

**AATE New PLays  
by Members  
2014**

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All playwrights who are current members of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education are invited to submit up to four synopses of 75 words each for the 2014 listing – a limit of two synopses of plays published in 2014-2015 plus two synopses of unpublished plays-in-progress. Listings may be edited for length and style. The AATE New Plays by Members list will be updated once a year, distributed in hard copy at the annual conference, and posted on the AATE Website.

PLEASE NOTE: Publication dates of published plays must be confirmed every year to maintain eligibility. Those not confirmed will be assumed out-of-date and deleted. Works still in progress may remain as long as they continue to be unpublished, but information about them should be kept current.

Deadline: June 1, 2015. Please see the following entries for preferred format and to check your current listings. Send new and updated information in the body of an email or as a Word document attachment to Sandy Asher, [sandyasher@gmail.com](mailto:sandyasher@gmail.com)

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## **PUBLISHERS**

Anchorage Press, see Dramatic Publishing

Baker's Plays, see Samuel French

Big Dog Publishing, <http://bigdogplays.com>

Dramatists Play Service, Inc., <http://dramatists.com>

Dramatic Publishing Co., <http://dramaticpublishing.com>

Eldridge Publishing, <http://histage.com>

Heuer Publishing, <http://hitplays.com>

I.E. Clark, Inc., see Dramatic Publishing Co.

Lazy Bee Scripts, <http://www.lazybeescripts.co.uk>

New Plays, Inc., see Dramatic Publishing Co.

Pacific Educational Press, <http://pacifiedpress.ca>

Plays for Young Audiences, <http://playsforyoungaudiences.org>

Playscripts, Inc., <http://playscripts.com>

Samuel French, Inc., <http://samuelfrench.com>

YouthPLAYS, <http://youthplays.com>

## PLAYWRIGHTS AND PLAYS

**DEANNA ALISA ABLESER**  
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**THE ABSURDIST SUPER HERO FAIRY TALE** 5-7 males, 4-6 females, 1 either. (10-12 performers possible). Suitable for middle school (and possibly upper elementary) and older. Basiltown is in jeopardy, and its distracted and overly social Hero is off having iced Americanos with his fire-breathing pet dinosaur Fido. With a socially inept Villain on the loose, an Understudy Narrator in charge, and a ditzy but dreamy Damsel in distress, can Basiltown's citizens pull together to save their beloved town while still pursuing their individualized hopes and dreams? **Contact:** YouthPLAYS.

**STREETBOX** 10-12 m or f; about 1 hour playing time. The Box follows the path of a young homeless teenage girl as she prepares for a very important test...for her future. She lives in several different 'worlds' and struggles to maintain her character and find her way out, despite the many obstacles thrown into her path. She is not alone, however, and soon finds out that being resourceful and strong doesn't mean doing it all alone. **Contact:** Lazy Bee Scripts

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**SANDRA FENICHEL ASHER**  
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<http://www.sandyasher.com>

**ARK 5**, 2 acts, 4w, 3 m, (3w, 2m w/doubling), extras as desired, area staging. The ARK system has been in control of Earth Enterprise for nearly 100 years, bringing peace, order, health, and longevity to its citizens in exchange for their freedom. A mysterious Michael appears to 17-year-old Joan in her isolated Life/Work station and tells her the ruling ARK Triumvirate is corrupt and Joan has been chosen to set things right. Her quest, a search for the mother figure she's lost and a rebellion against the mother figure she's been trained to serve, is one of self-discovery as well as sacrifice. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

**HERE COMES GOSLING!** 1 act, 3 m, 2 f (or 1f & 1 puppet), area staging. Music by Ric Averill. Available in both full-immersion and traditional proscenium theater versions. Based on the picture book by Sandy Asher. Froggie can't wait to meet baby Gosling and eagerly helps Rabbit with preparations for a picnic. But his exuberant greeting when Gosling finally arrives results in loud and long honks of unhappiness that terrify him. Time, patience, and a gentler approach to the baby soon lead to lasting friendship. **Contact:** Playwright.

**STUFF! A CURIOUS COLLECTION**, 1 act, 2 f, 4 m or f, extras as desired, area staging. Human beings need the found stuff of life to create art, realize our full potential, and develop our communities. In this play, we see that stuff also needs us. A voiceless, mimed STUFF attracts a group of ONES who have lost the will to transcend the mundane routines of their lives. As they share their individual stories, they bond with one another and eventually come together to create and revel in a "story soup" concocted out of their own experiences, imaginations, and other assorted . . . stuff. **Contact:** Playwright.

