The STA/NCS Thespian Society Presents

THE THEORY OF RELATIVITY

Music and Lyrics by Neal Bartram
Book by Brian Hill

A Virtual Hybrid Cinema Production
February 26th and 27th, 2021
The Theory Of Relativity

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The Theory Of Relativity
Is produced by special arrangement
With
Music Theatre International
And
Showtix4u
**Artistic Production Staff**

**Director**
Mark Bishop

**Music Director**
Brandon Straub

**Asst. Music Director**
Jason Sherlock

**Choreographers**
Maurice Johnson, Lauren Tischart, Vlad Angelov, Kinari Pierce,

**Cinematography**
Greg Lampasona

**Video Production**
Greg Lampasona

**Costume Design**
Anne Liberman

**Production Coordinator**
Maddie King*

**Asst. Prod. Coordinator**
Alyssa Bui*

**Production Crew**
Ethan Child*

**Poster and Program Art**
Eleanor Boomhower*

**Trailer Design & Editing**
Nico Cantrell*

(*) - denotes a member of The Thespian Society.

Membership is earned by working a total of 100 hours on two or more Upper School productions.

We have a very active Thespian Society Troupe on the Close. Nearly twenty percent of our Upper School students are involved in production work in some fashion during the course of the year. Currently we have forty seven members of our Thespian Troupe with more who will join the ranks after this production. It is wonderful that so many of our students are engaged in the art and craft of making live (and virtual!) theater to share with our so very supportive audiences!

**Director’s Notes**

A year ago at this time we were all enjoying the Thespian Society’s production of “Urinetown: The Musical”. The time between then and now has been described as unprecedented and challenging as we have all met the challenge of the Covid-19 Pandemic as it has held us in its grip in one way or another. Little did any of us know, as “Urinetown” closed and we moved on to The Festival Of Student-Directed One-Act Plays, what lay in store for us. We mounted our first virtual production last spring with a Zoom One-Act Play Festival, and our student directors and actors responded marvelously. Since that time we have produced “Anti-Social” with the Upper School in November, and “She Kills Monsters” with the Middle School in December. Each of these productions allowed all of us to develop a better understanding of how to work in the challenging virtual world of “Zoom Theater”. With green screens, ring lights, various earbud arrangements, and extensive video and audio editing we have refined our “Virtual Hybrid Cinema” approach to production.

“The Theory Of Relativity” sees us continuing that work. Producing a musical virtually has been a challenge for all of us. Cast members have done all their own audio recording at home, submitting numerous files through too many google forms. These files have been compiled, aligned, and mastered by Mr. Straub to create our finished performance tracks. A storyboard slide deck of close to two hundred slides was developed by Mr. Bishop and Mr. Lampasona that guided the video recording process, and costumes were shipped to cast members’ homes by Ms. Liberman.

We hope you enjoy our show. “The Theory Of Relativity” weaves multiple stories about relationships through the seventeen songs and scenes in the show, sharing the ups and downs inherent in all relationships. Bravo to our cast that has worked so hard to bring this production to life! I admire their resiliency and have thoroughly enjoyed creating our show with them all! Borrowing from lyrics from the show we say to our cast and crew, “We are nothing without you”!
The Cast

Adam Matthew Merril*
Amy Lucy Purvis*
Anthony Teddy Palmore*
Beth Fiona Herbold*
Caroline Eleanor Boomhower*
Diane Stella-Grace Ford*
Ellie Katie Keeley*
Fran & Dr. O’Hara Aurelia Cors*
Gwen Kendall Brady*
Helen Ariana Thornton
Jenny Lucie Gray-Miller*
Julie Arya Balian*
Kate Bella Guagenti
Lisa Lily Snyder*
Mike Zachary Cantrell*
Mira Isabel Hohenlohe*
Oliver William Barbee*
Paul Jake Fife*
Rebecca Cate Dougherty
Ryan David Donoghue*
Sara Natalie Minor*
Tracy Katie Jordan
Vivian Bendu Joemah

