

Mississippi State University and The Shackouls Honors College presents

OEDIPUS

A Greek tragedy by Sophocles with translation by Bernard Knox

September 25-26 as part of Classical Week 2018

Production Director

Donna L. Clevinger, Ph.D.
Professor and Senior Faculty Fellow
Shackouls Honors College
Mississippi State University

Dramaturg

Salvador Bartera, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures
Mississippi State University

THE CAST

OEDIPUS, King of Thebes.....Joseph Rutherford
 A PRIEST of Zeus.....Nirmal Bhatt
 CREON, brother of Jocasta.....Jack Parr
 A PALACE GUARD.....Ryan Jarratt
 TIRESIAS, a blind prophet.....Arvind Loganathan
 A YOUNG MAN to Tiresias.....Dylan Miller
 JOSCASTA, the queen, wife to Oedipus.....Chatham Kennedy
 A SERVANT to Jocasta.....Sinclair Keyes
 A MESSENGER from Corinth.....Craig Schexnaydre
 A SHEPHERD.....Norman Hunter, IV
 A CHORUS of Theban Citizens.....Peyton Anderson, Nirmal Bhatt,
 Sarah Beth Boone, Sarah Grace Dulaney,
 Liam Elkington, Collin Hand, Will Laird,
 Morgan Nance, Caleb Padgett,
 Kaleigh Williamson

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager.....Heather Lee
 Assistant Stage Manager.....Mallory Wolfe
 Costumes.....Ruby Titus; Norcostco Rentals
 Sound.....Mike Chain and Scott Fisher from Event Services

Students from the Honors Forum II course are serving as tonight's ushers.



Special Thanks

Ms. Vanessa Collier and the team from MSU Event Services; MSU Housing and Residence Life; Vetrina Cannon and The Pod in Griffis Hall; *Copy Cow*; University Relations; *The Columbus Dispatch*; *The Starkville Daily News*; *The Reflector*; and Connie Willsey and *Costume Party* in Starkville.

A special thanks to Mr. Matt Seawright, Vice President, BankFirst and his wife, Olivia, for their financial support of this production.

The director would personally like to thank Dr. Salvador Bartera for his consistent support, since 2014, as an advisor to the classical productions. Thanks to his work on a Bridge Initiative Grant, aspects of this production were "funded in whole or in part by the CAMWS (Classical Association of the Middle West and South) Committee for the promotion of Latin (camws.org)". We appreciate the association looking favorably on our production needs for a third year!

The director, cast and crew extends their deep appreciation to Dr. Nancy Hargrove, William L. Giles Distinguished Professor Emerita of English. Her program on *Oedipus* at the Starkville Public Library last week was presented in conjunction with tonight's presentation.

Some Facts about the Cast and Crew

20 are first semester freshmen; 1 is a sophomore; 1 is a high school football player; 10 are making their stage debut; 10 are Engineering majors, 8 Arts & Sciences majors; 1 Business major; 1 Education major; 1 Undeclared; all MSU students are honors students.

Dylan Miller, the Starkville Academy football kicker, is not making his stage debut with *Oedipus*. Audiences might have seen Dylan and his brother, Nathan, in an earlier Classical Week production of *Medea*. Dylan is the son of John and Eliza Miller of Starkville. Thank you parents!

Tonight's production of Sophocles' *Oedipus* is an opportunity to see the tragedy that has been called "a masterpiece of the classical period" by scholars for over 2,000 years! It is also a time to extend a huge welcome to those who not only traveled to see the production but also to attend Thursday's Lecture program (see below).

Classical Week Special Event

This week also marks the kickoff of a new program at the honors college. **The Orators*** program will be presented three times a year and will introduce speakers, representing various campus disciplines, to engage and enrich the campus and local communities. Each year, the program will have a specific theme. The theme for this year is "Searching for Self: Who Am I Anyway". Using the *Oedipus* play as a backdrop, the college is please to host Dr. Norma Thompson from Yale University as its first speaker. Her visit is supported, in part, by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council. Thanks to the support of the Shackouls Honors College and the Department of Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures, Dr. Stephen Esposito, from Boston University, will also share his insights and research as we continue to celebrate our past. The 2 p.m. Lecture is Thursday, September 27th in the Forum Room, Room 401, Griffis Hall. A reception to meet these scholars will be held immediately after the program.

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