

DECEMBER

1ST, 2ND, 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH AT 7 PM 3RD AND 9TH AT 2 PM TICKETS AT: IHSDRAMA.COM







DIRECTOR'S NOTE

With social media enabling anyone to spread information, however false or misleading, to millions of people around the world, with television networks skirting broadcasting laws by identifying themselves as "infotainment," and with politicians continuing to spread the same misinformation no matter how much proof they are given to the contrary, it is the perfect time to take a look at Arthur Miller's the Crucible.

The Crucible was written as an allegory for McCarthyism, when the US government persecuted people accused of being Communists. Prominent members of Hollywood, the military, the press, and others were threatened with the career ending Black List unless they "named names" of other communists they had known. Many lied, accusing others to save their own careers and reputations. Some, however, refused to bow to Senator Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee, and served jail sentences, for contempt of congress, and were barred from employment in their respective industries.

Sadly today history repeats itself as we see prominent political leaders and organizations spreading falsehoods in order to show loyalty to either a political firebrand, or members of their political base. The same fear of reprisals for challenging the most egregious lies, with well researched evidence, and just plain common sense, is all too prevalent.

The Crucible is a dramatized and partially fictionalized story of the Salem witch trials that took place in the Massachusetts Bay Colony during 1692–93. It shows how fear can keep people from confronting the most obvious truths, and how adhering to one's own honorable convictions can lead to catastrophe in such an environment. We see how one charismatic figure, who simply doubles down on lies, can infect her whole community with this all so contagious disease, and leave death and destruction in her wake.

As Shakespeare said with dripping sarcasm in Much Ado About Nothing,

"He is as valiant as Hercules who simply tells a lie and swears it!"

Unfortunately, this ancient affliction is made all the more virulent with the use of modern technology. It seems anyone can say anything and broadcast it to the world, with little or no consequence for gross inaccuracy and malicious intent.

This play was chosen by our students to produce and I am so proud of the way they have embraced its difficult themes and language. You will see the results of their enduring intelligence and sensitivity in bringing it to you. We hope you are as moved as we were by the material and its message.



Sincerely,

Matthew A. Ballin

Matthew A. Ballin

Theatre Arts Director

Irvington Conservatory Theater

CAST LIST

Reverend Samuel Parris	Rahi Vinod
Betty Parris	Swara Adithe
Tituba	Janelle Robertson & Naomi Burns
Abigail Williams	Lucia Savory & Joycelyn Wong
Susanna Walcott	Bhargavi Kumari
Ann Putnam	Aanjuli Das
Thomas Putnam	Sandesh Peddibhotla
Mercy Lewis	Kaia Liu
Mary Warren	Angli Hosangadi
John Proctor	Daniel Sadsad
Elizabeth Proctor	
Rebecca Nurse	Keilani Perez
Giles Corey	
Reverend John Hale	Marc Julio
Francis Nurse	Nikita Jain
Ezekiel Cheever	Isha Rajan
Judge Hathorne	Riya Nigam
Deputy Governor Danforth	
Martha Corey	Janelle Robertson & Naomi Burns
Sarah Good	Christin Mendoza & Avani Rao
CD	FW/

CREW

Stage Manager......Max Fiorelli

This year the crew is rotating through assignments. The assignments include:

SM/Deck Manager, Light Operator, Sound Operator, Propmaster, and Deck Crew.

Rotating Members of the Crew include:

Ernesto Diaz, Sebastian Gutierrez, Evangeline Huffmaster, Vincent Kim, Padma Madhyasta, Parmin Mohebali, Aarav Nanda, Simran Parise, Sundus Pathan, Maya Rhodes, Aashka Shah, Kate Sison, Sana Syed, Jithya Sri Varatharajan, ZiShan Wan, CharlotteWong

PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director	Matthew Ballin
Associate Director	Salvador "Chava" Suarez
Text Consultant.	Bob Lane
Scenic Designer/Technical Director	William Rontani
Lighting Designer/Technical Consultant	Elizabeth Whitaker
Assistant Costumer	Kathy Alvitre
Volunteer Costume Crew:	
Cindy Preciado, Monica, Susie Ramsel, Josie Burns	
Box Office Manager	Nicole Marsella-Jensen
Webmaster	Martha Garcia