**WALKING TOWARD AMERICA**, 1 act, 1f, area staging. In the winter of 1944-45, ten-year-old Ilga Katais and her parents left their war-ravaged home in Latvia and walked over 500 miles across Poland and Germany before reaching the safety of a UN refugee camp. They finally immigrated to the U. S. when Ilga was nearly 17. Inspired by a true story, this play challenges the solo actress with creating more than 20 characters as we follow Ilga through a forced labor camp, strafing by Russian planes, a violent storm at sea, and more – as a child witness to the effects of war on ordinary people. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

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**RIC AVERILL**  
 raverill@sunflower.com  
<http://lawrenceartscenter.org/ric-averill>

**LOS ZAPATOS MAGICOS; PEDRO'S MAGIC SHOES**, 1 act, 3m. 1 w. with doubling or 4 m., 1f., 5 m or f, without. Two sets; rich and poor houses separated by a cactus and the fiery top of the Mountain of El Diablo. To feed his family, save the valley and recover his Abuelo's (Grandfather's) heritage, Pedro must prove he is the greatest Trickster of all times. Based in part on Latino trickster tales, this story is told using about 15% Spanish. English speaking students will learn Spanish and Spanish speakers will find their own culture celebrated in this flavorful romp through America's Southwest. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**GEORGE BELLIVEAU**  
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**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (adapted)**, large cast, minimal set. This 30-minute adaptation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* keeps the poetry and dialogue in tact. The script is purposefully cut down and abridged to offer young students an introduction to Shakespeare's wonderful characters and playful plotline. This adaptation has been successfully used with students ages 6 and beyond. The play can be used with the companion book of lessons: *Stepping Into Drama: A Midsummer Night's Dream in the Elementary Classroom*. **Contact:** Pacific Educational Press.

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**MICHAEL BOBBITT**  
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**Bob Marley's THREE LITTLE BIRDS**, 1 act, 3w, 3m (with doubling), ensemble as desired. Performance tracks available. Based on a story by Cedella Marley, with music and lyrics by Bob Marley. Ah...yasso nice! Three little birds sing their sweet songs to Ziggy, a shy child who is happy to see the world from the TV in his room. But his tricky friend Nansi wants him to get out and enjoy the Island of Jamaica. Their worldly adventure is enlivened by the fantastic songs of renowned Reggae artist, Bob Marley. Roots, Rock, Reggae! **Contact:** Creative Artist Agency, [chris.till@caa.com](mailto:chris.till@caa.com)

**THE ADVENTURES OF GARFIELD**, 1 act, 4 m, 1 w (possibly one child) based on characters created by Jim David. Music and lyrics by John L. Cornelius, II. It's Garfield's birthday. The languid, sarcastic orange tabby cat expects a party fit for kings. But his friends, Jon Arbuckle, Arlene, Odie and Nermal seem to have forgotten AND, it's MONDAY – the worst day of the week! In a sad fit, Garfield runs away from home, all the way around the corner, to a new alley. Life on the streets is hard and scary. No lasagna, TV, or his teddy, Pooky. Garfield learns that home is where the heart is. **Contact:** Michael J. Bobbitt

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**AMIE BROCKWAY-HENSON**  
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**THE HOBO JUNGLE**, one act, 5 or 6 m, 2 or 3 w, area staging. Based on oral histories of former young hobos traveling the United States during the Great Depression, looking for work, food, and homes. Nineteen-year-old Curly and his eighteen-year-old wife Norma set up camp for the night near--but not too near--a railway station in Nebraska. Harry, their thirteen-year old nephew has been sent to town for provisions and comes back with two young friends and a story to tell. Running time is approximately 20 minutes. **Contact:** Playwright.

**THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH**, full-length 1-act or 3 acts, approx. 90 min., 5 m, 5 w, 3 m or w. Adapted from Charles Dicken's "fairy tale of home in three chirps." Flexible staging. A fanciful celebration of winter and good cheer with such loveable and improbable characters as a musical Kettle, a wise and winning Boxer Dog, Dot and John Peerybingle and their "very doll of a baby" precariously cared for by nursemaid Tilly Slowboy, a toymaker and his blind daughter, a harsh taskmaster, a beautiful young girl and her peevish mother, a mysterious stranger, and the chirping Cricket itself. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**DREW CHAPPELL**  
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**THE BREEZE AT DAWN**, 2m, 2f, 1m or f, 2 puppets, 30 minutes, minimal set. Why do some people like getting up in the morning and some not? What is special about the beginning of the day? This play follows two groups- three children and three adults- as they try to understand "life's biggest questions" early in the morning. As they encounter the story of a sleepy monk who went through his own struggles, they realize the boundaries of time and space may be blurrier than they thought. Conceived as a touring show for students K-2, w/ opportunities for creative design and direction. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**BRIT HAWKINS CHRISTOPHER**  
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**THE QUEST OF QUEEN THOMAS** (6 actors, gender-flexible). The play follows Thomas, a 10-year-old child identifying as female. Her struggles with acceptance from her peers and support from her mother leave her wrapped up in a fantasy world of escape, where she is Queen. With her sidekick Bartholomew, The Queen embarks on a quest to retrieve her crown, stolen by the evil witch. The Queen and Bartholomew must battle foes along the way, using courage and wit to persevere on a journey of self-discovery and acceptance. **Contact:** Playwright

