

*Alban Arts Center
Presents*



ALBAN

65 Old Main Plaza
St. Albans, VT 05477
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**THE IMPORTANCE
OF
BEING EARNEST**

\$15

Adults

\$10

Students/Seniors

A TRIVIAL COMEDY FOR SERIOUS PEOPLE

**February
10, 11, 12
17, 18, 19**

Fri & Sat

8:00 pm

Sunday

2:00 pm

A PLAY BY OSCAR WILDE

albanartscenter.com

Sponsored By:



Bayer CropScience

Loved Ones
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— Culture and History —
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ART WORKS.
artworks.org

The Alban Arts Center thanks our Producer-Level Sponsor!



About Us

Loved Ones was established in 1996. For almost two decades, Loved Ones has provided in home personal care and nursing services that are designed to provide a health care option for a variety of patients who would normally be placed in a nursing home or residential care/assisted living facility.



Loved Ones Provides Assistance with:

- Bathing
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- Community Activities
- Doctor Appointments
- Medication Reminders
- And More

Clinical studies have proven again and again that patients who are maintained and receive necessary care in the safe, familiar environment of their home, surrounded by their loved ones, have a significantly higher level of general health and quality of life. Loved Ones provides a broad scope of nursing and home health services to assist our patients with personal care and the activities of daily living while remaining at home. Loved Ones cares for both elderly and disabled individuals.



Lovedonescares.com

Toll-Free: 877-853-4081

The Importance of Being Earnest

By Oscar Wilde

Directed By Patrick Felton
Asst. Director: Marlette Carter
Tech Director: Adam Bryan
Costume Design: Mandy Shirley
Pianist: Leah Connolly Felton
Stage Crew: Jan Johnson, Alondra Johnson

There will be one 10' minute intermission

**Flash Photography and recording is prohibited.
Photos may be taken with the cast after the show.**

*Please set your mobile devices to silent or off. We ask that
you refrain from texting during the performance.*



**Thank you to: The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, West
Virginia Commission on the Arts, and West Virginia
Division of Culture and History for supporting the
Alban's 2016-17 Season!**

**Also, a big thanks To Astral Theatre Collective for letting us
borrow some of their furniture for this production!**

A Special Thank You from the Alban
to our Producer-Level Sponsor!



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The companies of the
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are proud supporters of our local
communities, where our neighbors
and employees live and play.

We salute the
Alban Arts & Conference Center

Cast - In Order of Appearance

Bethany Reed (Lane/Merriman) is a three-eyed lizard faced alien in disguise. She laughs at all immigration EOs and answers only to the Men in Black. This is her first time appearing on the stage at the Alban in the roles of Lane and Merriman. She enjoys Extreme Twister, competitive Yak racing, and all the works of Tom Clancy.

Rachel Sanford (Algernon/Earnest) is from Huntington, West Virginia and has been active in local community theatre for the past three years. Other stage credits include: Betty in *White Christmas* (Paramount Players); Cinderella in *Into the Woods* (ARTS for the Tri-State); Fiona in *Brigadoon* (ARTS for the Tri-State); and Irene Adler in *Sherlock Holmes and the Beast of Whitechapel* (Astral Theatre Collective). This is Rachel's first performance with the Alban Arts Center, but she hopes it will not be her last (even though she did eat all the muffins and cucumber sandwiches). "Special thanks to all my family, friends, and boyfriend Yiorgie for your love and support!

Danae Samms (Earnest/Jack Worthing) I am a veteran of working onstage and off, credits go back to middle school. I have been at the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences performance hall as a tech for a year and a half, now. I also am an avid creative writer, but don't let this rough bio be a judge of that. I like playing the ukulele, horseback riding, and sleeping.

Tim Alderman (Lady Bracknell) This is an echo of his earliest stage appearance, when he played a giggling maiden in a Cub Scout play in elementary school. Since then Tim has played in local productions by W. Shakespeare, H. Ibsen, E Ionesco, P. Shaffer and A. Christie, as well as *Hairspray* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. When not playing, he teaches English as WVSU

Eric Rogers (Gwendolyn) is a graduating student from West Virginia State University. He has previously worked on *The Bald Soprano* as Mr. Smith and *Little Shop of Horrors* as 7 different characters. Some day he would like to be cast as Shrek, but until that day he's here to entertain as Gwendolyn in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Clayton Strohenger (Cecily) his precious performance as Bobby Strong at the Albans 2016 production of *Urinetown: the Musical* left him feeling more than a little inadequate with his romantic endeavors on the theater stage. Throwing all inhibition to the wind, he now dons a corset and heels in hopes of catching the fancy of some young person to have a misunderstanding.. When not discovering the thrills of womanhood, he can be found at United Bank customer service department answering phone calls from people who don't know anything about him.

