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- Food and drink must not be brought into the theatre
- The use of cameras or recording devices is strictly prohibited
- Smoking is not permitted in the Noel Fine Arts Center
- In the case of an emergency, ushers will assist audience members at each exit

Theatre & Dance Department productions are partially funded by the Student Government Association

The UWSP Department of Theatre & Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and the National Association of Schools of Dance.

2014-2015 Theatre & Dance Faculty and Staff

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Director's Note

When I first met with the production team for *Be Aggressive*, I tried to pin down what I think this play is really about. I made it clear that it is not about cheerleading—I wanted to make sure we never called it a play about cheerleading. I think this play is about unexpected change. The characters avoid facing the irrevocable changes in their lives rather than meeting the challenges that change presents. They are unable, unwilling, or unready to move forward. With that in mind, I presented my ideas to the team.

Sand. It was one of my first impulses as I began working with the play—I knew I wanted there to be a sense of sand. Sand is the result of change, of time eroding the ground upon which we stand. It can shift suddenly and change without warning. Sand is also an indicator of time; in an hourglass, it drops with every second. Each grain shows the irreversible passage of time.

Triangles. I kept thinking about triangles for some reason. Cheerleaders often form pyramids and triangles—a megaphone is a triangle and cheer skirts have triangular sections. An hourglass is a pair of triangles joined together at the center. There are also many triangular relationships in the play—Laura, her father, and her sister in particular.

Cheer. While the play is not about cheerleading, cheer is an important part of the play. Everyone in the play would like to have someone or something to cheer for (or against). They also crave someone to be cheered by. The idea of “cheer” also challenged me—does it last? When someone tells you to cheer up, it is a command, to which we so frequently comply. Is it from complacency or true happiness?

Throughout the play, the characters repeat the cheerleading standard question of “Ready?” There is only one response—“OK.” I think the question of being ready is central to the play as well. Is there a way to be ready to face what the world throws our way? A grain of sand in an oyster causes irritation that yields a precious pearl. Do the changes we face, although often sudden and sometimes devastating, make us able to create something beautiful and smooth as we cope with them? I think so and I think that by the end of the play, the characters might be ready to try. Okay.

-Jennifer Stoessner, Director

**The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Department of Theatre & Dance**

Presents

BE AGGRESSIVE

by

Annie Weisman

World Premiere of *Be Aggressive* produced by La Jolla Playhouse
Des McNuff, Artistic Director, and Terrence Dwyer, Managing Director

Be Aggressive received a workshop as part of the 1999 New Work Festival
at the Mark Taper Forum, Los Angeles, California
Gordon Davidson, Artistic Director/Producer

Developed in workshop by Geve Theatre, Rochester, New York
Mark Cuddy, Artistic Director

Director

Jennifer Stoessner*

Stage Manager

Courtney Milkent

Scenic Designer

Ethan Rosing

Lighting Designer

Marisa Abbott

Costume Designer

Patricia Hilpert

Properties Master

Katie Prosser

Technical Director

Scott Wirtz-Olsen*

Sound Designer

Gary G. Olsen*

Cheer Choreographers

Alexandria Nosrati-Schultz
Anna Kurzynski

Dialect Coach

Jared Hanlin*

*Denotes Faculty/Staff

Be Aggressive

Cast

Laura.....Haley Moser
Leslie.....Kelsey Yudice
Hannah.....Nina Barresi
Phil.....Joel Roberts
Judy.....Chelsey Graunke
Cop.....Scott Laban
Cheerleader 1.....Rachel Flahive
Cheerleader 2.....Emily Palmer
Cheerleader 3.....Taylor Meyer