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**DIANE CREWS**  
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**THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE OF JONATHAN TOOMEY**, adapted from the book by Susan Wojciechowski. 2 acts, 1 hr., 45 min. 27 characters --- 6m, 6w/teens, 8 girls, 7 boys. Jonathan is the best carpenter in the valley, but lives like a hermit ... until Widow McDowell and her son Thomas come to town. By Christmas Jonathan has undergone a change that makes him unrecognizable to everyone! **Contact:** Playwright.

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**. 2 acts, 1 hr., 40 min., 33 characters – 4m, 4 teen males, 3 boys, 5w, 9 teen females, 7 girls, 1 frog. The traditional story is told, plus a good deal more. We meet the seven fairies personally and discover both their strengths and weaknesses. The folks from the future, including the Prince and his page, are clearly from another time. The fun that ensues during their search for the Princess's castle is not even hinted at in the original story. Fergus Frog, who foretells the birth of the Princess and helps us jump through the years, is the most charming amphibian you will ever meet. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**GREG CUMMINGS**  
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www.gregorypetercumings.com

**AESOP 2.0.** 14 roles. Double and cross-gender casting possible. Minimal sets. 45 minutes. Four famous fables by Aesop, dramatized and updated for high school or middle school casts and audiences. Each play is set in a different time and place: The Geography Student and the Soccer Striker (The Tortoise and the Hare), The Gamer Who Cried Alien Abduction (The Boy Who Cried Wolf), The Mall Girl and the Bank Card (The Milkmaid and Her Pail) The Geek Wannabe and the True Inventor (The Fox and the Grapes). **Contact:** Playwright.

**KEVIN'S TEMPEST.** 7M, 3M. Cross gender casting possible. Minimal set. 70 minutes. For high school casts and audiences. KIRK abandoned his younger brother KEVIN and their childhood magic act when they entered high school. Since then KEVIN learned enough "theatrical magic" to "get back" at him. Now the Stage Manager for a production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, and aided by his Assistant Stage Manager, his Lighting Designer, and a grumpy Stage Manager, KEVIN "confines" KIRK (and others) in the auditorium to exact his revenge. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**EMILY FREEMAN**  
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**AND THEN CAME TANGO** (3 f, 5 m, 2-8 of either gender). Inspired by the true story of Roy and Silo, two male penguins living at the Central Park Zoo who formed a pair bond, built a nest, and were so determined to be parents that they incubated a rock. When given an orphaned egg, the pair successfully raised a baby fledgling. The play takes audiences on a journey to the penguin exhibit where Lily, a young visitor to the zoo, learns to understand the consequences of doing what she believes is right when faced with a public outcry about Roy and Silo's bond. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**MIRIAM GONZALES**  
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**THE SMARTEST GIRL IN THE WORLD** 5-6 actors; w/doubling. They've got a plan. The children of hardworking immigrants, Leo Martinez has convinced his little sis Lizzy that being the smartest kids in the world and winning a TV kids' quiz show is the key to escaping their tough reality. But, when their parents refuse to let Leo compete, Lizzy learns there's something deeper driving her brother. The play takes a look at the bonds of family and the keys to facing life's challenges together. **Contact:** Playwright.

**THE SOUTH OVERLOOK OAKS** Adapted from the book by John Reardon; 8 actors w/doubling. For over a century, Old Rag -- an Oak tree -- has watched over the families of South Overlook Street. Silver Leaf is a younger Oak who grows next to Old Rag. When a storm weakens Old Rag's trunk, Silver Leaf and the animals and neighbors who care for the Oak, fear losing their friend. All pitch in to help one another grow through this experience, learning about friendship and the cycle of life along the way. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**D.W. GREGORY**  
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www.dwgregory.com

**SALVATION ROAD** - One act: 3 m, 5f. (2 m, 3f can double); area staging. When his sister vanishes into a religious cult, a cynical teenager is forced to abandon his studied detachment in favor of an earnest quest to find her. Part road trip, part mystery, this comic drama examines the fine line between faith and fanaticism. Premiering at the 2009 Philadelphia Fringe Festival. **Contact:** Playwright.

