

# Virtual Program



Premiering  
Friday Nov. 20, 2020  
7:00 PM

<http://www.academyoftheholycross.org/onstage>

## A Sonnet From The Director

Early in our rehearsal process, I challenged our cast members to write Shakespearean-style sonnets, as their characters, to another character in the play. In return, I agreed to participate too — but I would write my sonnet to THEM the cast. As we now prepare to unveil this work to the world, I hope sharing the sonnet I wrote to the cast with you, our wonderful audience, gives just a small sense of the trials and tribulations of producing a digital theatre production.

I miss your faces, greeting you in seats:  
The chatting, laughing, before we begin.  
Rehearsal's not the same in Google Meets  
The mute buttons, the cameras, rein us in.

I miss the back and forth where ideas flow  
From one of us, and then around the room.  
“But should I unmute now? It's hard to know”  
Plus my whole family's next to me on Zoom”.

But here's the thing: we're doing all we can  
To play our parts and keep the arts alive.  
To all of you, I'm now your biggest fan,  
And I know in this format we can thrive.

I promise when this project's done and through,  
We'll celebrate our work with much ado!

Thank you for taking the time to help celebrate the amazing work of these students this semester, and thank you for your support and encouragement as we took on this unprecedented challenge.

Enjoy the show!

*Dale Placek, November 2020*

## The Academy of the Holy Cross

Ms. Kathleen Prebble, President

Mr. John Sullivan, Principal

Mrs. Lindsay Tonks, Assistant Principal

4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895

[www.academyoftheholycross.org](http://www.academyoftheholycross.org)

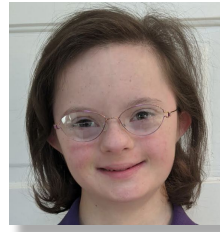
# Cast Headshots



Samaa Afoke



Kali Alvarez-Rojas



Elise Baumrucker



Margot Baumrucker



Anna DeMino



Elena Flaim



Abigail Gehres



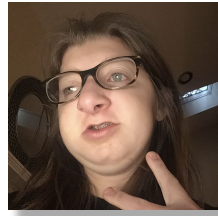
Hannah Girus



Veronica Gomez



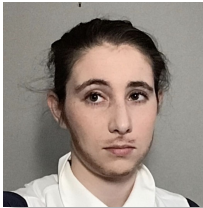
Isabella Grijalba



Lucille Harris



Caroline Killian



Reese Long



Gabriela Lopez



Seamus Malloy



Emily Micklos



Anna Miller



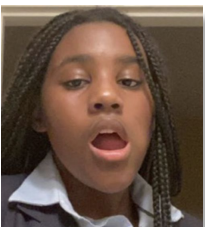
Emilia Moberg



Benjamin Napolitano



Isabella Pla



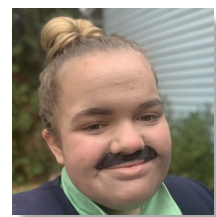
Grace Pressley



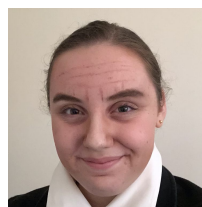
Natalie Selden



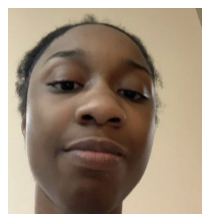
Katherine Sheetz



Mary Sheetz



Meghan Stone



Aida Thior

## Scene List

## Act 1

Scene 1 ..... Don Pedro comes to Messina  
Scene 2 ..... Strange news  
Scene 3 ..... I am a plain-dealing villain

## Act 2

Scene 1 ..... The Masquerade  
Scene 2 ..... How canst thou cross this marriage?  
Scene 3 ..... Tricking Benedick

## Act 3

Scene 1 ..... Tricking Beatrice  
Scene 2 ..... The lady is disloyal  
Scene 3 ..... Dogberry and the Watch  
Scene 4 ..... Wedding Day

## Act 4

Scene 1 ..... Neighbors, you are tedious  
Scene 2 ..... This looks not like a nuptial

## Act 5

Scene 1 .....	Cease thy counsel
Scene 2 .....	Sweet Beatrice
Scene 3 .....	The Monument of Leonato
Scene 4 .....	Another Hero!

