

COMING NEXT MONTH



UAHuntsville Theatre Presents

Directed by **Shannon Graham**

**November 12, 13, 14, 18, 19,
20, 21 at 7:30, and 15 at 2:30**

Morton Hall Studio 106

\$5.00 students/\$10.00 adults

UAH THEATRE PRESENTS

**The Rimers
of Eldritch**
by **Lanford Wilson**

The Rimers of Eldritch

by Lanford Wilson

TIME

The Spring, Summer, and Fall of a 1967

LOCATION

Eldritch, a small former mining town in the middle west, population about seventy.

There will be one 15 minute intermission

CAST

Robert Conklin:	James Desta
Eva Jackson:	Molly Kinstler
Evelyn Jackson:	Cam Scales
Nelly Winrod:	Nia Hunter
Mary Winrod:	Julie Early
Patsy Johnson:	Megan Tompkins
Mavis Johnson:	Trish Stacey
Peck Johnson:	Jay Poff
Josh Johnson:	Ben Hunt
Lena Truit:	Sarah Jo Ryberg
Martha Truit:	Tasha Ezell
Wilma Atkins:	Kristian Johnson
Skelly Mannor:	Jeff Sands
Preacher/Judge:	Heath McClain
Cora Groves:	Amy Pugh Patel
Walter:	Steffan Rost

From the Directors

The year is 1967. President Lyndon Johnson is in the White House. The war rages in Viet-nam. There is no cable TV and no 24 hour news cycle. In this small town in the mid-west bible belt, population approximately 70, a violent act had been committed. The playwright Lanford Wilson deals with that act and the town's response to it in a most unique fashion. The play flows freely through time and space as it tells the story. The future, past and present all collide on the stage.

As a mood piece, 'Rimers' needs the most careful handling. Nothing should be overstated. We catch glimpses of the characters, as the playwright moves from past to present, overlapping dialogue and painting this small-town collage. The actors inhabit Eldritch and bring it to life.

We feel that this is an important play. One that has become an american classic appropriate for University production. The issues in the play are as relevant today as they were in 1967. Judgement, gossip, fear and desperation can have a devastating effect on the truth.

We hope that you enjoy this remakable play and thank you for patronizing UAH Theatre.

David C. Harwell and Patricia Ferrier Kiley

SPECIAL THANKS

Fantasy Playhouse
Renaissance Theatre
Mark Eccleston - Mystic Gulf Productions
UAH Audio Visual Department
UAH Advancement
Glenn Dasher -Dean CLA

Katherine Lester
Sue Barbara
Terri King
Judy McClay
Juanita Owens
Amy Mack



Sara Kreipe - Assistant Director

Sara is excited to be working behind the scenes on this UAH production. Sara has been seen on the stage in UAH's "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" as "Philia" and UAH's "Little Shop of Horrors" as "Audrey". Sara is a senior this year and is studying Voice and Theatre. Many thanks to Patricia and David for this AMAZING opportunity and the wealth of knowledge that you have imparted to me!



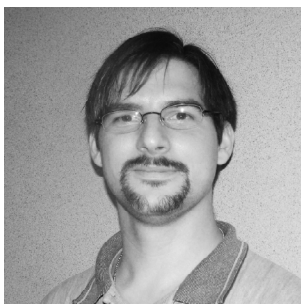
Clarissa Walker - Costume and Make-up

Clarissa is a sophomore at UAH majoring in Communication Arts with a minor in Philosophy. She spends most of her time creating new exciting makeup looks. This is her third UAH Theatre production as the make-up artist and first as a costumer.



Joshua Hughes - Light Operator/Master Electrician

Josh is a freshman engineering major this year. He has been involved in high school and local theatre for the past three years. He was in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at Grissom, and did tech on *Oklahoma* and *Kiss Me Kate* just to name a few. This is his first production to run lights. He is excited to be involved with his first show at UAH.