**TALES BETWEEN THE THREADS:** Long one act. 8 m, 11 f, 11-20 either sex, doubling. Story opens in 1940s Brooklyn, as 17-year-old Zabel entertains her younger siblings with a folk tale about a spoiled, Armenian prince and the bookish girl who reforms him. When her boyfriend Jack sneaks in to propose-in an offhand way Zabel considers insulting---the bedtime story morphs into a lesson for Jack in the value of a true partnership. Premiered at Imagination Stage. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**BRIAN GUEHRING**  
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**THE BRAVE LITTLE TAILOR** (For 9-16 plus actors plus chorus, or 2m/2w with doubling) 1 act/3 sets. When a meek tailor kills seven flies in one blow, the village buzzes gossips and exaggerates until the king thinks the tailor can kill giants. The little tailor then has to find his own courage (with the help of the princess) to battle a rampaging unicorn, troublesome giants, and a fierce dragon in this new adaptation of the classic Grimms fairy tale. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

**STRONGER THAN STRONG: GREAT AMERICAN TALL TALE HEROINES, (For a cast of 13-30, a minimum of 6f/3m/4either with ). 60 minutes, simple set.** The famous Doctors Wellington arrive in a small town at the turn of last century to put on a medicine show and sell their strength elixir. The doctors found their ingredients when they met the rip-roarin, gater wrasslin' Sally Ann Thunder Ann Whirlwind Crockett, the incredibly strong keelboating legend Annie Christmas, and the catfish riding, bronco-busting cowgirl Slue Foot Sue. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

**THE GROCER'S GOBLIN and THE LITTLE MERMAID: Hans Christian Anderson Fairy Tales** (For 8-20 actors, a minimum of 4f/2m/2e) 1 act/2 sets. In this puppetry production, a goblin steals the Grocer's wife's gift of gab each night and gives it to the various objects in the store so they can converse. One night, the goblin sits outside a guest's door all night to hear *The Little Mermaid*. Before the guest can begin another story, a raging fire threatens the store and the goblin has to choose one thing to save: his porridge or the student's book of stories. **Contact:** playwright.

**NELLIE, SWEET NELLIE, or There's Danger on the Tracks** (For a cast of 9-21 actors, a minimum of 4f/3/2e) 1 act/4 locations. In this interactive melodrama, Munro Murgatroyd arrives in Smallsville to scheme, wheedle and trick his way into owning valuable land needed to complete the transcontinental railroad. Munro decides to romance his way into heart of Sweet Nellie Primrose to get the deed he desires. However, the town sheriff Butch Justice, Nellie's kind boyfriend Adam Oakhart, the suspicious widow, Nellie's gossipy younger sisters, and his own nefarious wife Ida all stand in his way. **Contact:** playwright.

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**CLAUDIA I. HAAS**  
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**http://theatreink.tripod.com**

**AND THE UNIVERSE DIDN'T BLINK** 1 act, 1m, 2, f, area staging. Miranda dwells in the past. Any past – as long as it is prior to her father's death. At her aunt's home, she is reacquainted with her father's ancestor, the great polar explorer and physicist Otto Schmidt. When she learns from Otto that the stars above are sending light from years ago, she begins her mission. Miranda intends to use the stars as a time machine and see her father one last time. **Contact:** Playwright.

**ELMER ELEVATOR'S EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE** 1 act, 2m, 2 m or f (up to 22 actors, extras as desired, puppets encouraged), area staging. (Adapted from the book MY FATHER'S DRAGON by Ruth Stiles Gannet.) On a dark and stormy afternoon, Elmer Elevator meets a cat. A cat who has sailed the seas and traveled the world. When the cat tells Elmer of a captured dragon on Wild Island, Elmer

knows he has to rescue the poor creature – even though he’s just a boy. And so Elmer’s adventure begins.

**Contact:** Playwright.

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**PATRICIA HAINES-AINSWORTH**

**Music by Larry Bridges & Terry Levitt**

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**http://WinkingKatBooks.com**

**BAYOU BUG TALES** musical; 5 actors; pref. 3f & 2m (alternate versions available for casts of 24 & 50). As Bertram grows from a tadpole to a frog over the course of a year, he watches his friends in the bayou deal with the changes of the seasons. Tilly, the ant, busily gathers leaves for her younguns and warns of the coming winter. Horatio, the grasshopper, delights in the summer sun and autumn colors without a care. Clarissa, the caterpillar, is befuddled by all the changes around her. As Tilly says, in the end, everyone ends up as nature intends – even Horatio, who has the best story of all, come spring. **Contact:** Playwright.