## Song Credits

Sonnet Music .....Ashleigh Dansker ’22  
Lovefool (Bardcore Version) .....stantough (YouTube)  
Balthasar’s Song ..... Lyrics by William Shakespeare  
..... Music by Reese Long ’23  
Funeral..... Zurda (YouTube)  
Lovefool ..... Music and Lyrics by Peter Svensson & Nina Person  
..... Performed by The Cardigans

## Cast List

DON PEDRO .....	Grace Pressley '24
CLAUDIO.....	Benjamin Napolitano '22
BENEDICK .....	Seamus Malloy '23
BALTHASAR .....	Reese Long '23
LEONATO.....	Meghan Stone '23
ANTONIO .....	Emily Micklos '23
HERO.....	Hannah Girum '24
BEATRICE .....	Emilia Moberg '22
MARGARET .....	Samaa Afoke '24
URSULA.....	Anna DeMino '22
FATHER FRANCIS.....	Caroline Killian '22
DON JOHN.....	Isabella Pla '22
CONRADE .....	Veronica Gomez '24
BORACHIO.....	Katherine Sheetz '23
DOGBERRY .....	Mary Sheetz '21
VERGES.....	Elena Flaim '24
WATCHMAN GARY .....	Gabriela Lopez '24
WATCHMAN HENRY.....	Isabella Grijalba '24
SEXTON .....	Anna Miller '23
SONNETEERS.....	Kali Alvarez-Rojas '24
	Elise Baumrucker '23
	Margot Baumrucker '23
	Elena Flaim '24
	Abigail Gehres '21
	Lucille Harris '23
	Natalie Selden '24
	Aida Thior '24

## Special Thanks to

Laura Meehan  
Donna Reese  
Emily Montgomery  
Danielle Ballantine  
Phyllis Ouellette  
Megan Dade  
Kathleen Enright  
Sean Hillary

Holy Cross Facilities Team  
Julie Ritter  
Nia Reddick  
Debbie Ballard  
Kit Mathews  
Anissa Wills  
Helene Hering

## Production Staff

Director .....	Mr. Dale Placek
Technical Director .....	Mr. Kevin de Souza
Production Stage Manager .....	Jennifer Tartaglia '21
Deck Stage Manager .....	Megan Steele '22
Production Assistants .....	Isabella Hooke '23 Suzette Kincer '23
Choreographer .....	Caroline Killian '22

# Music Department

Composers .....Ashleigh Dansker '22  
Reese Long '23

## Video Department

Video Editors .....Daniela Lock '21  
Noelia Villafane '21  
Ashleigh Dansker '22  
Anna Miller '23  
Elena Flaim '24  
Veronica Gomez '24  
Natalie Selden '24

## Lighting Department

Lighting Designer .....	Zoë Wilson '24
Lighting Crew .....	Charlotte Covell '22
	Emma Allan '23
	Zofia Dobosz '24
	Elena Sunderman '24

## Sound Department

Sound Designer .....Caroline Bloodgood '21  
 Sound Crew .....Ashleigh Dansker '22  
                                      Reese Long '23

## Costumes, Hair and Makeup Department

Costume Designer.....	Marina Buziak '22
Costumes Crew .....	Anna DeMinio '22
	Zofia Dobosz '24
Hair and Makeup.....	Naomi Barish '24

## Properties Department

Properties Master .....Makayla Gladden '22  
Properties Assistants .....Sophia Skinner '22  
Sara Thomas '23

## Scenic Department

Scenic Designer .....	Tyra-Neil Morrison '21
Scenic Crew.....	Adaugo Umeh '22
	Emma Allan '23
	Lucille Harris '23
	Rebecca Vogt '24



## About The Cast

**Abigail Gehres '21** (Wedding Guest) is excited to be a part of her first play as a cast member at the Academy. She has previously appeared in several dance concerts and has worked on the house crew for several productions. In her spare time, she trains with Spirit Club, cheers with Cheer Extreme and Special Olympics, and is a member of Devenio Dance and the Pegasus Ensemble at Imagination Stage. She is also enjoying cooking classes on Zoom!

**Mary Sheetz '21** (Dogberry) is so excited to be in her second show at Holy Cross. She was previously in *Noises Off* (Selsdon), which was sadly affected by COVID. She is excited to finally show the Holy Cross community her love of the theatre. In her spare time, she is a competitive Irish dancer. She would like to give a shout-out to the cast and crew of *Noises Off* for all their hard work last year and to her family for their constant support. Break a leg, everyone!