Kirk McCann - Sound operator/ Tech crew

Kirk is a senior at UAH majoring in Computer Science. It has been 9 years since his last production, as stage manager for *Hello Dolly*. He is honored to offer his support as the sound operator in his first show at UAH.

The CAST



James Desta as ROBERT CONKLIN

James Desta is excited to begin his 3rd year of UAH Theatre with such a complex production. A Psychology major and Theatre minor, James has been in several UAH productions, including *Little Shop of Horrors* (Orin), *The Zoo Story* (Jerry), and *A Funny Thing... Forum* (Miles), and is thrilled at the opportunity to work with such an awesome cast and directorial team (again!). Thanks to his family and friends for putting up with his shenanigans throughout all this!



Molly Kinstler as EVA

Molly Claire Kinstler is a twenty year old history major at UAH. She fell into acting after winning a commercial competition. After winning additional acting competitions at IMTA Los Angeles and a stint at the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Art, she makes her theatrical debut as Eva. Molly is so excited to work with the wonderful cast and awesome directors!



Cam Scales as EVELYN JACKSON

Cam is thrilled to be a part of this wonderful production! A theatre major waaaaaay "back in the day", she's had great fun over many years appearing in local, community theatre productions. Favorite roles include: the Wicked Stepmother in *Cinderella*; the Evil Queen in *Snow White*; M'Lynn, Ouiser, and Truvy in *Steel Magnolias* (separate productions!); the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet*; Grandma Kurnitz in *Lost in Yonkers*, and eight different characters in *The Laramie Project*. Cam would like to thank Patricia and David for giving her such a fabulous opportunity to learn from their vast experience, as well as all the wonderful UAH students who have been very patient with her aged brain as she tried to learn lines!!

Nia Hunter as NELLY WINROD

Nia is a senior at UAH and is very excited to be a part of the cast of *Rimers*. She is looking forward to pursuing her true theatrical love - costuming - on the graduate level very soon. Nia would like to thank everyone for coming out to support UAH Theatre; as well as the entire cast, Patricia Kiley, and David Harwell for his support and encouragement over the years.



Julie English Early as MARY WINROD

Julie is an Associate Professor of Victorian literature in the UAH Department of English. As an undergraduate (long ago) she was a theater major with several seasons in summer stock; she last performed in the late 1960s and then pursued graduate studies in English. She recalls (albeit dimly) great pleasure in roles as feisty ingénues, and in musicals, featured dance parts, among them at age seventeen, a stripper in *Gypsy*. (Her parents, like Queen Victoria, were not amused). She now finds her stage niche as an addled Aged Person.



Megan Tompkins as PATSY

Megan is a recent transfer to UAH from Lee University in Cleveland, TN and is majoring in History with a minor in Theatre. She has enjoyed being involved in school and community theatre for many years, participating in productions such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Our Town*. This is her first production with UAH Theatre and is looking forward to many more. Megan would like to thank her parents, friends and husband, Scott, for all of their enthusiasm and support.



Trisha Stacey as MAVIS JOHNSON

Trisha is a sophomore majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry with a Theatre Cognate. Trisha has performed in musicals throughout high school including *The Wizard of Oz* and *My Fair Lady*. She has enjoyed watching the theatre productions here at UAHuntsville and decided she wanted to be a part of one. This is her first play and she hopes to be a part of many more to come.



Patricia Kiley - Director/Acting and movement

Patricia recently moved to Huntsville from New York City and Warwick, N.Y. She studied acting with Sanford Meisner at the Neighborhood Playhouse and ballet with Anthony Tudor and Margaret Craske at the Metropolitan Opera Ballet School. She has appeared in productions on Broadway, at the Metropolitan Opera and on Television. Among her Broadway credits are *Damn Yankees*, *New Girl in Town*, *Redhead*, and *How to Succeed in Business*. She has worked with well known choreographers - Anthony Tudor, Jack Cole and Bob Fosse and assisted Fosse on the film *Damn Yankees*. Patricia was a member of "The Hamilton Trio" which made its name dancing on "Your Show of Shows" with Cid Caesar and Imogene Coca. She is delighted to be working with the eager and talented young students of UAH, and especially to be Co-Directing with the multi-talented David Harwell.