CAST BIOS



Swara Adithe (Betty Parris)

Swara Adithe is a freshman here at Irvington High School. This is her second show at ICT, having been in their 2022 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. She likes acting because of the community and the different roles you get to play, and her grandfather was a famous actor in her home language, being in over 700 productions! When she's not at rehearsal or doing homework, she can be found hanging out with her friends and family, listening to music, crocheting, or reading, and she hopes you enjoy the show!:)



Naomi Burns (Tituba/Martha Corey)

Naomi is in 12th grade and has been in theater for two years. She is in Advanced Drama and also did shows at Starstruck. She was in Annie Jr. and was going to be in Madagascar but it got canceled because of Covid. Naomi has been in swim for 3 years now and did wrestling at Irvington her Sophomore and Junior Year. She loves amusement parks and movie theaters. This is her first show at Irvington and she is really excited to be in the play.



Caden Chatkara (Giles Corey)

Caden Chatkara has always been interested in performing since he was young. He enjoys singing in choir and acting on stage. He got his inspiration from his sister, who is very creative, just like him. This is his first show with Irvington, as he is a freshman. He is excited to do more acting with Irvington in the future.



Aanjuli Das (Ann Putnam)

Aanjuli is very excited to be playing a hysterical old woman in her second ICT play! She has previously played a hobgoblin in A Midsummer Night's Dream last year. She is looking forward to auditioning for and watching many more ICT productions!



Anjli Hosangadi (Mary Warren)

Anjli is a sophomore at Irvington and is excited to be in her second ICT production. She also took part in last year's fall play, A Midsummer Night's Dream. Outside of school, Anjli loves reading, writing, and baking sweet treats. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Nikita Jain (Francis Nurse)

Nikita Jain is an 8th grader at Horner Middle School. She is president of the Drama Club at Horner and has been part of multiple plays in the past few years. In her free time she likes to read or go on walks. She enjoys working on science projects and is a member of the STEM community. She is also a scout and loves to go on campouts and hikes. Overall, Nikta is very excited to be part of IHS Theater.



Marc Jay Julio (Reverend John Hale)

Marc Jay Julio is a junior at Kennedy High School. He has been acting for six years. Marc has been in many different shows. He is most known as "Wolf" for Stage 1's Into the Woods Jr. Besides theatre, he loves to workout, play basketball, play guitar, and



Camron R. Kong (Deputy Gov. Danforth)

Camron R. Kong is a junior at Irvington High School who loves to spend his extra time playing sports. He spends a lot of his free time either watching or playing sports. Cam also enjoys anything that has to do with history! This is his first show with the Irvington Conservatory Theatre.



Bhargavi Kumari (Susanna Walcott)

Bhargavi is a freshman, this is her first role in a play as big as this. Bhargavi loves theatre. When Bhargavi was in 2nd grade her class did a play for the movie Peter Pan. She played a racoon twin. Bhargavi wants to continue acting. Bhargavi also loves sleeping and eating.



Kaia Liu (Mercy Lewis)

is a freshman at Irvington High School. She's super excited to get to know everyone in the cast and is looking forward to performing. Past productions are James and the Giant Peach, Wizard of Oz, Frozen Jr, Matilda, and The Lightning Thief. Kaia loves to do theatre, listen to music, and bake. She thanks the cast and crew for this amazing production and hopes you enjoy the show!



Christin Mendoza (Elizabeth Proctor/Sarah Good)

Christin has been an avid thespian and aesthete since her young years. She has completed Drama 1 twice, once at Horner and once at Irvington, and is currently enrolled in Drama 2. She relishes live performance, especially musicals. Alongside singing, Christin has been playing the piano for 6 years, and has recently picked up the violin.



Riya Nigam (Judge Hathorne)

is a tenth grader and this is her second time starring in an ICT production. Previously, she was part of A midsummer nights dream. In her limited free time, Riya can enjoys reading ahead in her textbooks, playing a variety of instruments, coding, etc.



