

THE 5 & DIME

presents

with additional support from
HOLLY & REDGIE GUTSHALL

A photograph of three people with their hands painted in rainbow colors. The man on the left is covering his eyes, the woman in the center is covering her mouth, and the man on the right is covering his mouth. The woman in the background has her hand on her forehead. They are all looking towards the camera with various expressions of surprise or concern. The woman in the center is wearing a black t-shirt with a red graphic that says "stay woke" and a denim jacket.

THE

THANKS GIVING

PLAY

written by **LARISSA FASTHORSE**

directed by **BRADLEY AKERS**

asst. directed by **ZACH RIVERA**



NOVEMBER 12, 13, 14, 2021

MANDARIN COMMUNITY CLUB

THIS PRODUCTION IS SPONSORED BY:

HOLLY AND REDGIE GUTSHALL

SPOTLIGHT SPONSORS

Thank you to these individuals for becoming individual performance sponsors and helping to directly make theatre happen in Jacksonville!

NOV. 12 | 8PM

- The Reagan-Hoogesteger Family
- Caryl Butterley

NOV. 13 | 8PM

- The Cast & Crew of
Steel Magnolias at ABET

NOV. 14 | 2PM

- David & Courtney Sacks

**Spotlight Sponsors as of November 11, 2021*

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Before the show begins, let me just say: **it's okay to laugh!**

When I first read this play, I couldn't stop myself from laughing—not just from the sheer brilliance of Larissa FastHorse's satirical writing but from the realization that I, too, have sometimes been guilty of what these characters are doing and saying. It's easy to use the buzz words and the popular language surrounding equity and racial justice, but this play made me ask myself: **are my words louder than my actions?**

This play represents the kind of material we love to do at The 5 & Dime. It's a challenging task to find a comedy that sparks conversation and encourages such introspection; when this play was suggested to us by one of our Artistic Team members, we felt that now was the perfect time to tackle this play. FastHorse skillfully examines words vs. actions and how inaction truly inspires inaction. She also shines a light on how the story of the first Thanksgiving is taught in this country. You'll see interludes between the scenes that are (unfortunately) based on real lesson plans that FastHorse discovered during her research for this play. Through it all, I hope you'll find this piece as the definition of a "ha, ha, hmm" piece (laughter, laughter, thought.)

I am so grateful to this extraordinary team who have poured their insight, passion, and playfulness into this process. Time and time again, they've been unendingly willing to take on the task or the challenge immediately in front of them with such grace and humility. They are a director's dream. A special shoutout to my assistant director Zach Rivera, who is the finest collaborator. Thank you, Zach, for everything.

I am also grateful for YOUR support as we begin again, boldly navigating a new yet somewhat familiar territory. Audiences, supporters, organizations, and volunteers have shown up in ways that continue to render me speechless. **Thank you.** You are the reason we're here.

- Bradley Akers

Director of *The Thanksgiving Play* and Managing Artistic Director of The 5 & Dime

THE 5 & DIME presents

with additional support from **HOLLY & REDGIE GUTSHALL**

THE **THANKSGIVING** PLAY

written by **LARISSA FASTHORSE**

directed by **BRADLEY AKERS**

asst. directed by **ZACH RIVERA**

Onstage **NOVEMBER 12, 13, 14** at Mandarin Community Club

This play is performed with no intermission.

THE CAST

Logan	KASI WALTERS
Jaxton	AXEL BARRY
Caden.....	NEAL THORBURN
Alicia.....	JEILYMAR MORALES

THE CREW

Director	BRADLEY AKERS
Assistant Director.....	ZACH RIVERA
Stage Manager	KATIE CRESS
Assistant Stage Manager.....	EMILY GAINFORTH
Production Manager	BRADLEY AKERS
Lighting Designer.....	JUDELYN "LULU" DIXON
Costume Designer	BEC VITALE
Props Designer	STEPHEN D'ANGELO
Projections.....	ZACH RIVERA & BRADLEY AKERS
Production Assistant.....	MADDISON CARR

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY is produced through special arrangement with
Concord Theatricals.

The use of photography, audio, or video recording is **strictly prohibited**.

THE CAST



KASI WALTERS (Logan) is thrilled to be making her 5 & Dime debut! She is a Jacksonville native and a proud graduate of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. After a little hiatus from the stage, Kasi is excited to share her passion for performance with those around her. She is no stranger to the Jacksonville community theatre world. Her past credits include *Hand to God* (Players by the Sea), *BUG* (PBTS, Voted Best Actress at the Pelican Awards), *Olive and the Bitter Herbs* (PBTS), Al Letson's *Crumbs* (PBTS), and many more. Kasi would like to

thank Bradley Akers for this opportunity and the cast and crew for their talent, humor, and dedication. Shout out and much gratitude to Patrick for being the best partner ever and for his unconditional support. Let's act!



