

19th Annual Student Production

ALL OUT

How far would you go for
\$1,000,000?

Parkland College Department of Fine and Applied Arts proudly presents:

19th Annual Student Production

GO OUT

How far would you go for
\$1,000,000?

a dark comedy by John Rester Zdrov

Director

Breelyn Mehrtens*

Scenic Designer

Alex Birnie

Lighting Designers

Andrew Hart* & Seth Gelke

Costume Designers

Kirby Toalson* & Lily Maclin*

Sound Designer

Joshua D. Stewart

Technical Director

Matt Rowlen

Stage Manager

Rachel McGrath*

Properties Coordinator

Kelsey Cravens

April 28, 29, 30, May 1 at 7:30pm • May 2 at 3pm
Parkland College Theatre
2010

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing

Cast

Announcer	Zachary K. Lutz
Johnny Mitchell	Brad Mehrtens
Charley Ritter	Casey Long*
George Reedy	David Dillman
Sid	Max Tomastewski
Thelma Springfield	Cecilee Rhea*
Elaine Ritter	Jillian Taylor*
Mary Rosenberg	Ariella Cohen*
Julia Colby	AJ Curry
Willy Colby	Christopher Terrell Brown
Mrs. Reedy	Mary Rose Cottingham
Jake Springfield	J.T. Brown
Stage Manager	Andrew Hart*
Make-up person	Kirby Toalson*
Trixie Delacourte	Lily Maclin*
Stage crew	Sarah Schmid
Camera crew	Kelly Barbour-Conerty, Seth Gelke
Paramedics	Andy Clodfelter, David Young
Security guard	Dominique Allen

Director's Notes

Just before the rehearsal process began, something happened in France that really highlighted the moral point of this play, as well as saying something disturbing about human nature. On Wednesday, March 17, 2010, in a studio setting in France, audience and contestants were told they were participating in a pilot reality game show. As reported by Lisa de Moraes, in "Zone Xtreme," the faux contestants who gave all the wrong answers were actually actors. Each "contestant" was strapped into an electric chair. The wannabe famesters were each asked to punish the contestant, when a wrong answer was given, by administering up to 460 volts of electricity. The majority of them ignored the contestant's screams and obeyed the orders of the weather-chick hostess to ratchet up the jolt. They also obeyed the chant of "Punishment!" from the studio audience—which did not know the game show was a fake—until the contestant fell silent and appeared to have "died."

This is what makes *All Out*, written in the early '80s, as relevant today as it was then—perhaps moreso in this age of reality television where sacrificing morals for fame is commonplace, and even encouraged for higher show ratings. How much longer will it be before death really does become public entertainment? We can only hope the day never comes.

—Breelyn Mehrtens, Director

About the Annual Student Production

All Out is a result of the very hard work of Parkland College Theatre students.

They have selected this production, directed it, designed the lights and sound, created the costumes and appear onstage and off. All proceeds from this student production support the Randall Millas Theatre Scholarship Fund. Since the first Millas award was made in the spring of 1995, there have been fifteen recipients of this scholarship. Several students have either completed or are pursuing a four-year college degree and some are considering or pursuing graduate work. It is such a wonderful opportunity for a deserving theatre student since the scholarship not only pays for tuition, but also pays for books and supplies. The Parkland Theatre would like to acknowledge the following students and volunteers who have made *All Out* possible: Alex Birnie, Ariella Cohen*, Katie Crull, Matt Eberle, Kristen Hadler*, Andrew Hart*, Laura Lindemann, Casey Long*, Rachel McGrath*, Lily Maclin*, Breelyn Mehrstens*, Cecilee Rhea*, Mickey Rivera, Matt Rowlen, Jillian Taylor*, Kirby Toalson*. Enjoy the show!