**Anna DeMino '22** (Ursula. Costume Crew) is so excited to be participating in her first show at Holy Cross. She is a transfer this year and is thrilled to continue her life on the stage! When she's not acting, you can find her listening to as much music as she can fit into her schedule. She wants to give a round of applause to Mr. Placek and KdS for working so hard to create a virtual production everyone can be proud of. Anna and the cast hope the audience will find *Much Ado About "Something"* during the show!

**Emilia Moberg '22** (Beatrice) is stoked to be in her fourth production at the Academy, (finally) in a female role! Emi is a Madrigals Singer, an avid participant in anything to do with Holy Cross theatre, and has recently become a tea-and-knitting enthusiast. She would like to give a massive 'thank you' to Mr. Placek and KdS for making this show possible, Ms. Griffith for always supporting her on her Holy Cross theatre journey, and the breakout group for being her catharsis during this crazy time. Break some virtual legs!

**Benjamin Napolitano '22** (Claudio) is a Junior at Georgetown Preparatory School and a passionate member of the theatre community. He has appeared in Prep shows since he was in 8th grade, but this is his first experience with the Holy Cross theatre program. He has appeared previously in Prep's productions of *The Addams Family* as Pugsley, *Sherwood* as Prince John, and *Newsies* as a featured ensemble member. He has a passionate love of theatre, writing, knitting, and learning new things.

**Isabella Pla '22** (Don John) is excited to be part of her second Holy Cross production. After previous performances of *Noises Off* (Mrs. Clackett understudy), *Sense and Sensibility* at Georgetown Prep (Fanny Dashwood/ Mrs. Jennings), and many more, Bella is excited to be performing with Holy Cross again. Along with being on stage, she runs on the cross country and indoor and outdoor track teams. Bella wishes the cast good luck and hopes everyone enjoys *Much Ado About Nothing*!

**Elise Baumrucker '23** (Ensemble) is excited to be a part of *Much Ado About Nothing*! While this is her debut production, she is not new to the stage. She has been performing on violin since the 4th grade, and she even sang with her middle school choir at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In her spare time, Elise enjoys riding tandem bikes with her family, camping, and spending time with her friends.

**Margot Baumrucker '23** (Ensemble) is not new to the stage, even though this is her first play at the Academy. She has been performing with The Levine School of Music's Suzuki flute program since the 4th grade. Notably, she has performed alongside up to 100 other flute players as a part of the school's annual holiday concert. Margot has always enjoyed performing.

## About The Cast *continued*

**Lucille Harris '23** (Ensemble, Scenic) was in *Matilda* last year at Holy Cross, and she was also in *Mary Poppins Jr.* for Summer Stock in 2019.

**Reese Long '23** (Balthasar, Sound, Composer) is so excited to be part of *Much Ado About Nothing*. While this is her fourth show at Holy Cross, it's her first virtual one. When she's not acting or doing homework, Reese enjoys reading, writing, drawing, and playing guitar.

**Emily Micklos '23** (Antonio) is so grateful to have been part of such a unique experience for her first show at Holy Cross! She has previously performed as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* and Ursula in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* In her free time, she likes to paint and hang out with her cats. Emily would like to thank her parents, Mr. Placek, Mr. de Souza, and the cast and crew for making this play happen!

**Anna Miller '23** (Sexton) is so excited to be involved in her first Zoom show! Previous credits include *The Addams Family* (Ancestor) at Georgetown Prep, *Matilda* (Hortensia) at Holy Cross, and *Elf Jr.* (Deb) at Saint Bernadette's. She would like to thank everyone in the Performing Arts Department for working to make a show possible, and the rest of the cast and crew. Enjoy the show!

**Katherine Sheetz '23** (Borachio) is very happy to be a part of her second show at the Academy. She has previously been in *Matilda* (Bruce) at the Academy and in *The Addams Family* (Ensemble) at Georgetown Prep. She can't wait to do more shows at the Academy and hopes you enjoy the show.

**Meghan Stone '23** (Leonato) is so excited to be in her third production at Holy Cross (and second virtual one!). She previously played Mrs. Wormwood in *Matilda* and Dotty/Mrs. Clackett in *Noises Off*. Her quarantine hobbies include playing piano and ukulele, spending time with her new dog Bibi, and obsessing over Billie Eilish. She is also a certified plant mom. Much love to the cast and crew, who worked tirelessly to put this amazing show together, and to her fabulous family!