David Harwell - Director/Designer

David is the assistant professor of theatre at UAHuntsville. He started the theatre efforts at UAH in 2005. He received his BFA in theatre at the University of Montevallo and his MFA in Scene Design from the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana. After many years of professional theatre in NYC, he is happy to be back in his hometown, and honored to be directing this wonderful show with these talented people. This play holds a special place for him having performed the role of Josh at Montevallo in 1983.



Johnna Doty - Sound Design (Guest Artist)

A Graduate of the University of Montevallo in Music, Johnna got a Sound Design Masters from Boston University in 1994. She has worked professionally in NYC and regionally and has collaborated with UAH Theatre twice before as an assistant professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. A native of Florence, Alabama, she now resides in Sarasota, FL. She is here as a guest theatre artist on behalf of UAHuntsville Theatre.

Steffan Rost as WALTER



Steffan is currently a Sophomore majoring in English minoring in Theatre. His first taste of performing in front of people was when he was a member of the North Carolina Boys Choir, where he toured all over the U.S. and Canada. He has been living in Alabama for 2 years, coming from Ohio, where he was fortunate enough to participate in productions at his high school. He also took improvisation classes while living there. He moved to Huntsville at the beginning of his senior year, where he was a part of Huntsville High School's production of *Les Miserables*. He is super stoked to be a part of this production. It's a great play and every performer in it is fantastic! He'd like to thank his family and friends for their support.

The PRODUCERS

Directors: Patricia Ferrier Kiley and David C. Harwell

Assistant Director: Sara Kreipe

Scenery: Stephen Claybrooks and Heath McClain

Sound Design: Johnna Doty

Costume Co-ordinator: Clarissa Walker

Costume Assistant: Paula Riveras

Sound Board Operator: Josh Hughes

Light Board Operator: Kirk McCann

Make Up: Clarissa Walker and Paula Riveras-

Poster Design: Susan Altman

Set Construction: Mark Eccleston, Trey Trammel, Sijuade Adesina, Patricia Daly, Bradley Jackson, Jennifer Cochran, Kelsey Thacker, Zackary Patrick, Kirk McCann, Kaitlin Simpson, Trey Tramell III, Sabiha Runa

Jay Poff as PECK JOHNSON

Jay is a native of Huntsville and a graduate of Lee University, a private Christian Liberal Arts college in Cleveland, TN. There, he obtained the Bachelor of Science degree in Music Business with minors in Business Administration and Theology. Currently, Jay is the Arts Education and Community Outreach Manager for the Arts Council, Inc., which has over 70 arts and arts supporting organizations in it's membership. Jay has had the pleasure of performing with nearly every theatrical performing arts group in Huntsville over the past 25 years. Some of his favorite roles include: Jamie Wellerstein in *The Last Five Years*, Jean Michel in *La Cage aux Folles*, Dr. Frank-N-Furter in Richard O'Brien's *The Rocky Horror Show*, Father in *Children of Eden*, and Papageno in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. Jay is represented by the Luedtke Agency in New York City. Jay would like to thank David and Patricia for allowing him this great opportunity. He thanks to his wife and best friend, Megan, for her unconditional understanding. You are my rock.



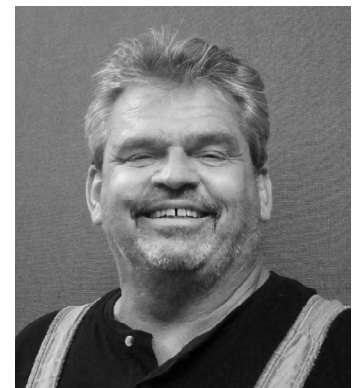
Ben Hunt as JOSH JOHNSON

Ben is a senior English Major at UAH hoping to graduate in the next year. This is his first play at UAH, and is thankful for the opportunity he has been given. He would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him.



