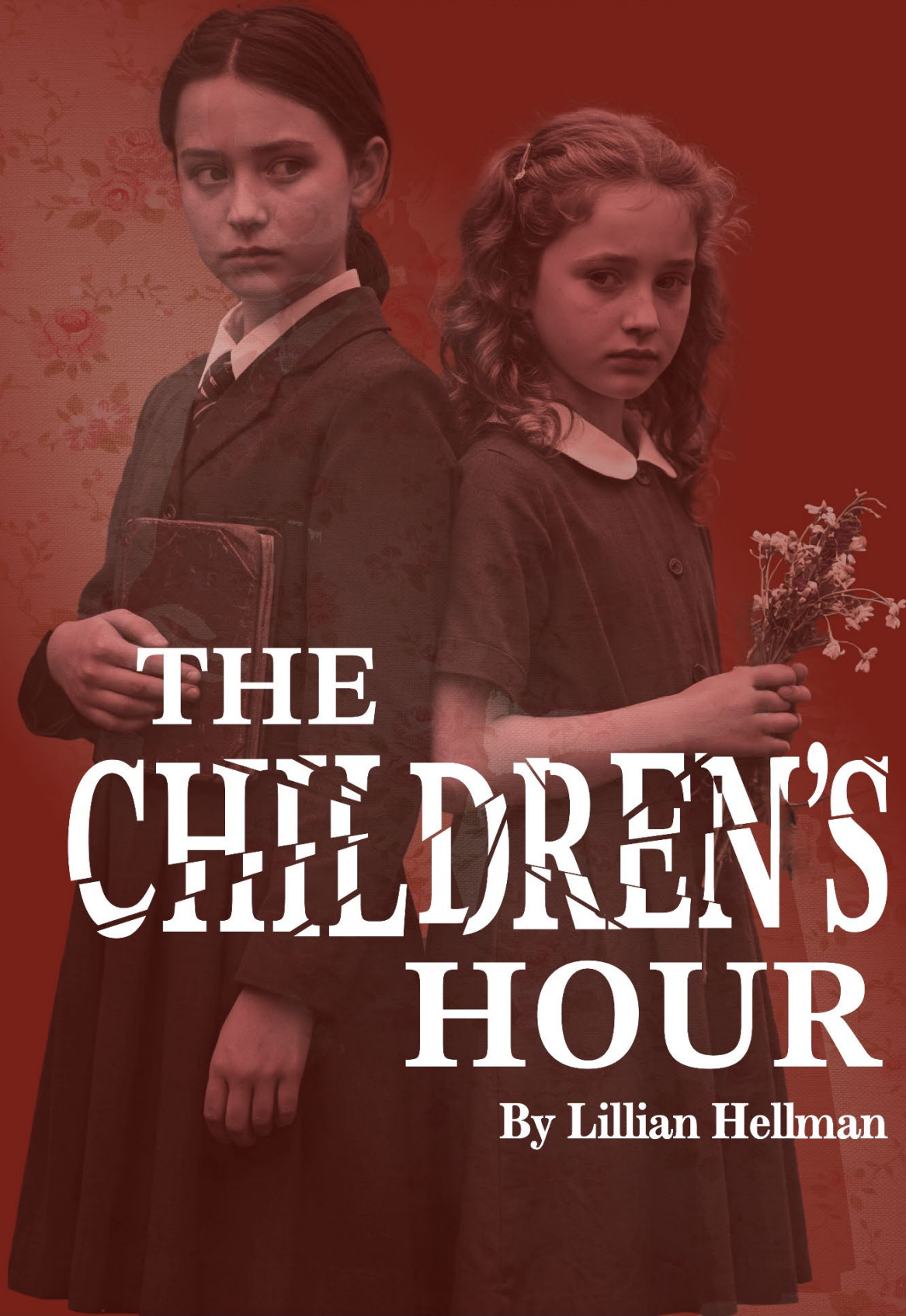


SIMPSON COLLEGE



THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

By Lillian Hellman

SP SIMPSON
Productions
2025-26 Season

April 17-18 at 7:30 p.m. &
April 19 at 2 p.m.

Blank Performing Arts Center



WELCOME to *The Children's Hour*, our fourth production of the 2025-26 Season!

"One of the great successes of distinguished writer Lillian Hellman, this serious play about two women who run a school for girls highlights the real-life consequences of a lie told by a disgruntled student.

The Children's Hour holds historical significance from the era during which it premiered; the play was banned in Boston, Chicago and London due to its lesbian content, which was considered indecent and illegal for the stage at the time. The ban in Boston in December 1935 was challenged by the playwright and the ACLU, marking one of the early instances of challenging censorship laws related to gay and lesbian themes. While the ban in Boston was not overturned, the legal action brought the issue into public discussion."