**THE DANCING PRINCESS** musical; 6 actors – 3m, 2f, 1m or f. Princess Yulia is wearing out a pair of shoes every night and King Valentine is spending all of the treasury’s money to supply her with new shoes. Not wanting to seem foolish and ask his daughter why she is wearing out her shoes, he proclaims a contest. If a young man can guess what she’s doing to wear out her shoes, he will win half the kingdom and Princess Yulia in marriage. One day, an out-of-work dragonslayer, arrives. With the help of his dog, and a magic cape, he attempts to outwit the princess and discover her secret. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**GAY H. HAMMOND**

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**www.gainesvilletheatrealliance.org**

**THE FROG PRINCE**, 50 minutes, 6 w, 5m. Unit Set. In a fiery land where magical spells, Fairy Godmothers and spare princesses abound, a frog meets a royal scientist – that is, an unassuming prince meets a scientific princess. Through the trials of dueling suitors, spells gone awry and broken promises, these two learn that while magic can bring you together, only true loyalty can bring you love. Filled with Latin flair, flamenco, and hilarious characters, this new spin on a classic fairy tale will have you looking for your own lily pad. **Contact:** Playwright.

**MONSTERS UNDER THE BED**, 45 minutes, 3w, 3m. Area staging. A wild, funny and endearing anthology of stories by and about monsters -- including the classic “Trolls and the Kittycat” -- all of which empower children to conquer their fears, make friends in unexpected places, and realize that the mind and imagination can save you every time. Who can be your hero? You can. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**JEFF JENKINS**

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**TIMMON AND THE MAGIC SHOES** Short play devised for pre-school through first grade; (Cast of 4, 1f, 1m, 2 either gender). This interactive piece which looks at what happens when a giraffe with a short neck, a grasshopper that can't jump, and a dog that is vision-impaired meet unexpectedly and the connections they form. The play features puppetry and actors. The play was a 2013 finalist and read at One Theatre World as part of Write Local Play Global. **Contact:** Playwright

**VICTORY GARDEN** Full-length play; (Cast of 5, 2f, 2m, 1either gender). Calum Murphy, a hearing impaired boy, has a penchant for trouble. He destroys the garden of the neighborhood “witch” in a fit of anger. Tasked to restore the "place of peace," the garden reveals it's magic. Exploring this new world, he is

challenged to see himself differently. Will he accept the challenge or return to his former path? The Garden has both magical and realistic elements and features puppetry. **Contact:** Playwright

**MONARCH ASHES** Full-length play; (Cast of 5, 3 m, 2 f.) 15 year old Ryan Shaughessy tries to recapture “normal” after a family loss and his own attempted suicide. Hannah, Ryan’s sister, looks for meaning in the aftermath as Ryan looks for a lifeline. Ryan and Hannah discover the world is not what it seems as they walk a fine line between this world and the next. The play looks at how we accept and take blame for our actions or the actions of others. The play was a semi-finalist at the 2011 Bonderman (WriteNow) and received a production at ASU March 2014. **Contact:** Playwright

**THE PURPLE HEART** Full-length play; (Cast of 4, 3m, 1f.) The Purple Heart tells the story of Kurt, the jazz loving musician wannabe who is forced to live with his grandmother because his mother is in a coma. The arrangement propels both head on. An unlikely friendship with a veteran, Mike, allows both a lifeline. The play was a semi-finalist at the 2009 Bonderman Playwrighting for Youth Competition (Write Now). **Contact:** Playwright.

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**MAGGIE KEENAN-BOLGER**  
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**FROM THE INSIDE, OUT** 4-10 actors, all genders. Self-injury isn't something people talk about in everyday, 'polite' conversation - *From the Inside, Out*, tackles it head on, using the voices of those who have experienced it. Taken from the interviews of self-injurers and their friends and families, this unique theatre piece approaches the generally sensationalized topic with humor and empathy. Follow Maggie as she sits in “the middle of an empty Indian restaurant, in the middle of Detroit” and comes out to her father for the second time, first as a lesbian, and then as a self-injurer. **Contact:** Playwright.

**QUEERING HISTORY** 60 min, 8-17 actors, all genders, flexible. Emma is a quiet, unobtrusive high school student who also happens to be queer. Her high school is turned upside down with a visit from her 'Fairy Queen Godmother,' Kinsey Scale and his Gaggle of Historical Gays. Written in collaboration with a group of LGBT homeless youth from Green Chimneys NYC Division, Queering History explores how high school might be different if LGBT history was taught by the people who were, and are, a part of it. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**LENORE BLANK KELNER**  
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**www.interactstory.com**

**THE SHIRT OF HAPPINESS**, 1 w, 1 m w/doubling. 1 act (approx. 50 minutes) Based on Armenian and Italian folk tales. A sad prince goes on a quest to find the true meaning of happiness. He is told that if he can find a truly happy man and put on his shirt, then he too will be happy. He seeks out the rich and famous, but quickly learns that fame and fortune don't always bring happiness. Finally he finds a happy, loving peasant couple who have only one torn and tattered shirt between them. He believes that this shirt will magically make him joyful. **Contact:** Playwright.