AXEL BARRY (Jaxton) is a 23 year old living in Jacksonville, FL. He recently graduated from Jacksonville University in 2020 with a BA in Theatre. His most recent appearances were at JU, with The Baker in *Into the Woods*, Emmett in *Legally Blonde*, and Cpt Renault in *Casablanca*. He is incredibly thankful to be working with The 5 and Dime again, and loves the synergy he has with his castmates.



NEAL THORBURN (Caden) is "thankful" to do live theatre again, not to say he hasn't kept busy. In 2020 he took part in several *Storytime with Jason Woods* productions via Zoom. Another acting venture included appearing in the short film: *Pieces of Me*. Neal previously performed at The 5 & Dime in *Evil Dead: The Musical*. Other stage roles include *Something Rotten* (Theatre Jacksonville), *1776* (Alhambra Theatre & Dining) and *Curious Incident* (Players by the Sea) also directed by Bradley Akers. Neal is grateful to work with this funny and talented cast,

director, and crew. Happy Thanksgiving, y'all!



JEILYMAR MORALES (Alicia) is a Senior BFA Theatre Major with a Minor in Business Administration. At Jacksonville University, you may have seen her in *Metamorphoses*, *Axe your mother*, *In the Heights*, and more. Some accomplishments include placing 3rd in the KCATCF Regional Musical Theatre competition and winning 2021 Student Woman of the Year. Graduating in one more semester, Jeilymar hopes to pursue a Master's degree in Theatre Administration. She'd like to thank Bradley for giving her a chance and Zach for giving her opportunity. IG: Jeily.mar

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



BRADLEY AKERS (Director) is the Managing Artistic Director of The 5 & Dime Theatre Co. An award-winning director, his credits include *The Harvest*, *The Walls*, *'night, Mother* (with The 5 & Dime), *The Last 5 Years*, *Heathers*, *Fun Home*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, *Almost, Maine*, *AIDA*, *The Lyons*, *Into the Woods*, and *Dog Sees God*. In addition to his work with The 5 & Dime, Bradley teaches Directing at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and works as a Graphic Designer for several theatres and

nonprofit organizations through his company Studio A.12. He is enormously grateful to everyone, on and off the stage, who've worked so hard to get back to making change one story at a time. Extra love to Sadie & Toast.



ZACH RIVERA (Assistant Director) is a Director, Actor, and Experimenter. A recent graduate of JU's BFA Musical Theatre program, he's directed in collegiate (DSC; JU) and professional (TheTANK NYC; 29SPWC NYC) settings. Recently, Zach attended the prestigious Kennedy Center Directing Intensive, where he received full scholarship. Zach is the co-founder of Basecamp Theatre Co. Learn more at www.ZachRiv.com



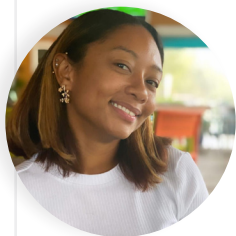
KATIE CRESS (Stage Manager) Katie Cress is very excited to be back home at The 5 & Dime and working on *The Thanksgiving Play!* She has been seen working on various productions including *'night Mother*, *The Walls*, *Evil Dead: The Musical*, and *Buyer & Cellar*. She would like to thank Bradley for giving her the opportunity to hop back into theatre, the cast and crew for one of the most amazing experiences she's had on a show, and, of course, her husband for his continuous support for her passion in theatre.



EMILY GAINFORTH (Assistant Stage Manager) is a stage manager based in North East Florida. Some of her favorite shows she has worked on are *In the Heights* (JU), and *Romeo and Juliet* (JU) as well as stage managing the first Student Works Festival at Jacksonville University. Recently, Emily was a finalist for stage management honors at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for her work in *Diastole: Songs for Turbulent Times*. This, alongside her work with JU earned her honors for excellence in stage management from

the Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts. Emily is also the secretary for the newly formed nonprofit theatre company Basecamp Theatre Company. In her free time, Emily also enjoys making pottery and crocheting as well as spending time with her family and her pup Milo. Emily has a Bachelor in Fine Arts in Technical Theatre from Jacksonville University and University Academic Honors, and is excited to for her 5 & Dime debut! In addition to *The Thanksgiving Play*, Emily is also currently working with UNF on their production of *Hamlet* this coming January.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



JUDELYN "LULU" DIXON (Lighting Designer) is very excited to be working with The 5 & Dime again. She completed her Associate's Degree in Theatre and Entertainment Technology with honors at Florida State College at Jacksonville. Her works include *Lysistrata* and *August Wilson's How I Learned What I Learned* (The 5 & Dime) and *A Christmas Carol* (Players by the Sea). Lulu is thankful to The 5 & Dime for having her be a part of this production and to her husband Marlin for all his love and support.