Sandesh Peddibhotla (Thomas Putnam)

This year for IHS fall show we had the honor of doing The Crucible. This is Sandesh's second production working with Irvington Conservatory Theater and he has had a blast doing drama in his remaining years of high school. He is pretty dedicated and passionate when it comes to the craft and especially gives 110% when and if he ever lands protagonist. Sandesh is better known by his nickname JJ and is a senior this year at Irvington and can't wait to progress and study more in theater at Ohlone and at a UC college of his choice in the near future.



Keilani Perez (Rebecca Nurse)

This is Keilani's first show to be acting in. Other than acting, she enjoys watching actors on the big screen and hopes to work one day in the film industry. At school she enjoys hanging out with her friends and fooling around looking for things to do, such as performing arts.



Isha Rajan (Ezekiel Cheever)

is a Junior at Irvington High School. They love acting but also have no idea what they're doing. As someone who enjoys thinking about witches while playing with their two cats, they're really excited for this particular play!



Avani Rao (Elizabeth Proctor/Sarah Good)

is a Junior at Irvington High School. She loves snails and collecting random facts that will likely not benefit her in any way but make her happy anyway. Despite being somewhat introverted and also a huge bookworm, she loves being on stage. The only thing that could possibly make her more excited about this play is if she could yell "SACRILEGE!!" across the stage at least once. Until then, she'll yell it in the green room and hope she doesn't get kicked out.



Janelle Robertson (Tituba/Martha Corey)

This is Janelle's first production at Irvington. She is so beyond excited to be apart of this cast. Janelle is loving every part of the process and can't wait until opening night. She thanks her family for supporting her unconditionally. Janelle hopes everyone enjoys the show, and can't wait to see her friends' reactions.



Daniel Sadsad (John Proctor)

Daniel Sadsad is a student at Irvington High School who loves to travel. Whether it's Reno or the Philippines, he loves seeing different places. He also loves drama, singing, biking, as well as pepperoni, sausage, bacon, olive, and jalapeños pizza! Daniel has been doing drama for many years now and has started performing in Irvington theater productions since his freshman year. (He's a junior now!) Last year, he starred in Irvington's most recent musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," as Chip Tolentino! The reason he loves doing drama is because he can be himself and be whoever he wants!



Lucia Savory (Abigail Williams)

Is a senior in high school and is excited to be in her 2nd production for ICT. Lucia has been an actress since she was 10 and had attended many acting lessons prior to her work for ICT. Lucia is excited to portray her role as Abigail Williams in The Crucible as Abigail is one of her favorite characters.



Rahi Vinod (Reverend Samuel Parris)

is a junior in high school and is very happy to be in his 5th production in ICT. Rahi has been acting ever since he was 8 years old and he has gone to improv summer camp twice. He has played in wrinkle in time, you're a good man Charlie Brown, midsummers night dream and the 25th annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. He is really excited for playing in a horrific, twisted theatrical piece. He wishes you to embrace your inner witch and have a grand old time.



Joycelyn Wong (Abigail Williams)

This is Joycelyn's fourth and final year at The Irvington Conservatory. She has done 5 shows, including the Crucible, with Irvington. She is currently senior Co-President of the Performing Arts Club, assisting Mr. Ballin with logistics of the drama department. Her favorite projects she's done include Puffs (2021) and last year's Alice in Horrorland (Valhunated).





Ernesto Diaz

is a returning member of the stagecraft class. After taking a semester off to focus on his grades, he returns for the musical to help out as much as he can. Inspired by the book Drama by Raina Telgemeier He would join to help out with any heavy lifting alogging the sink. 25th annual Putnam County spelling bee wouldn't be the first musical he works on. His very first one was You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, one of his favorites plays.



Max Fiorelli

Max Fiorelli is in 11th grade and is in his 3rd year of stagecraft. Max is super excited to be stage managing for this play. This is Max's first time stage managing but he has done spotlights, sound, and has been deck manager. Max is always thrilled to try something new. Although theater takes up most of his time, in his free time Max likes to ride his bike, watch plays, and listen to music. Max enjoys this play very much and hopes you enjoy it too!



