance and they are very excited to report to you live about the flesh-eating ghouls! They would like to thank their family, their fiancée Erin, their friends, and the rest of the cast for their support and a great experience. They hope that you enjoy the show and get scared!

**Abigail Duncan** (Asst. Set Designer) is a senior from Cold Spring, NY, and is majoring in Creative Writing and Technical Theatre. She has previously worked on the Faculty and Student Choreographer's Concerts, as well as Wiley and the Hairy Man. She is so happy to have been able to take part in this show and would like to give a special thank you to Todd and Tom! She hopes that you all enjoy the show!



**Megan Fregoe** (Barbara) is a senior theater major and musical theater minor at SUNY Potsdam. Throughout her time on campus, she has been in three productions through MTO including Heathers (2018), The Theory of Relativity (2019), and Into the Woods (2019). In 2021, she was cast in the mainstage production of The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later as Romaine Patterson. She was then later involved in the 2021 production of "Plays Across the Walls". Last summer she was involved in the CPS production of Once Upon A Mattress(2022). She is so grateful to have been cast as Barbara in this year's production!



**John George** (Harry) is a senior Political Science major from Syracuse, New York. He is a newcomer to acting, with Night of the Living Dead being his first acting role ever. John would like to thank the cast and crew for making his first time such a memorable experience, and he would like to thank his friends and family for coming out to support him.



**Elaine Goris** (Zombie) is from The Bronx, NY. All of her previous performance experiences have been dance related – this is her first time acting in a play. She is really excited to be a part of Night of the Living Dead, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



**Tom Grabowski** (Lighting Designer, PAC Facilities Manager) graduated from the University of Illinois with an MFA in Design. He taught at UTPA/UTRGV for 35 years, designing lights and/or sets for 300 shows and is now with SUNY Potsdam as the Facilities Manager for the PAC and adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance. He enjoys sunsets and sharing rainbows.



**Aislinn Hertle** (Zombie) is a Class of 2026 Adolescent Education Major in US History/Political Science from Kingston, NY. She is so excited to be a part of this show and getting to know everyone. She would like to thank her parents who have always supported her and her friends for being there for me. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Ryan Holahan** (Asst. Stage Manager) is a freshman from Rochester, New York. Previous performances he has been a crew of are The Wizard of Oz Jr., The Princess and the Pea Jr., You're a Good Man Charlie Brown Jr., The Music Man Jr., Anne of Green Gables, Bye Bye Birdie, "Finding Joy: A Musical Revue", "An Evening of One Acts", and The Little Mermaid. He has been a

part of the crews and Stage Management team for his shows for many years and is excited to add Night of the Living Dead to his portfolio.



**Nicholas Labrozzi** (Bill Bardough) is a junior at SUNY Potsdam and is majoring in Theatre. Nicholas grew up in the small town of Shelter Island, New York, where he learned his passion for performing. He is playing the part of Bill Bardough in this production. Their past performances with the school include The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later, and Our Town. Nicholas is extremely

excited to be back acting in person again with this being his first live production since junior year of high school and can't wait for you to enjoy the play! Thank you cousin Maia for stopping by and seeing our show!



**Anna or Frankie Maguire** (Zombie) is a first year Theatre and Art double major from South Huntington, NY, who has been participating in theatre since they were 8. They also have a love of horror makeup and performance, and have experience building and working in haunted attractions. That being said, they are very excited to be joining the cast of Night of the Living Dead as a

Zombie. They would like to thank everyone who participated in the show for their hard work in making this such a great performance! Happy Halloween!



**Lauren Micklewright** (Dr. Grimes) is a Musical Theatre international exchange student from North East England. She has been performing in a variety of pantomimes, plays, musicals and dance recitals since a young age. Previous performance credits include the title characters in the pantomimes Cinderella and Little Bo Peep with Baytown Players, the musicals Bring It On and Carrie

with Middlesbrough College, and Incorporeal Corporal, Primrose in Darling Buds of May and Emma in What I Did At School Today, with Nunthorpe Players. Lauren is excited to have the opportunity to be part of a performance while here in the States, and she feels honoured to be able to share her experience with an amazing cast and crew. She hopes you enjoy the show.(And yes, the accent is real)



**Jonah Miller** (Chief McClellan) is a sophomore Theatre major with a Design & Production minor from Prospect, Connecticut. Previous performance credits include Randolph from Bye Bye Birdie with Woodland Regional High school(cancelled due to COVID). Jonah is very excited to be joining the cast of Night of the Living Dead as Chief McClellan, and would like to thank family and friends for

always being there! Jonah hopes that you enjoy the show!



