



Ballard High School Playmakers explore gun violence in *Bang Bang You're Dead!* and *Eric LaRue*

***May 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 7:30 p.m. curtain
Directed and produced by Joe Lambricht***

April 22, 2019 -- The Ballard High School Playmakers will tackle gun violence in schools in two upcoming one-act plays *Bang You're Dead!* and *Eric LaRue*. Community members are warmly invited to attend.

Debuting in 1999, *Bang Bang You're Dead!* was first produced by the Thurston High School theatre department following a deadly shooting at the Oregon school in 1998. It was performed by Thurston students—some of whom had been wounded in the shooting by another student. *Bang, Bang, You're Dead!* opens in character Josh's jail cell after he has killed his parents and five classmates. The ghosts of the classmates demand to know why he killed them. The play is written by William Mastrosimone.

Eric LaRue is the story of Janice LaRue, the mother of Eric, a 17-year-old boy who shot and killed three of his classmates in school. Now, three months after Eric has been jailed, Janice has not yet gone to see him, nor has she found any way to deal with what happened or to show herself in her community. The play is written by Brett Neveu.

“With the 20th anniversary of the Thurston High School and Columbine High School shootings, this is an opportune time to remind our community of the effect they still have on students years later,” says BHS Theatre Director Shawn Riley.

Both plays have been among the 10 most-produced one acts in American high schools each year, according to *Dramatics* magazine.

Performance Details

The plays will be performed together at the Earl Kelly Center for Performing Arts at Ballard High School, 1418 NW 65th Street, Seattle, WA, 98117; 7:30 p.m. curtain time with one 15-minute intermission.

Tickets

*****Note: Parent advisory due to subject matter.***** Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors. Advance tickets are now available at <https://showtix4u.com>; (Orders must be placed by noon on performance day.) To request discounted season tickets or group tickets, please contact Shawn Riley at smriley@seattleschools.org.

Cast

The cast members of each play attended many local and regional elementary and middle schools.

BHS Student:

Griffin Taylor (attended Coe and Hamilton)
Sophie Otness (attended Newport Heights and Tyee)
Ryann Murphy (attended Coe and Northwest School)
James Kerrigan (attended St. John's)
Olivia Knoll (attended Lawton and McClure)
Hadley Mollman (attended West Woodland and Hamilton)
Vee Ashmun (attended West Woodland and Hamilton)
Max Berndt (attended Lowell/Lincoln and Hamilton)
Vivian Mourad (attended West Woodland and Hamilton)
Anders McAllister (attended Whittier and Billings MS)
Lydia Van Kley (attended Bryant and Whitman)
Lilly Grey Rudge (attended Daniel Bagley and Hamilton)
Brendan Hickey (attended West Woodland and Hamilton)
Riley Stowell (attended Loyal Heights and Salmon Bay)
Kyle Fry-Holman (attended Lowell and Hamilton)
Cassidy Murphy (attended Coe and Northwest School)
Megan Cooper (attended Lawton and King's)
Margaux Daniel (attended John Hay and Hamilton)
Lillie Wirth (attended West Woodland and Hamilton)

Ballard Performing Arts

The award-winning Ballard High School Performing Arts Program has gained regional, national, and international acclaim for its dynamic and inspired performances. The Music Department includes two concert bands, three concert choirs, two concert orchestras, percussion ensemble, two jazz bands, one jazz choir, multiple chamber ensembles and a marching band of nearly 200 musicians. The Theatre Department offers classes in Technical Theatre and Theatre I and II while the Ballard Playmakers produce two plays and one musical theatre production each year. More than 450 students—about one fourth of the school—participate in these music and theatre opportunities. Learn more:

ballardperformingarts.org

Contact

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Ballard Performing Arts * ballardperformingarts.org

Earl Kelly Center for Performing Arts at Ballard High School * 1418 NW 65th Street, Seattle WA

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