Sebastian Gutierrez

has been working in technical theater for 2 years, going into his third now, and this is the beginning of the second year working for the ICT. Last year he worked as a deck manager for A Midsummer Night's dream. During the spring semester he worked as an Assistant Stage Manager for The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling bee.



Evangeline Huffmaster

Eva is a sophomore at Irvington High School. She has previously worked in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The 25th Annual Putnam County" as deck and as sound operator. This is the second time she has worked as sound operator and the third show she has worked in. She really hopes you enjoy the show.



Vincent Kim

I previously worked in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at Irvington's Conservatory Theatre. This is my 3rd show and I hope you guys enjoy it:)



Padma Madhyasta

Padma is a freshman at Irvington high school. This is her first time working backstage on a show. Padma is very excited to learn the mechanics and process behind the shows seen on stage. She is part of the lighting crew for the production of the Crucible. In her free time, Padma enjoys running, cooking, and camping.



Parmin Mohebali

is a new senior member of the prop crew. She is looking forward to getting some hands-on experience with different tools, accessories, softwear, and devices. She does have some prior knowledge regarding creating handmade works using different materials. This will be her first show, and she is excited to see what she can bring to the stage.



Aarav Nanda

Aarav is a junior at Irvington High, and he's looking forward to working on the lighting for "The Crucible" this year. He's new to working backstage aside from working behind the scenes during the French Club fashion show. He's interested in writing, drawing, and abandoning productivity in favor of music.



Simran Parise

is a junior at Irvington High School. She has been a part of the Irvington Conservatory Theater backstage and tech crew for 1 year, her first show being "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Simran has experience working backstage, lights, and set designing on both the fall play and the spring musical last year. Besides stagecraft, Simran enjoys reading Webtoons and graphic designing. She hopes to create more memories this year with the crew and cast while working on "The Crucible"!



Sundus Pathan

This is Sundus' second year of stagecraft and she's excited to be working on a new show. Last year, she was a spotlight in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. It was an enjoyable time for her as she navigated the new world of theater seeing as it was her first time doing tech! This year she hopes to improve her skills and have a good time working on the Crucible.



Maya Rhodes

Maya is a student at irvington high-school. They have done 3 irvington productions over the span of 2 years including this year so far. They are in 10th grade. This is their first time doing sound operator.



Aashka Shah

Aashka shah is a senior at Irvington High School, and this is her first year working on a production. She has experience making props for a creativity competition called Odyssey of the Mind, and is a member of this production's prop crew. She hopes to learn more about the different tools and softwares used in a show.



Kate Sison

Kate Sison (Tech Crew) is so excited to be working her first Irvington Show! Favorite past productions she has teched for include Les Misérables (StarStruck Theatre), The Lightning Thief (StarStruck Theatre), Matilda (Palo Alto Players), and The Hobbit (San Carlos Children's Theatre). She is beyond grateful for all the memories and friends that this show has brought. Enjoy the show!



Sana Syed

This is Sana's first show. Sana has been interested in theatre for awhile, but was too shy to perform on stage, and also had an interest in what goes on behind the scenes in plays, so stagecraft felt like the perfect fit for her. Sana's only experience in theatre was Drama 1 in middle school. She knows basic things, like stage left and right. She has studied the basic tools and their uses. She has an interest and passion for this subject, and plans do do her job safely, and well.



Jithya Sri Varatharajan

Jithya Sri Varatharajan is a junior at Irvington High School with one year of experience exploring her interests as deck manager in the last play "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee". This year she hopes to continue her experience working with lights and expanding her abilities in painting. She hopes that she will be able to continue her journey with the support of her crew and that everyone will enjoy the production we worked hard to put together.



ZiShan Wan

"Zishan Wan is a 12th grad student at Irvington High school with one years of stagecraft experiences, and participated in two show as a backstage crew, and the production of the show Midsummer Nights dream. And was a light operator, and graphic designer during Spelling bee. She enjoys participating in the art production and the design of the show, participating in the stage management team for this play The Crucible.



CharlotteWong

is a sophomore at Irvington High School. She has been a part of the Irvington Conservatory Theater backstage and tech crew for 1 year, having worked on both "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee". Charlotte has experience working backstage as deck manager and props master, and she is very excited to be a part of the lights team for this production. In her free time, Charlotte enjoys crocheting and reading. She hopes that everyone will enjoy "The Crucible" because it is definitely a must-watch!