<https://www.concordtheatricals.com/p/14395/the-childrens-hour-hellman>

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. www.dramatists.com

Director
Kara Raphaeli

Scenic Designer
Natalie Hining-Bruce

Lighting & Sound Designer
Rick Goetz

Costume & Make-Up Designer
Caroline Frias

Sound Designer
Lupe Contreras

Stage Manager
Chessa Strauser



Cast

Peggy Rogers.....	Lola Vincent
Catherine.....	Sierra Wood
Lois Fisher.....	Kaeding Phillips
Evelynn Munn.....	Naomi Graves
Mrs. Lily Mortar/Agatha.....	Robyn Aguilar
Helen Burton.....	Hannah Dank
Rosalie Wells.....	Juliet Low
Mary Tilford.....	Paisha Goodrich
Karen Wright.....	Piper Jackman
Martha Dobie.....	Natalie Spencer
Dr. Joseph Cardin.....	Diego Solorio
Janet/Mrs. Tilford.....	Anastasia Peron
Grocery Boy.....	Michael Thacker

Setting

**The Wright-Dobie School for Girls, a converted farmhouse
New England, 1934**

There will be two intermissions

*Please make sure cell phones and alarms are turned off.
Please no text messaging during the performance.
Restrooms are located on the main and upper lobby level*

Production Staff

Technical Director.....	Natalie Hining-Bruce
Intimacy Coordinator.....	Stephanie Schneider
Asst. Stage Manager.....	Michael Thacker
Asst. Lighting Designer.....	Bekah Geerdes
Deck/Prop Crew Head.....	Arseydia Rodriguez
Deck/Prop Crew.....	Ben Hodges, Tye Landrum
Wardrobe Crew Head.....	Hannah Larsen
Wardrobe Crew.....	Brooklyn Mastin
Lightboard Operator.....	Bekah Geerdes
Soundboard Operator.....	McFarland
Box Office Manager.....	Cory Cox
House Manager.....	Cade Clark
Poster Design.....	Mady Vasquez

Production Crew

Scene Shop Supervisor: Natalie Hining-Bruce

Lighting and Sound Supervisor: Rick Goetz

Costume Shop Supervisor: Caroline Frias

Costume Construction Crew: Piper Jackman^{UGA}, Robyn Aguilar, Jamelia Artis, Jules Low, Sydney Meierotto. Ale Salazar-Campos

Set Construction Crew: Zoe Cole, Aaron Scholes, Diego Solorio, Chessa Strauser

Lighting Crew: Nox Bazer, Cory Cox, Hannah Dank, Bella Dix, McFarland

Sound : Lupe Contreras^{UGA}

Simpson Productions:

Production Assistant: Hannah Larsen^{UGA}

Marketing: Arseydia Rodriguez^{UGA}

Faculty Supervisor of Marketing: Jennifer Nostrala

Theatre Recruitment/ Outreach: Bekah Geerdes^{UGA}

Faculty Supervisor for Recruitment/Outreach: Ann Woldt

*UGA-Undergraduate Assistant

Simpson Productions Student Leadership

Simpson Productions Scholarship Students

Scholarship recipients hold theatre as an essential part of their lives and are an integral part of the Simpson Productions company.

Cade Clark	Ben Hodges	Anastasia Peron
Cory Cox	Piper Jackman	Arseydia Rodriguez
Bekah Geerdes	Tye Landrum	Diego Solorio
Paisha Goodrich	Hannah Larsen	Chessa Strauser
Naomi Graves	Juliet Low	Michael Thacker
Maddy Gunzenhauser	Brooklyn Mastin	

UGA-Undergraduate Assistants

Undergraduate Assistants are positions across campus that are designed to offer students the opportunity to gain practical, in-depth experience complementing their formal education.

2025-2026 UGAs

Sound--Lupe Contreras	Theatre Recruitment & Outreach--
Production Assistant--Hannah Larsen	Bekah Geerdes
Marketing --Arseydia Rodriguez	

Theatre Club

Deigo Solorio (President)	Addison Laughery	Kyleigh James
Hannah Larsen (Vice President)	Anastasia Peron	Lola Vincent
Aaron Scholes (Treasurer)	Austin Graham	Maddy Gunzenhauser
Piper Jackman (Historian)	Ben Hodges	Michael Thacker
Cory Cox (Secretary)	Brooklyn Mastin	Michael Verploeg
Bekah Geerdes (Social Chair)	Chessa Strauser	Naomi Graves
	Erick Randall	Robyn Aguilar
	Lupe Contreras	Tye Landrum
	Hannah Dank	
	Maxwell Wearmouth-Gweah	
	Klay McCombs	

Simpson Productions 2026-2027 Season



Little Red Riding Hood

A children's opera in one act

By Seymour Barab

Director, Ann Woldt

Musical Director Damon Stevens

October 10-11, 2026

Based on the classic tale of Little red Riding Hood, this delightful opera is a perfect vehicle to introduce children to the enchanting world of opera.