**Samaa Afoke '24** (Margaret) is thrilled to be a part of her first show at the Academy as Margaret! She has previously appeared in *Mary Poppins* as Mrs. Banks. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, and golfing.

**Kali Alvarez-Rojas '24** (Sonneteer) is excited to participate in her first play at Holy Cross. She has been in two other plays before: *The Lion*, *The Witch*, and *The Wardrobe* (The White Witch) and *The Baker Street Irregulars* (Zolda). She also has experience in choir and enjoys singing.

**Elena Flaim '24** (Verges, Understudy for Claudio, Sonneteer) has had a lot of fun being a part of her ninth theatrical production. She has previously appeared in *Willy Wonka* (Veruca Salt), *Malice in the Palace* (Mordecai), and *HONK!* (Henrietta). She also enjoys playing piano and cantoring in choir (before the pandemic).

**Hannah Girum '24** (Hero) is excited to be a part of her first production at Holy Cross! In her spare time she likes to draw, read, sing, and hang out with her friends.

**Veronica Gomez '24** (Conrade) is excited to be part of her first show at Holy Cross. She previously appeared in *Peter Pan Jr.* (Tiger Lily). In her spare time, she likes to hangout with friends and read.



## About The Cast *continued*

**Isabella Grijalba '24** (Watchman Henry) is really excited to be part of her first production at Holy Cross. Her experience has been wonderful and exciting. She met so many people and is really looking forward to watching this year's production. Isabella has been in *Into the Woods Jr.* (Witch) and *High School Musical* (Gabriella). She likes to read and sing, and loves her Biology and Latin classes. She gives a special thanks to the cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the show.

**Gabriela Lopez '24** (Watchman Gary) is making her Holy Cross Theatre debut! She has been a part of multiple plays and musicals throughout elementary and middle school. She loves theatre and loves being in plays. She is also in the improv club and she is the freshman class secretary.

**Grace Pressley '24** (Don Pedro) is stoked to complete her first Holy Cross performance. In her spare time, she skateboards and doodles.

**Natalie Selden '24** (Sonneteer) is excited to be in *Much Ado About Nothing*! She enjoys singing and acting, as well as spending time with family and friends.

**Aida Thior '24** (Hero) is excited to be part of the cast of *Much Ado About Nothing*! She has previously participated in dance classes at Imagination Stage.

## About The Crew

**Jennifer Tartaglia '21** (Stage Manager) is excited to be in the best department for her eighth show! She has officially reached the top of the Stage Management Totem Pole to become Stage Manager! She is forever grateful to her predecessors Lord Lourdes Amaro and Molly "Kueter" Kueter. ALL HAIL.

**Noelia Villafane '21** (Video) is excited to officially be part of the Tech Crew for the first time in her high school career! She has previously appeared on stage in *Matilda* (Amanda Thripp) and *Into The Woods* (Stepmother). She is co-president of the Madrigal Singers as well as president of the A Capella Club. She would like to congratulate the cast and crew for their hard work on the show!

**Caroline Bloodgood '21** (Sound Designer) is so excited to be on the Tech Crew for *Much Ado About Nothing*. She has been both on stage and behind the scenes throughout her time at the Academy. She has actually lost track of how many shows she has been a part of because her Holy Cross Performing Arts journey started in 2014 with Summer Stock! Caroline is also a member of the Madrigals and several Performing Arts clubs. The cast and crew have put so much work into this show, and she can't wait to share it with everyone!

**Daniela Lock '21** (Video) can't wait to see the final product of *Much Ado*! She has participated in many productions with the lovely Performing Arts Department at the Academy. You may have seen her in music concerts, improv shows, dance concerts with the Adrenaline Dance Team, the talent show, and many plays and musicals. This year, she decided to try something new and join Tech Crew, and she is so happy that she made that decision! Dani is so proud of everyone involved in this production and wishes everyone luck!

## About The Crew *continued*

**Tyra-Neil Morrison '21** (Scenic Designer) has been doing technical theatre ever since her freshman year. She never thought that one day she would become a techie, but over time that title has become more and more special to her. Whether it be the power tools, large supply of paint or crazy amount of show shirts she owns, Tyra has always found herself back in theatre.