Theatre Staff

Artistic Director	Randi Collins Hard
Technical Director	David G. Dillman
Facility Technical Director	Bernard Wolff
Theatre Marketing Coordinator	Dallas Street
House Manager	Joshua D. Stewart
Theatre Advisory Board	Thomas Caulfield, David Dillman, Breelyn Mehrstens*, student representative, Randi Collins Hard, Carl Meyer, ex officio, Casey Long*, student representative, Tim Schirmer, Dallas Street, Nancy Sutton, Bernard Wolff

Watch www.parkland.edu/theatre for the lineup of our 2010–2011 season!

Cast Biographies

Dominique Allen (Security Guard) Dominique has played various roles on Parkland's stage over the last couple of years. She's enjoyed all and learned a great deal. Thanks to all her supporters and friends in the theatre world. You've made it one of my favorite places to be.

Kelly Barbour-Conerty (Camera Crew) Kelly is so excited to be a part of the latest Student Production at Parkland Theatre, both as part of the cast and design crew. Normally, she teaches Business courses at Parkland College, but can often be found lurking around the Theatre. She has performed in *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Harvey*, *Nunsense II: The Second Coming*, and has been in *A Christmas Carol* for 3 years. Most recently, she was in charge of props for *Father of the Bride*. She does have experience with game shows, having appeared on *JEOPARDY!*, where in addition to money, she did win a year's worth of RICE-A-RONI – the San Francisco treat! Enjoy the show!

Christopher Terrell Brown (Willy Colby) Chris is a unique example of humanity. Fueled by intense, lively energy and a disconcerting passion for drama and tacos, Chris Brown was born to go *All Out*, whether on the stage, in his creative writing or bussing at the Courier Café. He is also excited about the upcoming staged reading of his original play, *Cross*, featuring members of the *All Out* cast (such as Max Tomaszewski). Chris is glad that you are here and looks forward to spreading the joy of swimming.

J.T. Brown (Jake Springfield) J.T. is excited to be in his first show at the Parkland Theatre. He was in shows during his high school and college years such as *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Sly Fox*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *A Mid-Summer Night's Dream*. J.T. would like to thank his encouraging and supportive wife, Courtney, for all her patience. He would also like to thank the director, Bree, for giving him an opportunity to return to the stage, and the rest of the cast for being zany and awesome.

Andy Clodfelter (Paramedic) Andy is excited to be in another show with Parkland Theatre. He has been out of theatre for quite a while during school and is very excited to be given another chance to do what he loves with friends, both new and old. Andy was in the Parkland Student Production *Rumors* a few years back, as well as *The Miss Firecracker Contest*. The teachers, staff, students, and community members that consistently make Parkland Theatre a success have been a big inspiration for Andy and he will always be thankful for getting a second chance to be both back on stage and learning from his extremely talented peers, both young and old.

Ariella Cohen* (Mary Rosenberg) Ariella is a freshman at Parkland majoring in Theatre Arts. Some of her favorite roles include Helena in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Nights Dream* and Mrs. Bennett in *Pride and Prejudice*. She has been recently seen as Peggy in *Father of the Bride*. She would like to thank her family, friends and Jesus for helping her get through a crazy year.

Mary Rose Cottingham (Mrs. Reedy) Mary Rose is very pleased to be in her second Parkland production (*Harvey* was the first). She was recently seen in *Drop Dead!*, *The Life and Death of King John*, and *Inherit the Wind*. Her day job is teaching writing at the U of I. At night, she enjoys theatre (being on stage and seeing productions), playing piano, reading, and spending time with her wonderfully supportive family: she wishes to send a "shout out" to John Ted, Micah, and Luke! She also wishes to thank her theatre mentors, J.W., Amy, Randi, Karma, Janice, and Aaron, from whom she has learned so much about the lifelong art of acting.