James B. (Jim-Bob) Williams (Miss Prism) Jim-Bob is an environmental engineer with 35 years in wastewater, some of it literally. After years of being class clown, office satirist and church wisenheimer, he Bunbured his mid-life crisis through community theater and improv. He grew up in New York City, belying his nickname, but note that he did grow up in South Brooklyn. Don't ask him about his grandson unless you have a lot of time. By coincidence, he has been co-author of several scientific papers on treatment of chemicals which are suspected of feminizing fish! This is his fifth role with the Alban, first appearing as the Ghost of Jacob Marley in *A Christmas Carol*.

Nina Surbaugh (Dr. Chasuble) is a lifelong resident of Charleston. She and her husband Gary have three daughters, eight grandchildren and two Yorkies. She is a retired surgical RN and co-owns Event Planning by Design with her husband. She is an avid Ballroom dancer in which she competes Pro-Am and teaches social ballroom dancing. Other activities she enjoys are gourmet cooking and writing. Her favorite past rolls include: The Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*, Aunt Queenie in *Bell, Book and Candle* with the Alban and Mrs. Hudson from *Sherlock Holmes* with the Astral Theatre.

Special thanks to: Bill Lynch - Charleston Newspapers, Sarah Shaver – WVRC, Buzz Browning – WWSA, Chuck Minsker, Kanawha Valley Pulse, WTSQ Radio, St. Albans Chamber of Commerce, Astral Theatre Collective, Kit Reed, Jonathan Joy, Cielito Lindo, Holstein Automotive, Ladies and Gents, Riverview Apartments, K.W. Morrison, Ryan Clegg, Graphic Solutions, Huntington, WV, The Charles R. Bunbury Memorial Foundation, In Memoriam - Jim Varney 1949-2000

Notes from the Director's Chair

So the obvious question is why? Why do this? Why take a perfectly good play and bend it with this so called "reverse gender cast?"

I should have an answer to this question by now, but if I'm honest, the best answer I have is Why not? What's to lose? Also, it makes me laugh. And that's important too.

I think comedy is the universe's way of preparing us for death. Its God's way of saying "every human being is going to die someday, so don't sweat the small stuff. You don't know if you'll be here tomorrow, so smile more, eat well, and share a laugh like its your last."

Its a scary time for those of us in the arts. We don't know what tomorrow will bring. In our current world, the future of all theater, arts and culture funding seems to be in question. As a professional artist of course that scares me.

But what scares me more is not trying. As many of us that love theater, worry about whether or not there will be a tomorrow, It becomes more important to take chances with what we have today. This is not merely because we want to show everyone how smart we are, but simply because we want to have fun. I'm humbled by the enthusiasm, humor, and talent with which the cast, crew, and musicians have brought to this show, and I fully admit that their work has made my very silly idea look like genius, through no fault of my own. Risks are important. Sometimes that means speaking truths to power with emotionally or politically potent messages. Tonight isn't one of those times. Tonight we laugh. And that's important too.

Patrick F elton



Special

Thanks to

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for their contributions to the Alban Arts Center!

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The logo for Alban Arts Academy. It features the words "Alban Arts Academy" in a stylized, bubbly, blue font with a white outline. To the left of the text is a large, colorful paintbrush with a red handle and a rainbow-colored bristle head. Below the paintbrush is a circular emblem containing a stylized 'A' and 'S' intertwined. The background is a vibrant splash of blue, purple, and green paint.

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more!

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Spring Semester Starts
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NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

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DO YOU USE SOCIAL MEDIA? : ☐ Facebook ☐ Twitter ☐ Instagram ☐ Other

AGE (Check One)

☐ 12 or
younger

☐ 12-18
☐ 18-25

☐ 26-35
☐ 36-45

☐ 46-55
☐ 55+

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

☐ Student

☐ Employed

☐ Not
Employed

☐ Retired

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AND/OR SCHOOL: _____

OCCUPATION OR COURSE OF STUDY: _____

SKILLS AND/OR TRADES: _____

GENERAL AVAILABILITY (We understand this may change.) _____

	Weekdays	Weekends
Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments about availability: _____

THEATER EXPERIENCE: ☐ Lots of Experience ☐ Some Experience ☐ No Experience

Explain: _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE ALBAN? _____

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Cinderella



Auditions January 7 & 8

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for the
arts



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information on events, performances,
workshops and classes!

We are also on Twitter! @albanarts

And, you can Follow our Alban Mascot
MARLEY_THE_ALBAN_DOG on Instagram



THEATRE SCHEDULE

2017 Productions

The Importance of Being Earnest

By Oscar Wilde

Feb. 10, 11 & 17, 18—2017

Sunday Matinees: Feb. 12 & 19 at
2pm

Hedda Gabler

By Henrik Ibsen

March 24, 25, 31 & April 1—2017

Sun Matinees: Mar. 26, Apr. 2 at 2pm

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

By Tennessee Williams

June 2, 3 & 9, 10—2017

Sunday Matinees: June 4 & 11 at 2pm

2017 Productions

The Hobbit

Adapted from JRR Tolkien

July 21, 22, 28, 29—2017

Sunday Matinees:

July 23 & 30 at 2pm

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our upcoming plays
follow this link.**



www.albanartscenter.com

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