**Marina Buziak '22** (Costume Designer) is in the third year of her commitment to the Academy's costume crew. She has risen from crew to Costume Designer over her last five productions. Marina is active in her community and takes part in six extracurriculars at the Academy, most notably as a co chair of the No Place For Hate Committee and president of Prism Club. She would like to thank former department heads MC and Catherine Sarca, and her current dedicated team for making this year's costumes Tech possible. Please enjoy the show!

**Ashleigh Dansker '22** (Sound/Video) is ecstatic to be part of her seventh show at the Academy. She has been a cast member for five shows and this is her second time as a member of the Tech Crew. On her own time, she enjoys playing guitar and tending to her plants. She wishes the cast and crew well and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Makayla Gladden '22** (Properties Master) is excited to be on Tech Crew for her sixth Holy Cross production! She is the head of props, arguably one of the best Tech Crew departments, and would like to give a shout-out to her predecessor, Grace Blanco, and the director that showed her the world of props, Ms. Griffith! She also wishes the cast and crew luck!

**Sophia Skinner '22** (Props) could not be more excited to be a part of her fourth production at Holy Cross and she could not be more excited! She has been involved in past productions such as *Matilda* (Props), and *Into The Woods* (Stepsister); however, outside of the show some of her hobbies include painting and tennis. Sophia looks forward to being on Tech Crew this year and seeing the show come together. She would also like to give a big thanks to the director, crew, and the actors for making this happen.

**Megan Steele '22** (Stage Management) is excited to be in the best department for her sixth show! She has moved up on the Stage Management Totem Pole to Deck Stage Manager! She is forever grateful for her predecessors Lord Lourdes Amaro and Molly "Kueter" Kueter. We miss them both very much. ALL HAIL.

**Adaugo Umeh '22** (Scenic) is excited for her fifth production as a Tech Crew member. In her spare time, she plays basketball and softball for Holy Cross. She also plays the ukulele!

**Emma Allan '23** (Scenic/Lighting) is excited to be on the Tech Crew again for her third Holy Cross production. She previously helped with *Matilda* and *Noises Off*. She was part of the theatre cast in middle school and is happy to be able to still be involved behind the scenes. She wants to congratulate the cast and crew for all of their hard work!

**Isabella Hooke '23** (Stage Management) is excited to be in the best department for her second show! She is at the base of the Stage Management Totem Pole as a Production Assistant. She is forever grateful to her predecessors Kueter and Jennifer. ALL HAIL?

## About The Crew *continued*

**Suzette Kincer '23** (Stage Management) is excited to join the best department for her very first show at Holy Cross! She is at the base of the Stage Management Totem Pole as a Production Assistant. She is forever grateful for her predecessors Jennifer and Megan Steele. ALL HAIL?

**Sara Thomas '23** (Props) is happy to participate in her third Holy Cross production! She has been a part of Tech Crew for *Matilda* and *Noises Off*. Outside of Tech, she enjoys playing the flute.

**Naomi Barish '24** (Hair and Makeup) is so excited to be a part of the Tech Crew this year. This is her first year at the Academy, but she can't wait to do Tech in the coming years. In her spare time, Naomi loves to read and play with her dog. Naomi congratulates the Tech Crew and Cast on such an amazing job, and she hopes everyone enjoys the play!

**Zofia Dobosz '24** (Costumes) is excited to be a part of her first production at the Academy. She helped with costume design and lighting this year. She loves exploring different styles of clothing and enjoys dressing up anytime she gets the chance. In her spare time she likes swimming and doing art.

**Rebecca Vogt '24** (Scenic) is excited to take part in her first production at Holy Cross. She was in several productions at her middle school and enjoyed getting to be a part of Tech Crew this time. In her spare time she enjoys swimming, skiing and hanging out with friends.

**Zoë Wilson '24** (Lighting Designer) is delighted to be back at Holy Cross for her second production. She participated in *Honk!* (Stage Crew), *Peter Pan* (Lighting Director), and *Willy Wonka* (Lighting Director/ Co- Stage Manager) at her middle school. She was also a part of *Mary Poppins Jr.* (Lighting Crew) during Holy Cross Summer Stock. She wishes the cast and crew good luck and wants to thank the Performing Arts Department. Outside of Technical Theatre, she enjoys playing tennis and the flute.