Musical Numbers & Scenes

Person A: Company
Relativity Company
I’m Allergic To Cats Paul & Dr. O’Hara
Cake & Pi, Part One Catherine and Adam
The End Of The Line Sara and Jenny
Great Expectations Beth, Diane and Company
Relativity Reprise #1 Caroline, Julie, Mira, Oliver and Ryan
Footprint Ryan
Cake & Pi, Part Two Catherine and Adam
Lipstick Anthony and Lisa
Transition To Apples & Oranges Paul, Sara, Jenny, Adam, Catherine, Mike, and Ryan
Apples & Oranges Oliver and Mike
Me & Rickey Caroline, Ellie, Fran, Gwen, Helen, Kate, Rebecca, Tracy and Vivian
Promise Me This Mira
Cake & Pi, Part Three Catherine and Adam
Relativity Reprise #2 Company
You Will Never Know Anthony, Mike, Caroline, Ryan, Paul and Company
Person A Reprise Company
Manicure Amy
Nothing Without You Company
Cast Bios

**Eleanor Boomhower** can’t wait for her final appearance on[stage]screen in [Trapier]Zoom! After eight shows with the NCS/STA Thespian Society, Eleanor is proud to say that she has advanced her dance skills: where she once sprinted around doing 90 minutes straight of 60s dance moves in freshman year, she now sways in her box without any regard for rhythm. (She insists that this is due to connectivity issues.) When not on Zoom, she can be found losing all of the emails from Mr. Bishop. Enjoy the show! Shoutout to the freshman for doing their first upper school musical online!

For his last Thespian Musical, **David Donoghue** is excited.

**Isabel Hohenlohe** is really excited to be playing Mira in Theory of Relativity for her last musical at NCS! When not making hand gestures in front of the green screen that she always forgets to turn off before class, Isabel loves singing in Sarsaparilla and dancing on dance team. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Arya Balian** is so excited to play Julie in the virtual Upper School musical, “The Theory of Relativity”. As Arya is allergic to cats, she was ecstatic to be able to play a crazy cat lady. When not in rehearsal, Arya can be found doing homework or looking at a screen for several hours straight every day of the week. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**William Barbee** is delighted to be portraying the astrophysicist Stephen Hawking in the musical rendition of "The Theory of Everything"... oh wait... you mean "The Theory of Relativity"? Oh... well then. While he hasn't had to undergo that challenge (yet), William certainly dedicated a lot of his time towards this production. Two costume changes, 317 million recordings due per night, and a mountain-sized head of hair were all quite the task considering his other various activities. Nevertheless, William fought past the onslaught of insomnia and confusing Mr. Bishop emails to throw his all into this show. He truly hopes you enjoy, and he wants to thank the whole Theater Department for continuing the arts virtually during this time. You all are the best
Lucie Gray-Miller is a junior at NCS. She is so excited to be performing in her third upper school performance with the Thespian Society! She hopes you all enjoy the show!

Fiona Herbold is excited to be in her 7th show at NCS. While she misses hanging out with her friends backstage in Trapier, she is looking forward to seeing how her first Zoom musical comes together. Special thanks to her family for putting up with the greenscreen, and to her cat for walking on her computer during recordings.

Julia Sherman and Matthew Merril once again make their return to the "stage" together. After their wickedly funny performance in "Parental Oversight," the pair embark on a group therapy journey together with the Cake/Pi combination. This is now Julia and Matthew’s second bio together, and second show starring across from each other. Mr. Bishop clearly recognizes their spectacular virtual chemistry together. You probably recognize Matthew from his Tiktok fame, and you probably recognize Julia from, well, nowhere. Anyway, Julia and Matthew hope you enjoy the show. Please make it through the whole thing.