PRODUCTION TEAM



Matthew Ballin (Director)

Matt Ballin holds a BFA in Theater from UC Santa Barbara, an MFA from The Ohio State University, and spent a year abroad in the Tel Aviv University Overseas program. The 2023-24 school year will be Mr. Ballin's 23rd year teaching Theater Arts in Fremont; the first 14 having been at Washington High. He has acted and choreographed fights throughout the Bay Area, and is an Associate Artist with The Livermore Shakespeare Festival. He thanks his wife and family for managing without him during the crunch, and is grateful to everyone who has supported the Irvington Conservatory Theater program.



Salvador (Chava) Suarez (Associate Director)

Chava Suarez is very excited to be making their directorial debut with Irvington High School. Working with these kids has been an absolute pleasure and they feel very lucky to have gotten the chance to work with such a talented group of young adults. This is their first time directing a full length production and they cannot wait for you to see their work.



Elizabeth Whitaker (Costume Designer)

2022 marks my 20th year working with Irvington theatre. It's also my 3rd time doing Midsummer. Each one has been different from medieval times to the Ming Dynasty China and now the 60's. Returning to my days of the 1960s has been a fun adventure down memory lane, from the beat of the bongos to the runways with Twiggy to the protests of the Flower Child has been outta site. It has been a gas having some really cool people work with me on the costumes. I am forever grateful to Kathy, Laura, Brenda, Cathe, Stephanie, Susie and nifty student assistant Savannah. And it has been groovy to have Simi, Rachel and Jasmine, Irvington Alumni, return to help out. Thanks for being here. You're sure to have a blast watching the show, I'm sure you will really dig it. Peace and Love!



Will Rontani

Will Rontani is a self described "theatrical generalist" that has worn multiple hats over the years. Will graduated BA in Theatre Arts at CSU Chico and has worked over 20 years in the Themed Entertainment Industry as a performer, director, stagehand and musician. He also holds a Master's Equivalency (MEQ) which is codified as a Career Technical Education Teaching Credential in Arts, Media, Entertainment industrial sector certificated by the Orange County Department of Education. He is currently seeking his GE Theatre Credential from CSU East Bay. His passion for education started 8 years ago and has been teaching at the Mt. Diablo Unified, Fairfield-Suisun, and Martinez School Districts. His academic specialty is in Early English Drama (or English drama up to and including Shakespeare), holds two ACTF Meritorious Achievement Awards in Acting and is a member of both the California Education Theatre Association (CETA), and the United States Institute of Theater Technology (USITT) and graduated with Alpha Psi Omega honors. Prior to coming to Irvington, he was the technical director for the Huskey Theatre at Washington High School.



Ryan Willer (Sound Designer/Technical Assistance)

Ryan Willer is a math and leadership teacher at Irvington High School. He has been teaching for fifteen years and his favorite class to teach is trigonometry. In 2012, he volunteered to help with ICT's fall play play "The Hobbit". Since then he has been helping design lighting and sound for nearly all ICT productions.



Bobe Lane (Shakespeare Consultant)

Since moving to California in 1997, Bob has taught and directed in educational programs for the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and in workshops at local high schools. He has also directed and taught acting and stagecraft at Berkeley High School. And he has taught Shakespeare's plays at Cal State – Hayward. He recently appeared as Sir Hugo Latymer in Noel Coward's A Song at Twilight at Mills College and as Prospero in Shakespeare's The Tempest at Las Positas College. He was also the Producer for the recent production of Craig Lucas' Prelude to a Kiss at the Pleasanton Playhouse.



Martha Garcia (ICT Webmaster)

Martha is the parent of an ICT CCA/PAC alumnus, and has enjoyed giving back to the program as our volunteer Webmaster since 2015. She has 30+ years of professional experience as an Executive Assistant, and 40+ years of musical experience as a percussionist for several Bay Area music ensembles and theater companies (including Fremont's StarStruck Theatre). When not working, performing, or volunteering, Martha can often be found cheerfully attempting to correct as many of Mr. Ballin's grammatical and spelling errors as possible before posting information to the ICT website.