STEPHEN D'ANGELO (Props Designer) is beyond excited to finally be apart of another 5 & Dime production - it had been too long! He was last seen involved in *The Harvest* (5&Dime), *Love, Valor and Compassion* (The 5 & Dime), and *The Wiz* (PBTS). Working with this talented group of people has been an incredible experience, and he is thrilled for everyone to see the show! Special shoutout to Logan, Curtis, and Rena!

SPECIAL THANKS

Mandarin Community Club, Susie Scott

Holly & Redgie Gutshall

Players by the Sea Theatre, Jereme Raickett, Ramona Ramdeen

SET Studios, Jocelyn Geronimo

Atlantic Coast High School, Jonathan O'Leary

Ortega Elementary, Christopher Watson

Alhambra Theatre & Dining, Ian Black

The Florida Ballet, Martha Lemire

Erica Villanueva

Bethany Paolini

Bill Ratliff

Jen Mercer

Evan Gould

Brooks Anne Meierdierks

Sadie Akers

Kacy Hope

Lindsay Curry

Stephanie Santiago

Craig Leavitt

Elizabeth Rivera

2022 SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT COMING SOON!

STAY TUNED!

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN TO DATE!

Regganald Adams	Lori Lambert Helquist
Bradley Akers	Kristin Livingston
Denise Akers	Chris MacEwan
Elizabeth Augustus	Rita Manyette
Lee Beger	Renee Mauldin
Krysten Bennett	Mary McAllister
Chris Berry	Laura McVeigh
Nancy Breslin	Pamela & Kurt Medina
Drew Brown	Patricia Meili
Susan Cochran	Jennifer O'Brien
Christopher Collinsworth	Whitney Oren
Terry Doland	Ellen Powell
Susan DuBow	Mildred Price
Sara Beth Gerard	Denise Reagan
Patricia Gorman	Cathryn Robbins
Holly & Redgie Gutshall	Mary Robison
Brooks Anne Meierdierks	Charles Ross
Cathy Heffernan	Leslie Russell
Mark Hill	Lygia Sadler
Erica Humbert	Frieda Saraga
Sandi Dunnavant & Grady Johnson	Bob Shellenberger
Catherine Jones	Agata Sokolska
Mary Kellough	Julia & Leonard Spillert
Janice Knapik	Nina Williams

**List reflects contributions received prior to October 31.*

TO GIVE: Scan this QR code or visit www.The5andDime.org!





The 5 & Dime tells stories that **engage, inspire, entertain, and challenge** audiences, nurturing a rich artistic culture in Jacksonville.

STAFF

Bradley Akers

Managing Artistic Director

Krysten Bennett

Business Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denise M. Reagan

President

Kacy Hope

Vice President

Craig Johnson

Treasurer

Eli Bekkum

Martha Bekkum

T.R. Hainline

Aryaa Garretson

Madelene Skinner

Josh Waller

Directors at Large

THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Chloe Cuff

Lindsay Curry

Abby Gomez

Evan Gould

Lee Hamby

Craig Leavitt

Kat McLeod

Zeina Salame

Stephanie Santiago

Josh Waller

THE FOUNDERS

Caryl Butterley

Evan Gould

Judy Gould

Staci Cobb Grant

Lee Hamby

Craig Leavitt

Zeina Salame

Josh Taylor

Josh Waller

A group of artists and friends came together with a common goal: to make a change in the Jacksonville cultural arts community. From this, THE 5 & DIME, a theatre company, was born. Founded with the hope of facilitating diverse opportunities and a supportive environment for collaboration, THE 5 & DIME is a group of passionate theatre artists who've come together in the urban core to develop a place where all kinds of art happens. The founding members and board of directors offer an invitation to all Jacksonville artists to join in the mission to stimulate this city's potential for the rich culture local audiences and art lovers have been craving and deserve. It started with a simple question, "*Why not us?*" And so we offer this: "*Why not YOU?*"

The 5 & Dime proudly celebrates **10 YEARS!** This milestone is marked and made possible by the passion, love, and hard work of so many people throughout our history.
