

Herndon High School Theatre
presents...

WE

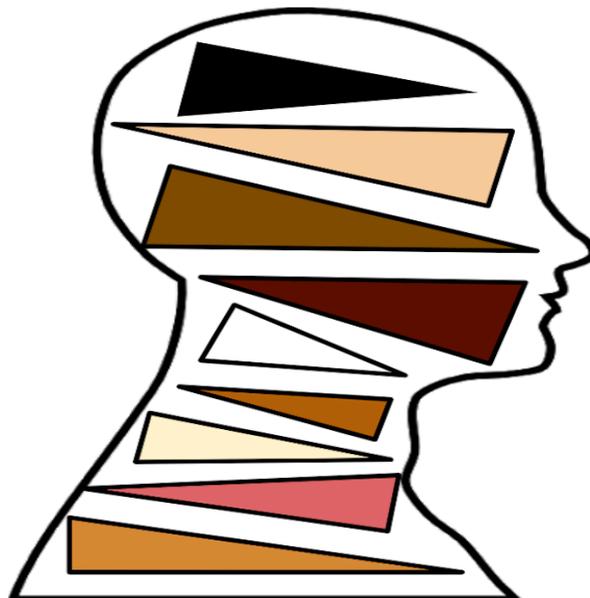
THE

PEOPLE

A Human Family Play

***Assistant Directed by
Cynthia Crisafulli***

***Conceived & Directed by
Scott D. Pafumi***



WE THE PEOPLE



CAST

Lainey Bradley

Ava Deutschman

Jefferson Escobar Rivera

Kelly Grover

Emma Harris

Izzi Hollenbeck

Leilani Johnson

Andrew Landrum

Maura Lawton

Yali Miranda

Jonathan Peterson

Ankit Poudel

Kobe Rivas Galdamez

Jake Swery

Natalie Tubia

Ryen Weston

CREW

Stage Managers

Lulu & Meena Megahed

Video Editor

Scott Nurmi, Mojo Productions



PERFORMANCE SEGMENTS

I Am Introductions

The Preamble of the Constitution

Let America Be America Again

Rainbow Coalition, Part 1

Where are you from?

Immigration

White Privilege

Criminal Justice Reform

If Men Could Menstruate

I Understand

Black Lives Matter

GSA

Covid PTA

My Journey has just begun

The Holocaust

A Journey for the Better

I'll never be able to...

Body Positivity

Not gonna change

It's all a Spectrum

The boy on the Stump

Mental Health

Epilogue: The Forefathers

Rainbow Coalition, Part 2

The Human Family

The Ensemble

Ankit, Jake, Jefferson

Ensemble

Izzi, Kelly, Kobe, Maura,

Yali, Jefferson, Natalie,

Leilani, Jake, Lainey

Leilani

Ankit, Yali, Kobe, Natalie

Ava, Izzi

Kelly, Lainey

Ava

Leilani, Lainey, Emma, Izzi

Jake, Lainey

Emma, Andrew, Yali, Maura

Lainey, Kelly, Kobe,

Jefferson, Ryen

Emma

Jake, Maura, Kelly, Kobe

Ryen

Ava, Emma, Izzi, Kelly, Lainey,

Leilani, Maura, Natalie, Ryen

Lainey, Izzi, Andrew,

Maura, Ryen

Yali

Maura

Jake, Jefferson

Maura, Ryen, Natalie, Emma

Ankit, Jake, Jefferson

same as above

The Ensemble



Director Bios



Scott D. Pafumi - Director

Mr. Scott D. Pafumi is the proud Director of Theatre Arts at Herndon High School. He has been teaching in Fairfax County Public Schools over the last 25 years, having taught Theatre and Drama at every level from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Mr. Pafumi has also served as an Adjunct Theatre Professor at Northern Virginia Community College on the Loudoun campus for five years. He is a past President of the FCPS Theatre Arts Directors Association and the Associate Artistic Director at Dark Horse Theatre Company. He is also a founding member of a professional Improv group called Calamity. He earned a BA in Theatre and English Literature at Virginia Tech (1995) and holds a master's in Arts Management from George Mason University (2010). Mr. Pafumi specializes in teaching and directing American Drama and Comedy, Shakespeare, Commedia dell' Arte, Improvisation, Technical Theatre, and Storytelling. He is also a professional actor and workshop teacher for hire, having worked at community centers, colleges, and educational theatre conferences throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. His productions and theatre programs have earned him local (CAPPIS), state (VHSL), and national (ABC News) acclaim. He is happily married to another FCPS secondary English/Theatre educator, and the proud father of three children, ages teen to adult, and a beagle-lab. He is a resident of Loudoun County, and enjoys staying involved with his church (Herndon UMC) as well as cross country motorcycle tours.