**Emma** (Josey) **Milligan** (Karen, Props Designer) is a Dance Major and Pre-Creative Arts Therapy Minor who wishes to integrate art and dance/movement with therapy. Her performance roots are in ballet, modern, lyrical, and partnering technique. Eight years ago, she branched out to other disciplines in circus and aerial arts. She has continued learning, teaching, and training many of these various

disciplines ever since. Starting at age twelve, Emma was the Choreographer for the Tioga Hills Elementary School Musicals for ten years. As well as the Assistant Choreographer and performer in this past summer's CPS performance Once Upon A Mattress. She looks forward to continuing her education.



**Walker Moore** (Deputy)



**Hailey Morgan** (Backstage Crew) is a senior vocal performance major from Glenmont, New York. Previous performance credits include La Bohème and Suor Angelica with the La Musica Lirica organization. She is very excited to be working crew for the first time with Night of the Living Dead.



**Alyssa Normington** (Zombie) is a freshman from Evans Mills, New York. This is her first college production and she is very excited to be a part of the team as a zombie. She would like to thank her parents for always supporting her theatre dreams and her new friends for making rehearsals more fun, and she hopes that you all enjoy the show!



**Em O'Donnell** (Zombie) is a first-year Creative Writing major from Lancaster, New York. They are so excited to join the Night of the Living Dead cast as a zombie! They would like to thank their parents for their encouragement of their love of the performing arts and they hope you enjoy the show!



**Jay Pecora** (Director) is Associate Professor of Theatre at SUNY Potsdam. He received his BFA from the Theatre School at DePaul, his teacher certification in social studies from Hunter College and an MA in Urban Education from the Graduate Center CUNY. His PhD is from New York University in Theatre Education. As a professional actor and director, Jay worked in LA, Chicago and NYC. Jay has directed several productions for Potsdam including *Funnyhouse of a Negro*, *Anon(ymous)*, *The Wrestling Season*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *Wiley and the Hairy Man*. The last production Jay directed, *Ready Steady Yeti Go*, was awarded Best Ensemble at the national level by KCACTF.



**Mia Rodriguez** (Radio Announcer) is incredibly honored to be a part of the Night of the Living Dead cast. She has been acting for over a decade for local plays and musicals and has been doing voice over work for almost a year. Some of her previous roles include Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Snyder in *Newsies*, and The Duchess in *Alice in Wonderland*. She would like to extend her thanks and gratitude to all of the wonderful cast and crew for this production for welcoming her into the cast, and all of her family and friends for their never-ending support. Mia hopes that the audience thoroughly enjoys the show and gives them a fright!



**Nicholas Rondinelli** (Light Board Op) is a senior Music Performance major from Oneida, NY. He's very excited to do a show with zombies!



**Carter Shults** (Judy) is a third-year Theatre major from Rochester, NY. This is her third production with SUNY Potsdam; past shows include Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* as well as the 10-minute plays festival, "Plays Across the Walls." She'd like to thank her parents for their encouragement, as well as director Jay Pecora and stage management for being huge pillars of support throughout this process. Also, special thanks to Phil, she couldn't have done this without you!



**Jenna Switzer** (Zombie) is a first-year student from Tupper Lake, NY. Her previous performances include *Footloose* and *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* with her highschool theater. She is excited to be a zombie eating people in *Night of the Living Dead*.



**Phil Valluzzi III** (Tom) is a senior Theatre Major at SUNY Potsdam from Middletown, NY. Phil was a transfer student, so in his junior year he participated in both mainstage productions of *Ready, Steady, Yeti, Go!* where he played Goon and was also in *Our Town* where he played the character George Gibbs. Phil has learned many acting techniques while being here and is so glad to be working with so many amazing castmates. Phil is so excited to be a part of the cast of *Night of the Living Dead* and is so glad to be playing the character Tom. Phil would like to thank the cast, crew, production team, and Director Jay Pecora for all the help he's given Phil on his journey here. He hopes you all enjoy the show!



**Lendhi Zamor** (Zombie) is a sophomore Creative Writing BFA major from Brooklyn, NY. Lendhi is very excited to bring her talents to the Black Box Theater this semester as a zombie! She would like to thank Jay Pecora and the rest of the cast for welcoming her to be a part of this show. Lendhi hopes you have a good night and enjoy the show!



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