**THE SECRET SCROLL**, 1 w, 1 m w/doubling. 1 act (approx. 50 minutes). Based on a Chinese folk tale. The Emperor's palace is filled with discord; the royal children simply will not behave. The Emperor is constantly in a rage. He brings wise ones from all over the world, and travels across China searching for a secret that will bring peace and harmony to his palace. He finally finds his answer in the home of a simple man, Tsao Wang, who understands the profound power of kindness. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**BARRY KORNHAUSER**

**Barry.Kornhauser@Millersville.edu**

**BERT & ERNIE, GOODNIGHT!** (cast of 2 m, with puppets). It's Bert and Ernie like you've never seen them before – as humans! Here the iconic Muppet best friends are portrayed for the first time ever as real live people. In the play, poor Bert just wants to go to sleep. But its bedlam instead of bedtime as Ernie unleashes his wildly inventive antics. A laugh-a-minute, song-filled show based on the original series, script and music from *Sesame Street*. Commissioned and produced by the Children's Theatre Company by special arrangements with the Sesame Workshop and VEE Corp. **Contact:** Plays for Young Audiences.

**BALLOONACY** (cast of 1 m, with balloons). Winner of the AATE Distinguished Play Award. A red balloon drifts through the window of a solitary old man's home, and so begins a silly but sweet, entirely wordless tale of the positive power of play. While issues of loss and loneliness emerge, this delightful little laugh-filled romp for the youngest of audiences has plenty of playful shtick along with touching reminders of the ups and downs of building a friendship. Commissioned and produced by the Children's Theatre Company. **Contact:** Plays for Young Audiences.

**THE DEVIL'S ARITHMETIC** (Minimum cast of 18: 7 m, 11 f). Based on the award-winning novella by Jane Yolen. The last thing contemporary American teen Hannah Stern wants to do is sit through another Passover Seder with her family and be reminded of their Holocaust experiences. But opening the door to symbolically welcome the prophet Elijah, she finds herself inexplicably transported to the Polish shtetl of 1942 and from there sent to a concentration camp where she learns first-hand the importance of remembering. Commissioned by Prime Stage. **Contact:** Playwright

**OF MICE AND MANHATTAN** (Minimum cast of 7: 4 m, 3 f). Built around a number of unpublished children's songs by legendary composer Frank Loesser (- winner of the Pulitzer Prize, an Oscar, and two Tony Awards), this story follows the "mice-capades" of a mother and child rodent searching for a home in New York City, and discovering along the way a bit about themselves and that a little diversity can make for a very nice neighborhood. Commissioned and first produced by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. **Contact:** Playwright

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**CAROL KORTY**

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**<http://usaplays4kids.drury.edu/playwrights/korty>**

**<http://www.carolkorty.com>**

**MEEKA RISING** 3 w, 3 m (11 without doubling) + 1 male voice over. The journey of an American teenager struggling with the loss created by her father's death in Iraq. Visual images and descriptions of the ancient Sumerian myth of goddess Inanna and her journey into the Netherworld are juxtaposed with modern day Meeka's confrontation with her family and her high school team mates. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**ASHLEY LAVERTY**

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**NADINE'S COLORING BOOK.** 1 act, 4 w, 1 m play 9 characters, with doubling. After 11-year old Nadine witnesses a fatal car accident, she is literally left with no words. Her mom is concerned and her sister and friends think she's weird, but Nadine finds solace in her coloring book. Using her imagination, she ventures into the wonderful world of her coloring book, where her father is alive and she is happy once again. **Contact:** Playwright.

**DOTTY DOT: A NEW CHILDREN'S MUSICAL!** 60 minutes. 1 act, 5w, 2m. Dotty *may* have the tendency to be a bit bossy, so when she and her gang of quirky friends adventure to put on a play (which Dotty will OBVIOUSLY direct), things go awry. After Dotty gets too bossy and her mother forces her to come inside, will the neighborhood kids be able to work together to save the show? Book & lyrics by Ashley Laverty and Travis Kendrick. Music & additional lyrics by John Wascavage and Ryan Cavanaugh. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**HOLLIE MICHAELS**  
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**www.hbmichaels.com**

**CHILDREN OF HOOVERVILLE** Historical drama. 45-55 minutes. 3m, 10f. After 13-year-old Elsie Davis loses her family farm to the bank and her brother to the dust storms, she joins family and friends on a forced journey along Route 66 in search of a better life in California. Together they must survive unimaginable hardships and overcome theft, illness and unsympathetic authorities. But when at last they arrive in the Golden State, it may not be the promised land they had hoped for... **Contact:** YouthPlays.