AJ Curry (Julia Colby) AJ is overwhelmingly excited about being a part of *All Out*. She is thrilled to participate in such an engaging production. AJ looks forward to bringing forth a new life for her character Julia. After receiving her bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, AJ moved forward and began her acting career. She plans to pursue a master's degree in fine arts with a concentration in drama all while sharpening her extraordinary talent. As an aspiring actress, AJ has found her calling. She strives to perfect her God-given talent and loves to entertain, as well as thrill the audience with the characters she becomes. In addition to playing overly excited, poor-proud Julia, AJ has also graced the stage in such productions as *To Be Young, Gifted, & Black* and *That's Love* with the Hansberry-Baldwin ensemble, in which she is a member. She has also been seen in *The Family Mess Expert* produced by Plus Size Productions as well as *The Courtroom* by Sankofa Productions. AJ would like to thank her family and friends for their support as well as God for blessing her with this wonderful gift.

*Parkland College theatre major

David G. Dillman (George Reedy) As Parkland College Theatre's technical director for the past 10 years, David has also been privileged to be cast in several shows. You may have seen him as the nude guy in the green car in *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* or maybe the one in the kilt in *The Murder Room*. Dave would like to thank Bree for casting him and Randi for helping / letting him exercise his other side. And as usual he would not be here if it wasn't for his wonderful wife and best friend of almost 18 years.

Andrew Hart*(Stage Manager- *All Out*) Andrew hails from the far away land of Mahomet, Illinois where he graduated high school in 2009. Even though he has been involved in every show this year at Parkland Theatre, this is only his second production here being on stage. Previously he played Frank the Bellhop in *Lend Me a Tenor* and worked with lighting for every other performance. He is thrilled to be back and hopes you enjoy the show!

Casey Long* (Charley Ritter) This is Casey's tenth and final performance here with Parkland Theatre. You may remember him as the over-the-top wedding planner previously seen in *Father of the Bride*. Other Parkland performances include *Nunsense II: The Second Coming*, *A Christmas Carol* (2008/2009), *Lend Me a Tenor*, *The Miracle Worker*, *The Murder Room*, *The Pillowman* and *Harvey*. Next year, Casey will be continuing his study of acting at Columbia College Chicago. "Many thanks to my bellezza Breelyn and her wonderful cast. Let's go all out one more time!"

Zachary K. Lutz (Announcer) This is now Zachary's eighth acting production on the Parkland stage. You might most recently recognize him as the handsome groom from *Father of the Bride*. This unfortunately will be Zachary's final show here in the Champaign-Urbana area. He will be pursuing his BFA in acting at Columbia College, Chicago. "It's been a crazy ride Chambana, I'm gonna miss it a lot".

Lily Maclin* (Trixie Delacourte/ Co-Costume Designer) Trixie began her career as a hand model; she has been featured in many high-end magazines for many top products. She was discovered by Johnny Mitchell, who instantly knew she had what it takes to be the perfect hostess for *All Out* just by seeing her hands. Once she premiered on the first *All Out*, the audience and many cast and crew members fell in love with her and she has been *All Out's* hostess ever since. As her day job she is Lily Maclin, a theatre major at Parkland College. Lily has been doing shows for many years. She just played Betty Milz, a flower assistant in *Father of the Bride*. She has been in many shows from *Footloose* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* to *Around the World in 80 Days* and *The Jungle Book*. She played one of the leads in the musical *Curtains* during her senior year at Urbana High School. Lily wants to congratulate the cast and crew of *All Out* and wish them the best!!

Brad Mehrtens (Johnny Mitchell) Enjoying an incredibly fun and diverse year of characters, Brad is happy to be part of the Parkland student show to finish the season. Recent shows at Parkland include *Father of the Bride*, *Nunsense II: The Second Coming*, and *A Christmas Carol*. By day he is a biology teacher and academic advisor at the U of I; by night he divides his time between theatre and frolicking with his favorite antelope around the watering hole. Thanks to his stunningly beautiful director and wonderful cast mates for good times. Enjoy the show, and may the force be with you.

