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Theatre Discipline Closes Season with *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

- *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is a bold new take on a classic story, with a few surprises in store.*
- *Directed by Professor of Theatre Arts Ray Schultz, the show runs April 12–13.*

The University of Minnesota Morris Theatre Discipline closes its 2018–19 season with *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, a fresh adaptation of the classic L. Frank Baum novel, written by Jacqueline E Lawton. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* runs April 12–13.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is a bold new take on a classic story, with a few surprises in store. Join Dorothy Gale as she is whisked away to the magical land of Oz, where she meets a colorful cast of characters, from the Scarecrow, to the Cowardly Lion, to the powerful Wizard himself.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is directed by Professor of Theatre Arts Ray Schultz. Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts Lucas Granholm '12 is scenic, lighting, props, and sound designer, and scene shop supervisor is Benjamin Fink. Granholm is assisted by Alyssa Olsen '19, Cloquet, and Nicole Anderson '22, Maplewood, assistant scenic designers; Madison Grimsbo '21, Duluth, assistant lighting designer; Caroline Vodacek '19, New Auburn, Wisconsin, props designer; and Evan Aanerud '21, Fergus Falls, sound designer; Zoe Swigerd '19, Austin, assistant director; Bailey Soika '19, Saint Paul, dramaturg; Katie Curry, costume designer and shop manager at Concordia College Moorhead, costume designer; and Zoe Johnson, costume shop supervisor. Other members of the design team include Alyssa Kraft '21, Oakdale, puppet designer; Maija Whitefeather '19, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, choreographer; and Hannah Retzer '19, Byron, movement director and fight choreographer; Wendy Unger '19, Minneapolis, stage manager; Justin Martin '22, Rogers, Hailey Stobb '21, Milaca, assistant stage managers; Bridgette Anderson '20, Kimball, Elijah Bass '22, Byron, Jenna Carlson '22, Maple Grove, Geordi Jones '20, Watson, Braeden Mcdougal '19, Minneapolis, Aaron Otten '21, Buffalo, Max Piotrowski '20, Lexington, Paige Quinlivan '19, Saint Paul, Oliver Rivera, and Tess Walker '22, Chisago City, crew.

The production features a 15-student cast led by Natalie Wallraff '20, Blaine, as Dorothy, and Emily Kjenass '22, Park Rapids, as her canine companion, Toto. They are accompanied by Aanerud as Scarecrow; Katie Booth '21, Saint Paul, as the Cowardly Lion; and Spencer Hammerstein '19, White Bear Lake, as the Tin Woodman and Uncle Henry. Claire McManus '19, Robbinsdale, is Aunt Em and the Wicked Witch of The West, and Laura Steblay '19, Rogers, is the Wizard of Oz. Locasta, Good Witch of the North is played by Chelsea Young '20, (Spring Lake Park) while Dana Voss '22, Hartford, South Dakota, is Glinda, Good Witch of the South. Other cast members include Desmond Homann '21, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the Guardian of the Gates, Hannah Retzer as the King of the Winged Monkeys, and Madison Grimsbo as the Wildcat. Understudying are Natalie Peterson '22, Forest Lake, and Wesley Whirlwind Soldier '21, Mission, South Dakota.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz runs Friday, April 12, 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 13, at 1 p.m., in the Raymond J. Lammers Proscenium Theatre, Humanities Fine Arts (invited matinees for area schools April 10-17). Tickets are \$4 at the door. Free, convenient parking is available in the North Parking Lot. For reservations, call 320-589-6274 or email thrupub@morris.umn.edu.