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**MAURICE J. MORAN JR.**  
**mjmoran@comcast.net**

**METHOD IN HIS MADNESS**, 2 acts; running time 90 minutes. Stories and poems reflect the universe of Edgar Allan Poe: his popular poems interpreted in choral reading and dance; his horror tales such as "The Black Cat"; his detective fiction "The Purloined Letter" and a few rare pieces representing his strange sense of humor. The scenes can be performed by as few as 6 or 8 actors – or by as many as 34 actors and one or two dancers. Simple set – curtains or a few walls to outline the performance space; a few pieces of furniture or boxes/crates that can be re-used in successive scenes. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**BETH MURRAY & Irania Macias Patterson**  
**emurra17@uncc.edu**

**MAMÁ GOOSE** 3 f. 2m., flexible staging; soundtrack of original music by Criss Cross Mango Sauce. Adapted from Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy's *Mamá Goose: A Latino Nursery Rhyme Treasury/Un Tesoro De Rimas Infantile*, this bilingual play with music and movement weaves nursery rhymes into a story about sharing. Four cousins find a large and mysterious egg – surely a treasure – and each in turn tries to hide it and claim it for his own. But Abuela, the children's grandmother, helps them to see that selfishness is like a monster: in the end, "ours" is better than "mine." **Contact:** Playwrights.

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**JOHN DILWORTH NEWMAN**  
**john.newman@uvu.edu**  
**http://www.newmanplays.com**

**GATHERING GRIMM** 16 female, 6 male. 75 minutes. Lottie Grimm has hidden the manuscripts of her brothers' folktale collection until Jakob publicly acknowledges their origin. Rather than being told by old peasants, most of the early tales were told by middle class schoolgirls. The play includes dramatizations of seven of the tales of Grimm. The frame story tells the true tale of sixteen unrecognized young women who shared their stories with the world, as well as Lottie Grimm who brought them all together. **Contact:** Playwright

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**ALI OLIVER-KRUEGER****ali@interactstory.com****www.interactstory.com**

**VOYTTO TECH: A SCIFI FABLE ON BULLYING** (With Ben Kingsland) 1 w, 1 m w/doubling; An interactive play performed by two actors who become a variety of characters. Klipp travels from a planet far, far away to study at Voytto Tech, the most famous science magnet school in the galaxy. Klipp has trouble fitting in, and becomes a target of social bullying and cyberbullying. What can Klipp do? And what can anyone do about the energy crisis threatening the planet? The audience participates from their seats, becoming characters and brainstorming solutions. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**MATT OMASTA****contact@mattomasta.com**

**GATHERING BLUE**, 2 acts, 5m, 5f, 2+ ensemble (m/f). Adapted from Lois Lowry's companion novel to *The Giver*. In a world where humanity has established a repressive authoritarian regime not through politicized suspension of civil rights and diminished human experience, but through overt and brutal tribalism, three young artists discover the true nature of their society and their own mysterious abilities to shape the future. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**JESSICA PULLER****jspuller@aol.com****<http://sites.google.com/site/jessicapullersportfolio/home>**

**ADEN'S MOTHER** 3m, 1f Troubled by the recent marriage of his father to a woman named Kelsey, a young boy named Aden embarks on a literary adventure to find the perfect mother. Aided by Shakespeare's Puck, Aden encounters a wild cast of characters, all of whom have their own ideas about what makes a mother. *Aden's Mother* received honorable mention in the 2011 Beverly Hills Theatre Guild Marilyn Hall Play Competition for Youth Theatre. **Contact:** Playwright.

**CAPTAIN SUPERLATIVE**, 4f, 1m (minimum), Janey, a young student who prides herself on her anonymity, finds her world shaken up when a girl shows up to school, dressed up as a superhero, Captain Superlative. As Captain Superlative performs small acts of kindness, Janey witnesses the way that simple, good deeds begin to transform the school. Spurred by her father's curiosity, Janey begins to investigate Captain Superlative and, much against her will, ends up becoming her sidekick on an anti-bullying campaign. **Contact:** Playwright.

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**JEAN PRALL ROSOLINO****manager@youthstages.com****<http://www.youthstages.com/Programs/Performances/bears.asp>**

**THE THREE BEARS**, 1W (or 1M) 30-minute touring show for audience ages 3-5 years. Simple set with table and three chairs of different colors, three beds of different colors, props of different colors. This all-new take on the classic story is a one-woman show with the audience as Baby Bear! The actress plays Mama Bear, Papa Bear, and Goldilocks. With Mama Bear's guidance, the children- as Baby Bear- get dressed, do morning exercises and chores, and, of course, discover "Someone's been eating my porridge." A terrific first theatre experience for the youngest audience members! **Contact:** Playwright.