Jay Graves as TRUCKER

This is Jay's first production with the theatre at UAH. He is very proud to be a part of the cast and looks forward to being in future productions while taking classes at UAH.



Jeff Sands as SKELLY



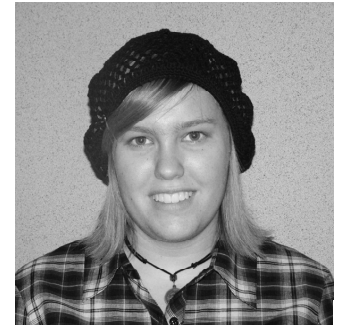
Jeff wiled away his salad days in the theatre, performing in dozens of plays by such luminaries as Williams, Miller, Pinter, Inge, O'Neill, Feydeau, Simon, Moliere, Chekhov, and Shakespeare. He can't really sing and he REALLY can't dance, but he pretended to do both in a bunch of musicals. He directed a number of plays on those surprisingly frequent occasions when nobody could stop him until it was too late, and endured the abuse of audiences as a member of the improvisational comedy troupe "Captain Spalding." Along the way he earned a Ph.D. in Theatre History and Criticism from the University of Illinois, and was at one time considered by several acquaintances to be an expert on the dramaturgy of Eugene O'Neill. For the past two decades he has played the part of university administrator, and currently can be seen in daily performances as Vice President for Advancement here at UAHuntsville (don't tell Dave it's only an act). He is married to the extraordinary Amy France with whom he shares the joys of three (mostly) grown children. Jeff would like it to be known that Patricia Kiley and David Harwell are angels.

Amy Pugh Patel as CORA



Amy earned her B.A. from UAHuntsville in 1997--before it even had a theatre program. Since then, she earned her M.A. in Directing from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt Univ. and has taught Theatre at Butler H.S. for 13 years. She has directed over 30 plays, most recently *The Wiz*, and performed in at least a handful, including TH's *Dinner with Friends*, RT's *The Parkbench* (competing in both at SETC), TH's *The Laramie Project*, and RT's *Urinetown*. She and her husband Sandy met at UAH, have two incredible boys, Kieran 4 ½ and Connery 3, and recently shaved their heads for childhood cancer research at St. Jude's (www.baldonpurpose.org). Being on-stage with UAH Theatre has been like... traveling through time? Getting a second chance? Rewriting a flashback? Whatever it is, she's immensely grateful to David and Patricia for letting her do it.

Sarah Jo Ryberg as LENA TRUIT



Sarah Jo is a freshman majoring in Chemistry and (hopefully!) minoring in Theatre. Her love for theatre originated at Bob Jones High School, where she joined the International Thespian Honor Society. She would like to thank her family for supporting her, Dwayne Craft and Mary Davis for teaching her, and her friends for putting up with her through her theatre shenanigans. Sarah Jo is excited to be in her first UAH production and hopes you enjoy the show!

Tasha Ezell as MARTHA TRUITT



Tasha is a Communications major at the junior level at UAH and this is her first production here. She is excited to be a part of the cast of *Rimers of Eldritch* and wants to thank David and Patricia for the opportunities they've given her. She also wants to thank her family and friends for their love and support of all of her ventures both academic and personal.

Kristian Jones as WILMA



Kristian Jones is a sophomore at UAH in her first year of our theatre program. She has taken four years of theatre classes and has been in several plays in high school. She is very excited about this performance and plans to continue in the theatre program until she graduates.

Heath McClain as PREACHER / JUDGE



Heath Erin McClain is an Art Studio major and Theatre minor. He grew up on a farm in Vinemont, AL. He's been in several shows at UAHuntsville such as *Mother Courage and Her Children*, *Suburbia*, *Couples Counseling Killed Katie...* *The Rimers of Eldritch* will be Heath's last performance at UAHuntsville as a student before graduating this December.