Production Staff

Assistant Stage Manager	Sasha Everett, Elizabeth Theune
Assistant Lighting Designer	Zach Olsen, Amie Winfield
Scenic Charge	Ethan Rosing
Scenic Artist	Talvick Hook
Properties Assistant	Jordan Ohlinger
Costume Run Crew	Anna Brennon, Nicole Kidd Ben Kregness, Claire Penning, Sarah Shirley
Deck Run Crew	Brandon Bogenschutz, Emily Goonan Elan Mendez-Smith, Mike Schmidt
Costume Shop Manager	Wendy Dolan*
Cutter/Draper	Barbara Cirno*
Scene Shop Manager	Scott Wirtz-Olsen*
Costume Shop Assistants	Ivy Boudreau, Kiah Fischer Abby Herold, Alyssa Janco, Matthew Jedlicka, Emily Lowney Tatyana Nahirniak, Talia Newton, Emily Palmer, Kelsey Yudice
Scene Shop Assistants	Marisa Abbott, Jerron Baldwin Calum Bedborough, Deidre Buckles, Hanna Conger Bryce Dutton, Daniel Halminiak, Alesha Hollatz, Talvick Hook Emily Kaufman, Courtney Milkent, Katie Prosser, Ellen Reid Ethan Rosing, Madeline Schultz, Ashley Stock
Scene & Costume Shop	Theatre & Dance Practicum Students
Academic Department Associate	Ruth Daniels*
Theatre & Dance Office Student Assistants	Alyssa Casey Chelsey Graunke, Haley Haupt, Abbey Immer
House Managers	Chelsey Graunke, Zachary Larson Miranda, Reindl, Markie Rogers, Katelyn Werner
Public Relations Assistants	Theatre & Dance Practicum Students

* Denotes Faculty/Staff

Meet the Company

Abbott, Marisa (*Lighting Designer*) Senior BFA Design Technology major from Oconomowoc, WI. Recipient of the Neale Alumni Honors Freshman Scholarship and the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Design Technology.

Barresi, Nina (*Hannah*) Freshman BFA Musical Theatre major from Wakefield, MA.

Everett, Sasha (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Senior BA Comm-PR Emphasis and Arts Management major from Merrill, WI.

Flahive, Rachel (*Cheerleader 1*) Senior BFA Acting major from Kenosha, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Acting.

Graunke, Chelsey (*Judy*) Junior BFA Acting major from Bloomington, MN. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Acting.

Hilpert, Patricia (*Costume Designer*) Sophomore BFA Design Technology major from Columbus, WI.

Hook, Talvick (*Scenic Artist*) Junior BFA Design Technology major from Mount Horeb, WI.

Kurzynski, Anna (*Cheer Choreographer*) Sophomore BA Dance and Communication-PR Emphasis major from Rice Lake, WI.

Laban, Scott (*Cop*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Lansing, MI.

Meyer, Taylor, (*Cheerleader 3*) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Farmington, MN.

Milkent, Courtney (*Stage Manager*) Senior BA Drama, History, Broadfield Social Science major from Waukesha, WI. Recipient of the Sentry Scholarship, Theatre Arts Scholarship in Drama and the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Drama.

Meet the Company

Moser, Haley (*Laura*) Junior BFA Acting major from East Bethel, MN.

Nosrati-Schultz, Alexandria (*Cheer Choreographer*) Senior BA Arts Management major, Dance and Business minor from Beaver Dam, WI. Recipient of the Theatre in London Scholarship.

Ohlinger, Jordan (*Properties Assistant*) Freshman BFA Design Technology major from Fond du Lac, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Scholarship in Design Technology.

Olsen, Zach (*Assistant Lighting Designer*) Freshman BFA Design Technology major from Stevens Point, WI.

Palmer, Emily (*Cheerleader 2*) Junior BA Drama major from Wisconsin Dells, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Scholarship in Drama.

Prosser, Kaitlyn (*Properties Master*) Senior BA Drama and Communications - Media Studies major from Jefferson, WI.

Roberts, Joel (*Phil*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Madison, WI.

Rosing, Ethan (*Scenic Designer*) Senior BFA Design Technology major from Plover, WI.

Theune, Elizabeth (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Freshman BFA Design Technology major from Sheboygan Falls, WI.

Winfield, Amie (*Assistant Lighting Designer*) Freshman BFA Design Technology major from Bristol, WI.

Yudice, Kelsey (*Leslie*) Senior BFA Acting major and Sociology minor from Madison, WI.

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