Cynthia Crisafulli - Assistant Director

Ms. Crisafulli has been dedicated to equity and social justice throughout her life. In her adulthood, she moved to Costa Rica after graduating from college, completed her master's thesis on racial identity development, sponsored Westfield HS's original GSA, and currently serves on West Springfield HS's Equity Team. She's been a clinical social worker since 1997, and this is her 19th year with FCPS. Ms. Crisafulli was raised in a commune and spent much of her childhood accompanying her parents to protests, the food co-op, and Barney Frank's first campaign office. She began performing at age five and continues to love theatre, but these days she prefers to remain behind the scenes. As such, Ms. Crisafulli joined Mr. Pafumi to assistant direct the 2008 production of *We the People* at Westfield HS. While she now works at West Springfield HS, she couldn't resist the opportunity to revive this timely show with Mr. Pafumi and the Herndon HS Theatre Department. She has been grateful to work with the extraordinary cast and crew of the 2020 rendition of *We the People*; these students give her optimism for what it will mean to be an American citizen in the years to come!





Director's Statement

WE THE PEOPLE is a formidable piece of theatre that was originally conceived as a student project with college theatre majors in the spring of 1994 at Virginia Tech. I'm proud to say that I was one of those theatre students. At the time, we formed a diverse ensemble to travel the campus with a one act play about what it means to be an American. We endeavored to create multicultural testimonies through the creative process of devised theatre. At its core, this has always been a storytelling play.

Years later, in the spring of 2008 and 12 years into being a secondary theatre educator, I brought this concept-play to my students at Westfield HS. Through this new production, I continued the founding effort to further discuss topics of racism, sexism, and the acceptance of all people in the American landscape. I brought onto the directing team Ms. Cynthia Crisafulli, the school's social worker, to help facilitate productive discussions around these very difficult topics. We wound up working side by side on this project, and became close friends. Ultimately, a new show was created, using the same ensemble framework of the original collegiate project.

Now, some 26 years later, in the infamous 2020, America is as divided as ever in our socio-political framework, where many of the same diversity issues are at play. I once again teamed up with my friend and favorite social worker Ms. Crisafulli (now working at another Fairfax County high school) to help me to direct the journey of discovery and self-truths with our students. One advantage of virtual learning is that it allowed us to lead from different parts of the County. This devised play aims to challenge the Herndon HS students and audiences alike on what it means to be an American citizen in the 21st century.

Where do we come from? What are our stories? How do we all learn to listen more and talk less? We must never forget that acceptance beats out tolerance, and love can overcome apathy. Devising this play with a whole new ensemble of high school theatre students offered us the chance to wrestle with hard topics, learn something about other cultures, and ultimately share our personal stories of who we are in the Human Family.



Ms. Crisafulli posing as feminist icon Gloria Steinem



Mr. Pafumi masked in downtown Herndon at historical marker

WE THE PEOPLE



JOIN HHS THEATRE BOOSTERS

Hello Theatre families!

Thank you for your support and I hope you enjoy the show.

The Boosters are working closely with Mr. Pafumi this year to ensure that during this unique time we are all still having fun! We are looking forward to a time when we will be safely back at school, in the new theater and putting on the shows that we all love.

To help us prepare for that time, please consider supporting the Theatre Boosters by becoming a member. You can simply scan the QR code below. Donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated.

Wishing everybody a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season!

With love from,

Manal Megahed, President of HHS Theatre Boosters





CAST AND CREW BIOS

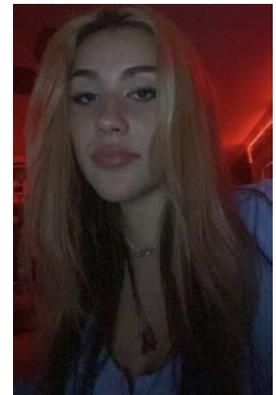


Lainey Bradley - Junior

Hey homies, Lainey here, and this is one of many high school mainstages that I've been a part of, but only the second! I've ever performed in. I decided to give acting a try again. You may have seen me backstage as a stage manager in *Hamlet* (Fall 2019), *She Kills Monsters* (Fall 2018), or in *The Little Mermaid* (Summer 2018). I am so grateful to have worked with a group of such wonderful people, love you guys! I'd also like to thank my friends and family for supporting me through it all! Hope you enjoy!

Ava Deutschman - Senior

Ava is so excited to be acting despite all of the complications due to coronavirus. On top of that, she's extra thrilled to be ending her high school acting "career" with an original show! She hopes this show brings you all a bit of normalcy amongst the madness.



