

# BACKSTAGE PASS TROUPE 1096

## "DROP DEAD"

Rebekah Fowler, Troupe Historian

Spring has come, and as we celebrate blooming flowers, warm weather, and the ever-approaching end of the school year, Troupe 1096 will, in the spirit of the season, open the playful comedy *Drop Dead!* in March. As Mr. Mattson and I discussed the concept of the show earlier in the process, we noted that as a troupe, we are more drawn toward "heavier" shows, or shows that have some deeper meaning. *Drop Dead!* is anything but heavy. A slapstick that satirizes theatre itself, this production includes such all-too-familiar shenanigans as broken sets, missing props, and forgotten cues. The colorful cast of characters features a psychotic, narcissistic director, an actress so old and senile she can barely follow the play, a playwright who takes herself a *little* too seriously, and a host of others. If you're not careful, this comedy may make you laugh so hard you... drop dead. In all seriousness, though, the love and dedication already poured into this production are a wonderful testament to the versatility of both the performers and technicians involved. Tickets are currently on sale online, and the link to the ticket website can be found at [www.troupe1096.weebly.com](http://www.troupe1096.weebly.com). If you have any questions, you can call the Troupe 1096 box office at (970) 259-1630 ext. 2141. We hope to see you in the audience!



The cast of *Drop Dead!* during a rehearsal.

## **“1096 OFFICER BOARD”**

**Curtis Salinger, Troupe Junior Representative**

Hello! It's coming up to that time of year again: *OFFICER ELECTIONS*. Every year, the troupe votes in five seniors to fulfil the positions of: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Historian. The troupe also votes in one junior to be the Junior Representative on the board.

Being on the board is a great way for students to contribute to the functions of the troupe in a leadership position. Throughout the year the board will organize functions that might come up, keep track of troupe operations, and one of their most exciting duties is to choose the shows for the upcoming season. To be eligible for one of the five senior officer positions, the student must be an inducted thespian, have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA, and have 60 Thespian Points. To be Junior Rep. all the same conditions apply with the exception of only needing 40 points. Elections will be held on Friday, March 24th the Friday before Spring Break. If your student will be missing this Friday that is okay. I (Curtis Salinger) was fortunate enough to get elected last year when I was absent so it will not affect their chances, but if possible it is good for them to be there.

Campaigning is welcomed as long as it is peaceful and constructive. Parents if you have a student you think would be a good fit on the officer board, encourage them to run, we will be encouraging everyone to run as well. Take Care!

## **“NATIONALS”**

**Baylee Peterson, Troupe Secretary**

**Tori Byam, Troupe Vice President**

As many of you supportive patrons know Troupe 1096 had once again, a super successful time at our state thespian conference this past December. At our state conference we allow students to compete with technical events and performance events with the chance to qualify to compete at nationals in Nebraska in June. We had 17 of our thespians qualify to compete at nationals this year, which is more than ever before! The opportunity for us thespians to go to nationals is an amazing, unforgettable, and everlasting experience. At the international thespian conference you have the opportunity to compete with some of the best thespians in the country, learn from trained professionals in various workshops and make new companions from California to

Florida. Juniors even get the opportunity to audition and interview face to face with colleges from some of the best theatre schools in the country. As astounding as this opportunity is it does come at a cost. We will be fundraising over the next few months to send our talented thespians to Nebraska, and we need your help. As June approaches we will be setting up a Go Fund Me, having workshops for younger kids who would like to be thespians, having a gala to showcase the work of the students who qualified and even having a silent auction throughout our upperclassmen show; we would like you to be a part of it all! We want to thank you for your support and we hope to have you at all of our upcoming events!



Troupe 1096 at the Colorado Thespian Conference, December 2016

**“UNDERCLASSMEN GALA”**  
**Nate Brinkley, Troupe Treasurer**

The 2016 Underclassmen Gala was a complete success. For each of the shows, the Upperclassmen directors was extremely happy with how all of the actors, new or experienced, approached their roles. Ataley Villasenor decided to do a experimental devised theatre piece, titled *The Dates We Watered* in which all of the actors and directors came together to write there own show to perform. Along with that show, Kodii John, also wrote his own show that was original a screenplay that he adapted for the stage. Overall, Kody was very happy that he saw his show come out the way that he wanted to. Curtis Salinger and Tori Byam tried something new for this year, and had a show, in which, the audience decided what skit the cast was going to perform in what order. The cast had some difficulty memorizing for this show since all of the skits could be decided in a completely random order. Molly Christensen and Grace Wolf-Cartier did our very first musical for the Gala that was outrageously funny and self-aware. Molly and her cast put in so much for this show and were super happy with the outcome of the final performance. Rebekah Fowler also decided to write her own play as well, she spent a very long time writing the piece and continues to hold it very dear to her. The audience turnout was incredible and really helped all of the technicians and actors that qualified for Nations come even closer to go. We raised over 2000 dollars. BYE, have a beautiful time!