Cecilee Rhea* (Thelma Springfield) Cecilee is a freshman here at Parkland College. Previous roles that she has received at Parkland have been Maggie in *Lend Me a Tenor*, Belle in *A Christmas Carol*, Sr. Amnesia in *Nunsense II*, and Kay in *Father of the Bride*. She has had an amazing time putting together this crazy cool show with such an amazing cast and crew. She would like to give thanks to them, her friends, and her family for all of their love and support.

Sarah Schmid (Stage Crew) Sarah is excited to be in her first play at Parkland College.

Jillian Taylor* (Elaine Ritter) This is Jillian's last show at Parkland College. She has been in several Parkland productions, her favorites including *A Christmas Carol* as the Holly Girl, *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* as a Mime/Wal-Mart Customer, and in *The Murder Room* as Lottie Molloy. The student show has always had a special place in her heart as it was how she started out on the Parkland stage, and is now ending in the same fashion. She would like to thank Randi, Dallas, Bernie, Dillman, and all the instructors and fellow students who have made her experience here at Parkland amazing. "I cannot imagine my life without having been at Parkland. The experiences and friends I have made here will last a lifetime and I will sorely miss you all." A special shout out to all those people who have kept her going, been encouraging, made her so excited, and left their mark on her forever. Goodbye Parkland College... stay beautiful. =)

Kirby Toalson* (Make up person / Co-Costume Designer) Kirby is very excited to be a part of *All Out*. She is a second-year theatre major and is planning on returning next year. This is the seventh show that she has been a part of at Parkland. She is so thankful for the amazing cast and crew of this show! Love you all!

(To the) Max J. Tomaszewski (Sid) Max was born to go *All Out!* and knows people are going to enjoy themselves on the show. Best of luck to the contestants! Recently seen navigating the troubles of the *Velvet Rut*, Maximus plans on pursuing a life filled with the arts in the fall at USC. Shout outs to the Fam from Dolphin Mercury, "Each echo is a reminder—our souls a chorus... Now how's about we rock out!"

David Young (Paramedic) David would like to thank Bree for the opportunity to appear again on the Parkland stage. He was in the recent productions of *Father of the Bride* and *A Christmas Carol*. When David is not at the theatre he is most likely at the piano or the guitar. He is currently putting the final touches on a musical documentary that he is writing. He would like to offer a sincere Thank You to the entire cast and crew of *All Out*.

Staff Biographies

Alex Birnie (Set Designer) Alex is now well in his second year at Parkland College after being recruited to play on the 'world class' Parkland Men's Soccer team. Other than lending a helping hand on a few previous shows at Parkland (*A Christmas Carol*, *Nunsense II* and *Father of the Bride*) Alex has very little to do with the theatre, so when asked to be involved with the set design for *All Out* he couldn't believe his luck. The set design and production was very much a team effort, so big thanks go out to Matt Rowlen and Andy Hart for their endeavor to make the set as astonishing as it looks. Alex would also like to express his gratitude towards Bernie Wolff and David Dillman for their wise words of wisdom, and Kelly Barbour-Conerty for her creative input, it was a massive help. This is Alex's first bio, so as most people do, he would like to thank the cast and everyone involved with the show. Alex is thrilled to be involved with such a fine set of talented people and hopes you enjoy the show.

Kelsey Cravens (Properties Coordinator) Kelsey is a senior at Central High School. She is excited to be working on her first show at Parkland and would like to thank Breelyn and Randi for the opportunity. She would also like to thank the cast and crew, her family, Ross, and everyone in the S.O.B. Enjoy the show.

Rachel M. McGrath* (Stage Manager) This is Rachel's last semester here at Parkland College Theatre. Upon receiving her AA in Theatre Arts, she will attend Illinois State University in the fall to pursue a dual degree in theatre management and public relations. Rachel would like to thank Breelyn for this awesome opportunity and the theatre family for everything, faculty and students alike. I love you guys.

