



## Ballard Performing Arts Playmakers present their 2019-2020 season theater season

*Directed by Shawn M. Riley and Chelsea DuVall    Produced by Shawn M. Riley*

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2019** -- The Ballard High School Playmakers will present three theatrical productions designed for maximum entertainment relief in the coming 2019-2020 school year. Community members are warmly invited to attend and enjoy the talents of Ballard High School's thespians.

"This year's series is both a reaction to and a distraction from today's times. *Radium Girls* tells a story of corporate and government scandal, yet with a bend toward justice. *Xanadu* is a playful detour back to the disco era. And *Rumors* is a light-hearted farce intended to bring comic relief to our viewers," says theatre director Shawn M. Riley.

### Schedule of Performances

#### **Radium Girls | October 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26, 2019**

A hundred years ago, radium was a miracle cure used to fight cancer. It was quickly commercialized and used in products for consumers, including luminous watches that glowed in the dark. *Radium Girls* tells the story of the New Jersey factory girls who hand-painted the dials until they mysteriously became ill and started dying. Worker Gracie Jordan decides to sue the United States Radium Corporation, exposing radium's impact on health and just how far a company will go to manipulate science. *Radium Girls* was written by D.W. Gregory.

#### **Musical Theater production:**

#### **Xanadu | March 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28, 2020**

This comedy musical is based on the film that starred Olivia Newton-John. It's 1980, and Venice Beach chalk-artist Sonny is frustrated by his mural of the Greek muses. From Mount Olympus a muse named Kira dispatches to L.A., disguised as a human to encourage him in his art. Together they dream of opening a roller disco named Xanadu. *Xanadu* is a love story with legwarmers and campy hit songs—written by Douglas Carter Beane and scored by Jeff Lynne and John Farrar.

## Ballard Performing Arts

Earl Kelly Center for Performing Arts at Ballard High School \* 1418 NW 65th Street, Seattle WA \* ballardperformingarts.org  
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## Rumors | May 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 16, 2020

Set in the 1980s at a tasteful, large home just north of Manhattan, the deputy mayor of New York has accidentally shot himself. As four couples gather for a 10th-anniversary wedding party, the mayor's lawyer must quickly concoct a story to avoid a scandal. Misunderstandings and speculation quickly pile up, leading to laughable farce. *Rumors* was written by Neil Simon.

### Tickets

\$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors. Advance tickets are now available at <https://showtix4u.com>; (search for "Ballard High School.") Reserved seating is available for a \$25 donation to the Performing Arts at Ballard High School. Note: the centrally located rows L, M and N have more legroom than other aisles. To request discounted season or group tickets, please contact Shawn Riley at [smriley@seattleschools.org](mailto:smriley@seattleschools.org).

### Performance Details

All performances are held at the Earl Kelly Center for Performing Arts at Ballard High School, 1418 NW 65th Street, Seattle WA, 98117. All shows start at 7:30 with a 15-minute intermission.

### Contact info

Shawn M. Riley, Ballard High School Theatre Director: [smriley@seattleschools.org](mailto:smriley@seattleschools.org); 206-252-1000  
Rhenda Meiser, Ballard Performing Arts Theatre Publicist, [rhenda@rhendameiser.com](mailto:rhenda@rhendameiser.com);  
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### About Ballard Performing Arts

The award-winning Ballard High School Performing Arts Program has gained regional, national, and international acclaim for their 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, and multiple chamber ensembles. 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. Over 450 students – approximately one-fourth of the school – participate in these music and theatre opportunities. Ballard Performing Arts sets a high standard of excellence for all students, ensembles, and productions while developing individual artistry through the study of high-quality repertoire and exceptional performance opportunities. [ballardperformingarts.org](http://ballardperformingarts.org)

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