Jefferson Escobar Rivera - Sophomore

Previous roles include Dallas in *The Outsiders* at HMS Theatre, and playing defense for HHS Freshman Football team. "I would just like to say, May the Force of the chicken nuggets be with you!"



CAST AND CREW BIOS

Kelly Grover - Junior

Kelly is excited for another great show with Herndon Theatre. Kelly is a birdhouse and Harry Potter enthusiast.



Emma Harris - Junior

Emma recently performed in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Quince) and in *Hamlet* (Rosencrantz) last fall. Before that was *Beauty and the Beast* (Mrs. Potts), and *The Sound of Music*, all with HHS Theatre. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Izzi Hollenbeck - Senior

Izzi would like to thank Mr. Pafumi and Ms. Crisafulli for this unique and meaningful opportunity. She also would like to thank her castmates for being venerable and her family for being a huge part of her story.



Leilani Johnson - Senior

This is my fourth year as a student in the HHS drama department. I have previously played roles in shows such as the Priest in *Hamlet*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, and Alice Starling in *Herndon Town*. I have also done showcase productions with companies outside of school, such as the LM Project Dance, NY.



CAST AND CREW BIOS

Andrew Landrum - Sophomore

Andrew is so happy to have worked with the amazing cast and crew on this show!



Maura Lawton - Senior

Maura is super excited to be in her 9th HHS Theatre production! Since the virus hit last March, she has missed everyone, and is so glad to get to work with her friends again :) Some of her previous credits include A Player in *Hamlet*, a Nun/contestant in *The Sound of Music*, and the March Hare in *Alice in Funkyland*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Lulu Megahed - Junior

Lulu is super excited to be in her 6th show at Herndon HS and her 2nd covid time show! You may have seen Lulu on and off stage for the past 2 years at Herndon. She is the ITS Marketing Chair, Junior Improv Captain, and a Cappie Critic. Lulu is also in 3 choirs in Herndon. She would like to thank the cast, crew, her family, and especially Mr.Pafumi and Ms. Crisafulli for all they have done. She hopes you enjoy the show!!





CAST AND CREW BIOS



Meena Megahed-Junior

Meena is very involved with the Theatre department. When she is not stage managing she loves to watch some *New Girl* or drive around and listen to One Direction! She is very excited to be stage managing a show since corona canceled everything! She hopes you enjoy!

Yaliek Miranda-Junior

Yaliek would like to thank his parents, Mr. Pafumi, Ms. Crisafulli and all his scene partners and friends.



Jonathan Peterson - junior, West Springfield HS

Recent credits include *Guys & Dolls* with The American School of Warsaw, Poland. Jonathan would like to thank Mr. Pafumi and Ms. Crisafulli for the opportunity to work with the wonderful people at Herndon.



CAST AND CREW BIOS

Ankit Poudel - Senior

Ankit is very excited to be involved in “We The People” during such an unprecedented time in all of our lives. He was previously seen behind the scenes as a member of the Run Crew for *Hamlet*. Additionally, he has starred in many Herndon Mainstages, most recently as Pippin in *Pippin*. He would like to thank Mr. Pafumi and Ms. Crisafuli for giving him this opportunity to help out and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Kobe Rivas Galdamez - senior

This is Kobe’s third mainstage production at HHS, though it is in very different circumstances. Nevertheless, he hopes this show can provide the same experience that it would as if you were there to see it live.

Jake Swery - Senior

Jake has previously performed in the Shakespeare productions of *Midsummer*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Hamlet*. He would like to thank Mr. Pafumi, Ms. Crisafulli, his family, and his grandmother in Canada for their support



WE THE PEOPLE



CAST AND CREW BIOS



Natalie Tubia - Senior

Natalie is so excited for the opportunity to perform in *We the People*. She has done lots of shows at HHS Theatre, including her favorite, *Hamlet*, last fall. She is thankful for the opportunity to be in this cast. She would love to thank Mr. Pafumi and Ms. Crisafulli for really whipping us into shape with their amazing direction.

Ryen Weston - Senior

Ryen is so excited to work with this very talented cast. She was recently cast as the Leading Player in *Pippin*, as well as the Player Queen in *Hamlet*. Her favorite beverage is an Arnold Palmer! She is very grateful for this amazing opportunity and hopes you enjoy the show!



SPECIAL THANKS!

Maya Anjelou, Langston Hughes, Willie Jordan, Reston Copy Center, Mojo Productions, Meghan Pafumi, Manal Megahed, Maeve Nash, Teri Hobson, Tara Taylor @ FCPS Fine Arts, Krisna Taylor, Fine Arts Admin, and Dr. Liz Noto, Principal, Herndon HS



DECEMBER 11 & 12, 2020 - online pre-recorded video performances