Image By Jessee Wilcox



The Two Gentlemen of Verona

By William Shakespeare

Director, Jennifer Nostrala

November 20-22, 2026

In conjunction with the 29th annual High School Theatre Festival

The Two Gentlemen of Verona is a romantic comedy about two best friends whose loyalty is tested by love when they both fall for the same woman.



Festival of Short Plays: Thornton Wilder

Produced by Jennifer Nostrala

December 4-5, 2026

The Festival features a collection of student-directed pieces from the works of Thornton Wilder.



Orlando

By Virginia Woolf, adapted by Sarah Ruhl

Director, Kara Raphaeli

February 19-21, 2027

Spanning three centuries, *Orlando* chronicles the adventures of a young nobleman in Queen Elizabeth's court who awakens in the middle of his life to discover he is now a she – and immortal to boot.



Pippin

Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, book by Roger O. Hirson

Director, Jennifer Nostrala

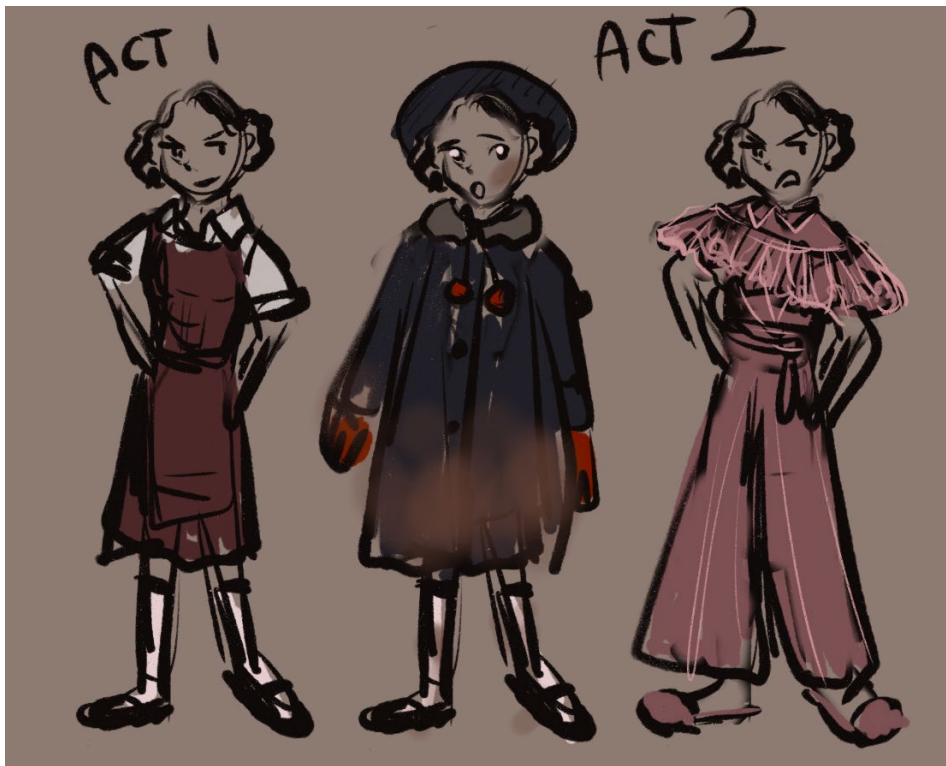
April 9-11, 2027

Pippin is a musical comedy about a young prince on a quest to find meaning in his life, often guided by a theatrical troupe led by the "Leading Player". He tries war, political rebellion, and pleasure, only to realize true fulfillment lies in mundane, daily life rather than extraordinary deeds. The show, based loosely on the life of Charlemagne's son, won multiple Tony Awards, and is known for its catchy songs like "Corner of the Sky" and "No Time at All".

**Reserve tickets through [Humanitix](#)
or by contacting the Simpson Productions Box Office:**

515-961-1601

bpacboxoffice@simpson.edu



Renderings by Caroline Frias



Renderings by Caroline Frias



Caroline Frias

Costume Designer;
Costume Shop Supervisor;
Courses in Design and Tech

Rick Goetz

Lighting and Sound Designer;
Lighting and Sound Supervisor
Courses in Design and Tech

Natalie Hining-Bruce

Scene Designer; Technical Director;
Scene Shop Supervisor;
Courses in Design and Tech

Jennifer Ross Nostrala

Simpson Productions Producer;
Courses in Directing, Acting, Literature,
Script Analysis; Director

Kara Raphaeli

Assistant Professor; Courses in Directing,
Plays and Performances, Script Analysis, World
Theatre; Director

Damon Stevens

G. Dewey and M. Maine Larsen Chair in Opera;
Courses in Music History, Ensembles, Collaborative
Piano, Opera; Conductor

Ann Woldt

Theatre Department Chair;
Recruitment & Outreach Coordinator;
Courses in Acting, Voice, Script Analysis,
Interpretation; Director