

PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER.....KASSY SHORT
STAGE CREW.....MARYA FELDT *
.....CATHERINE PADGETT, SYLVIA PADGETT
LIGHTING CONTROL..... COREY COCHRAN
HAIR & MAKEUPMARYA FELDT *, GABBY MARMON
.....CATHERINE PADGETT, SYLVIA PADGETT
SCENERY, PROPS AND COSTUMES
.....AARON BROXTERMAN *, MARYA FELDT *
.....ABBY HAMEL *, MATT HAMEL *
.....EMILY KYLE, GABBY MARMON
.....LIZ OLSON *, CATHERINE PADGETT
.....SYLVIA PADGETT, KASSY SHORT

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The Hayden High School Administration
for their continued support of the theater program

Jeanine Schieferecke

Lynn Wilson and the Washburn University Theater

PLEASE NOTE

The play is performed in three acts.

There will be an 8 minute intermission between the acts.

Please turn off all phones, pagers, PDA's, watches or anything else that will make a noise during the performance.

THE HAYDEN HIGH SCHOOL THEATER PRESENTS GENERAL ADMISSION \$5.00

CAUGHT 'BUNBURYING'!
Socialites caught
escapading in
THE HAMPTONS



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING March 18 - 20, 2011

EARNEST



EXPOSED!



Feuding
Ladies
Or
BFF?



NEW FAD:

THE CUCUMBER
SANDWICH DIET!!!



FRIDAY & SATURDAY AT 7:30PM, SUNDAY AT 2:00PM www.haydentheater.org

The Hayden High School Theater
presents

The Importance of Being Earnest

by
Oscar Wilde

Directed and designed by
Mr. Mark Radziejewski

THE CAST

In order of appearance

LANE..... GABE HILLEBERT
ALGERNON MONCRIEFF..... CORBIN EAKES*
JC. "JACK" WORTHING..... JOHN KYLE
LADY BRACKNELL..... KATIE SCHIEFERECKE*
GWENDOLEN FAIRFAX..... KATHERINE MOORE
MISS PRISM..... ANN BALDRIDGE
CECILY CARDEW..... CALLIE CRAWFORD
REV. CANON CHASUBLE..... PATRICK MOORE
MERRIMAN..... JACKSON SCHRICKEL

Members of the International Thespian Society,
Troupe #7275, are noted with an asterisk.

THE SCENES:

ACT ONE:

Algernon's London townhouse

ACT TWO:

Garden of Jack's country house

ACT THREE:

Drawing Room of Jack's country house

ABOUT THE PLAY

The Importance of being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People is a play by Oscar Wilde. First performed on 14 February 1895 at St. James's Theatre in London, it is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious personae in order to escape burdensome obligations.

Oscar Wilde once said that the play's theme was "That we should treat all trivial things in life very seriously, and all serious things of life with a sincere and studied triviality." While much theatre of the time tackled serious social and political issues, *The Importance of Being Earnest* is superficially about nothing at all. It "refuses to play the game" of other dramatists of the period, for instance George Bernard Shaw, who used their characters to draw audiences to grander ideals. Yet, Wilde's intent may be the opposite of his stated theme. Perhaps the point of this play is to show just how the society of his time did take the trivial seriously while trivializing the serious.

This play repeatedly mocks Victorian mores and social customs, marriage and the pursuit of love in particular. In Victorian times *earnestness* was considered to be the over-riding societal value, originating in religious attempts to reform the lower classes, it spread to the upper ones too throughout the century. Wilde embodied society's rules and rituals artfully into Lady Bracknell: minute attention to the details of her style created a comic effect of assertion by restraint.

Wilde managed both to engage with and to mock the genre. The men follow traditional matrimonial rites, but the foibles they excuse are ridiculous, and the farce is built on an absurd confusion of a book and a baby. In turn, both Gwendolen and Cecily have the ideal of marrying a man named Ernest, a popular and respected name at the time, and they indignantly declare that they have been deceived when they find out the men's real names.

Contemporary reviews all praised the play's humor, though some were cautious about its explicit lack of social messages, while others foresaw the modern consensus that it was the culmination of Wilde's artistic career. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make *The Importance of Being Earnest* Wilde's most enduringly popular play.