Natalie Minor is very excited to be in her 3rd virtual show and her 6th Upper School production. When she is not putting up a green screen in record time, she is struggling through junior year work, zooming with her friends, and blasting music at all hours of the day. She would like to formally apologize to Mr. Bishop for putting up with her inability to submit recordings on time. She would also like to thank her parents, who have suffered through months of late rehearsals, and her sister, who let her practice her song in the car. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Lucy Purvis, a junior, is ecstatic to be performing in her ninth NCS production, this time in the role of Amy! What the Theory of Relativity characters lack in surnames, they make up for in physics references. So, Lucy hopes her monologue helps the audience remember the speed of light in its most inconvenient unit, mi/s. When not on the virtual stage, she enjoys painting, drawing, and folding origami cranes. She hopes you enjoy the show!
Lily Snyder is excited to participate in this year's online musical. Despite the many green screen technical difficulties, she loved working on the show and hopes that you enjoy “The Theory of Relativity”!

Kendall Brady is very excited to be in her second Thespian Society musical, and is grateful to the leadership for all the time and work put into the production, and the cast for once again making the musical an incredibly fun experience, despite everything being remote! she hopes everyone "relatively" enjoys the show!!

To the joy of many, Zachary Cantrell is no longer able to break anything in Trapier Theater, and has instead had a great time becoming invisible with random green objects in his house. It has been nice being able to record the show, but Zach cannot wait until the thespian society is in person again.

Aurelia Cors is excited to perform in her third production as a National Cathedral School student. She loved being in the musical, Urinetown, last year and was excited to participate this year, even if the production is virtual. She has enjoyed rehearsing as Fran and Dr. O’Hara. Aurelia wants to thank her parents and brother for attempting to be quiet and accommodating during rehearsals at home. She is excited to be part of this production and she hopes you have fun and enjoy the performance. Thanks for watching!

Jake Fife is a sophomore in his fifth production in the upper school. Jake was previously in the productions of "The Laramie Project," "Urinetown," "Dance Gala," and "Anti-Social." He has also done productions in middle school and many dance performances outside of school. Jake has always loved theatre, whether on the stage or in the audience, and he enjoys singing and listening to music. Jake is playing the role of Paul in "The Theory of Relativity." Jake hopes you enjoy the show!
**Stella-Grace** is excited to be in her first production as a Thespian and her first online musical. She hopes you enjoy the show.

**Katie Keeley** is so excited to be part of her third show with the Thespian Society! When she's not in rehearsal or filming, she's probably practicing new tap steps or swimming. She'd like to thank her parents for dealing with her rehearsal schedule and her castmates for keeping the process fun online.

**Teddy Palmore** is excited to play Anthony in Theory of Relativity! Despite what every other member of the cast might tell you, Anthony is the real hero of the story.

**Cate Dorigan** is excited to be in her first musical in upper school. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Bella Guagenti** is excited to be a part of her first production with the Thespian Society, no matter how unconventional it may be. She would like to thank her family for not complaining (too much) when she recorded for the musical. She hopes you enjoy the show!
**Bendu Joemah** is excited to join this year's ensemble. She developed an early interest in the performing arts and has continued on this journey, in and out of school. She appreciates her family's endless support and encouragement.

**Katie Jordan** is thrilled to be in her first production with the Thespian Society. She thanks her family and friends for putting up with her constant singing. She hopes you are entertained by the show!

**Ariana Thornton** is thrilled to be a part of The Theory of Relativity! When not humming to the songs playing on repeat in her head, she can be found doodling or snacking on yet another piece of chocolate. She would like to thank everyone for their support, and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Madeline King** is excited to be stage managing her fourth production, and her second virtual one. Although she misses being in Trapier for rehearsals, she does enjoy getting to, in Mr. Bishop’s words, “mute her camera” and do some homework while watching the actors try to dance in front of their green screens. She is very grateful for her assistant, Alyssa, even though she ended up going to rehearsal almost everyday anyway. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Alyssa Bui** is excited to be in her 4th upper school production! Although she struggled to take choreography notes, she's very glad to have stage managed for the first time ever in “The Theory of Relativity”! She hopes that you enjoy the show and appreciate everyone's efforts to pull this virtual production together.
Special Thanks

Sue Bosland
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Cast Families