THANK YOU'S

No one can go it alone in the theater and this year it is more true than ever. We are so lucky to have a fantastic group of staff and volunteers. We would like to extend a special thanks to some of our stars behind the scenes.

First of all, I am so grateful to Salvador "Chava" Suarez who came in at the last minute to take over the direction of The Crucible during my sudden and extended absence. His energy and skill has kept the show on track and infused it with his very distinct and bottomless energy.

Also thanks to friend and colleague department chair Jen Olson who was instrumental in assembling the team who covered for me during my medical leave. She did this within less than a day of finding out about my leave!

I am so lucky and grateful for my partners in crime, each incredible teaching artists who have helped me from day one to understand this job and kept me from making the big mistakes: Will Rontani, our stagecraft teacher and Scenic Designer; Liz Whitaker our Costumer; Ryan Willer, IHS' ASB Program Director and our expert on all things electronic; Kathleen Alvitre, our Assistant Costumer, and the rest of the crew in our costume shop: Cindy Preciado, Monica, Susie Ramsel, and Josie Burns.

I would like to thank Nicole Marsella-Jensen, who has volunteered to run our box office and taken a huge weight off my shoulders, and Martha Garcia, our fabulous webmaster who keeps our online presence up to date and shiny!

I would like to thank my special friend Bob Lane, who has helped me with most of my Shakespeare productions over the years, and has been of immeasurable help as our text consultant for this play.

As always we would like to thank the Theater and Dance department over at Ohlone College for their continued technical and financial support.

I'd like to thank all of our parent volunteers, without whom we could not manage. They brought in meals, manned the box office, made donations, ushered for the show, and so much more!

Of course I must thank our fabulous administration for their continuing support, especially this year with my sudden absence.

I'd like to thank my wife Pam, who deals with the stress every school year of having a husband who is gone for long hours putting together plays and musicals. She is the unsung hero of all of our productions!

Finally, I would like to thank the entire cast and crew of talented theater artists who embraced this serious and difficult play, pursued it with professionalism and grace, and whose growth and resulting performances are indicative of their intelligence, diligence, resilience, and dedication.

And Finally, I thank you, our audience and supporters, who make all of this possible through your continued support and patronage. To all of you and anyone who has helped us in person or by donation, thank you so very very much!!! You have made a huge contribution to arts education in our community!

WE NEED YOUR HELD!

No theater program survives on their box office alone, and we desperately need your support MORE THAN EVER to keep providing the high level of training and quality performances the community has come to expect from Irvington Conservatory Theater.

You can make a TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

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OR support us by donating your old clothes!

IRVINGTON CONSERVATORY THEATRE









PLEASE HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR MUCH NEEDED COSTUME RACKS AND STORAGE UNIT

Marie Kondo tidying up? Spring Cleaning? Pass on your "no longer loved" items to someone who will love them!

Just fill as many garbage bags as you can with clothing, shoes, handbags, and/or stuffed animals then drop them off. That's it!!

When: Between March 1, 2019 and April 12, 2019

Dropoff at: Irvington High School Theatre, 41800

Blacow Rd, Fremont

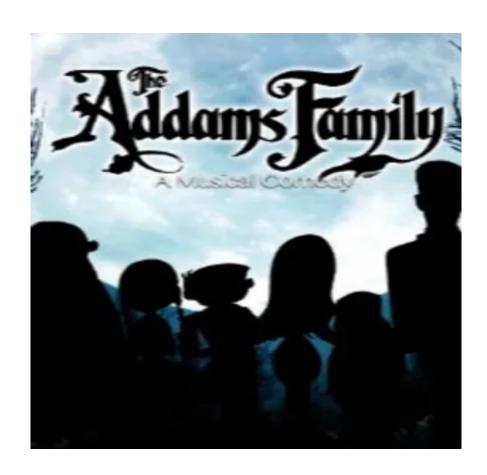
To make a monetary donation please mail to: Irvington High School c/o Matt Ballin, 41800 Blacow Rd., Fremont, CA 94538, with memo "For ICT"

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