Joshua D. Stewart (Sound Designer) After studying music and theatre at Parkland, Joshua completed his Bachelor of Science in Theatre at Illinois State University in 2007. He has worked as a stage manager, designer, and technician at various theatres such as The Little Theatre on the Square, Festival 56 and The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre. Past design credits include *Father of the Bride*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *The Who's TOMMY: In Concert*, *The Miracle Worker*, and *Flight of the Lawnchair Man*. Joshua also serves as Parkland Theatre's house manager. "See you in the lobby!"

Breelyn Merhtens* (Director) Breelyn is honored to be directing her first show. It has been a great learning experience, a lot of work, a lot of fun, and she never wants to do it again. ;) Breelyn is pursuing a degree here at Parkland, and plans to work in the theater. She would like to thank the cast, her acting teachers, all of the directors who have offered help and/or advice, her friends, and family. To Casey, Taylor and Rachel who are graduating this year—I'll miss you very much. Extra special thanks to Josh Stewart and her loving, patient, supportive Lion—see you at the watering hole!

Please turn off your cell phone, beeper, or any electronic device that might make noise during the performance. No text-messaging please — just opening your phone can cause distractions. If you use your cell phone during the intermission, please ensure that your phone is turned off before you re-enter the auditorium. Lastly, as a courtesy to your fellow audience members and the actors onstage, we request that you do not open plastic-wrapped candies, mints, or cough drops during the performance.

Thanks for your cooperation!



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Tickets

All seats for theatre events are available by reservation. Reservations may be made by calling 217/351-2528 or sending e-mail to theatre@parkland.edu. The ticket office is open two hours before every performance. Discount prices are available to students, school children, senior citizens, and organized groups of 15 or more. For information on group sales please call 217/373-3874.

Rentals

The theatre can be rented for conferences, lectures, musical events, dance concerts, and theatrical productions. Rental of the space can be daily or weekly. In addition, props, costumes, and stock scenery are available for rent. Please call 217/353-2341 for more information.

Volunteers

Parkland College is your community college theatre. We would like to meet you and welcome your help backstage on our productions. Opportunities exist for building and painting scenery, hanging lights, make-up and hair, sewing and costuming, making props, and ushering. No experience is necessary. We also encourage high school students interested in the arts to experience the process firsthand. Please call 217/351-2531 for more information.

Parking

Parking lots C4 and M1 are adjacent to the theatre. Allow extra time for parking on the Wednesday and Thursday evening performances while college classes are in session.

House Policies

- All tickets are for general admission, non-reserved seating with the exception of groups of 15 or more who, with advance purchase of tickets, may have a block of seats reserved.
- Taking photographs or using recording devices during the performance is strictly prohibited. In consideration of our seated patrons and performers, latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the house manager.
- Please, no eating, drinking, or smoking in the theatre. Cough drops are available from the ushers as a courtesy to our patrons.
- Please turn off all cellular telephones and pagers before the performance begins.

Contributions

Tax deductible monetary gifts can be made through the Parkland College Foundation in support of the theatre. Your gift can be for general support or you may specify that it be used to support individual awards. The Randall Millas Theatre Scholarship Fund provides tuition, books, and fees for one year to a sophomore theatre major. The Theatre Production Award Fund provides a cash award for a student who excels in technical theatre production. The Susan and Derek Kraybill Musical Theatre Award provides a cash award for a music student with exceptional participation in musical theater productions. Please call 217/351-2529 for more information.

Donation of clothing, furniture, hats, jewelry, shoes, and other accessories are appreciated for use in our theatre productions and may be arranged by calling 217/351-2531.

Comments

Your opinions are very important to us! If you have a compliment, criticism, or suggestion, please call us at 217/351-2529 or write to Parkland College Theatre, 2400 West Bradley Avenue, Champaign, IL 61821-1899.

Fall 2010 scholarships available for
Theatre and Music