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**R.N. SANDBERG**  
**rsand@princeton.edu**  
**www.rnsandberg.com**

**THE BODY OF CHRISTOPHER CREED.** Two acts. 5-7M/5-7F (Extras as desired.) A group of high school students search for and try to come to terms with the disappearance of an eccentric classmate. Adapted from an award winning young adult mystery novel. Workshopped with the Chicago Theatre for Young Audiences. Produced by First Stage Milwaukee's Young Company. **Contact:** Playwright or Susan Gurman at susan@gurmanagency.com.

**CONVIVENCIA.** Two acts. 4-5M/2F plus a number of extras, many of whom have lines. 1492. The lives of three young people (Muslim, Jew, Christian) are turned upside down as the Spanish army re-conquers Granada. Music, dance, and poetry heighten the forceful dramatic struggle of these three trying to survive war and persecution and find a way to live together. Commissioned by Seattle Children's Theatre. Presented in the Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey/The Growing Stage reading series. **Contact:** Playwright or Susan Gurman at susan@gurmanagency.com.

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**ROXANNE SCHROEDER-ARCE**  
**Rarce1@yahoo.com**

**DREAM SHADOWS** 40 min, 3W, 3M, flexible, is based on a short story by Australian writer Finegan Kruckemeyer. A Mexican-American boy and a Native American boy share dreams and finally meet at Window Rock, on the Navajo reservation. Dream Shadows includes English, Spanish, and Nahuatl. Roxanne has written this as a parallel play with Finegan, whose play Shadow Dreams follows the same story line with an Aboriginal boy and an Anglo-Australian boy who meet at Uluru, a sacred indigenous ground in Australia. **Contact:** Playwright.

**MARIACHI GIRL** 60 min, 3W, 2M, 2-5 mariachi musicians. A bilingual Spanish/English musical for children and family audiences. Eight-year-old Carmencita dreams of being in her father's Mariachi band, but her father insists that mariachi groups can only include men. When Carmencita reads a book about a famous female mariachi it expands her world and notion of what is possible. Full of vibrant original mariachi music from a live band, this play explores how one girl can challenge her identity in a modern society while embracing her rich heritage. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

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**DAVID WOOD**  
**david.woodplays@virgin.net**  
**www.davidwood.org.uk**

**THE MAGIC FINGER** Adaptation of Roald Dahl's book, successfully premiered in April 2013 by Imagination Stage, Washington DC. West Coast premiere May 2014, Main Street Theatre Company, Rancho Cucamonga, Ca. When Lucy sees something she thinks is unfair, she points her magic finger at the problem, and it causes all sorts of mischief! Ducks become human-sized. People shrink and grow bird wings. Can Lucy put things right? Cast of 7. **Contact:** Playwright or taylor@casarotto.co.uk.

**GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM** Adaptation of Michelle Magorian's book, UK premiere at Chichester Festival Theatre, followed by tour and West End (Phoenix Theatre) season 2012/13. Winner, Olivier Award 2013. Published Samuel French 2014. Set during the dangerous build-up to Second World War. Young William is evacuated to the idyllic English countryside and builds a moving friendship with elderly recluse Tom Oakley. All seems perfect until William is summoned by his mother back to London. Cast of 13 plus. **Contact:** Samuel French Inc.

**THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA** Adaptation with songs of Judith Kerr's classic UK picture book (1968), published in the United States by Candlewick Press. Played several long UK tours since 2008. London West End season, 2011, nominated for Olivier Award. West End season, 2012. West End season 2014. Sophie and her mother answer a ring at the door – a tiger comes to tea and eats them out of house and home! Surreal fun for children of 3 years and older. Running time 50 minutes. Cast of 3. **Contact:** Plays for Young Audiences.

**BACK HOME** (work in progress). Adaptation of Michelle Magorian's book. Commissioned by Chichester Festival Theatre. Young Rusty returns to England at the end of Second World War, having been evacuated to America. Adapting to life 'back home' is very difficult for her and for her family. Cast of approx. 12 plus. **Contact:** Playwright or [taylor@casarotto.co.uk](mailto:taylor@casarotto.co.uk).

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**JAMES ZAGER**

[jzager@carrollu.edu](mailto:jzager@carrollu.edu)

<http://usaplays4kids.drury.edu/playwrights/zager>

**JULIET**, 1 act; 10 characters (3w/4m/3ns), minimal set, contemporary costumes, running time 1 hour. A deconstruction of "Romeo & Juliet" this adaptation explores Shakespeare's original play using only the scenes that Juliet appears in to re-imagine the narrative of this enigmatic young girl. Contemporary costumes, minimalistic set and a wry blend of classic and contemporary language are used to rediscover the tale of two star crossed lovers brought forth from the fatal loins of feuding households as seen through the eyes of a secluded teenage girl. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.