

Las Positas College For Immediate Release

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Las Positas College Theater Arts Presents Evil Dead: The Musical



LIVERMORE, CA - Las Positas College Theater Arts presents the musical production of "Evil Dead: The Musical." Opening night is Friday, November 8th at the Black Box Theater in the Mertes Center for the Arts at Las Positas College.

Based on the 1981 cult classic film by Sam Raimi, Evil Dead: The Musical brings your favorite supernatural horror film to the stage. The tag line "Not Your Grandma's Musical" reinforces that this musical is not family-friendly, which is out of the ordinary for shows produced by Las Positas College, with comedic violence, coarse language, and puns. "There is no question that this is a comedy and I hope audiences will have as much fun seeing the performance as we have had rehearsing it. Though the show has an R rating, audiences should know that this night of theater is fun, playful, and unlike any other performance," Director Titian Lish explains.

Evil Dead: The Musical takes all the elements of the cult classic films, The Evil Dead, Evil Dead 2, and Army of Darkness and combines them for one of the craziest, funniest, and bloodiest theatrical experiences of all time. It has fun with the horror genre, and in doing so appeals to a wide audience. It's the only show with a "Splatter Zone" - a section of the audience that gets splattered in fake blood. "I've never had to do a show while being sprayed or covered in fake blood, so that's new." Veteran Las Positas actor Kody Forbes inputs. "It's a crazy comedy that will make you laugh and you might get a little wet." The blood featured in the show is a mixture of household cooking ingredients; it is completely edible and machine washable, but if you don't want to get splashed, it may be best to avoid sitting in the first two rows, or you can buy a souvenir shirt or throw on an available poncho.

The musical brings together a unique group of performers, many of whom have not been seen before on the Las Positas stage. "I heard about Titian and her wonderful reputation, and I also knew that I would have a blast with this comedy that is so different and bizarre compared to other shows I've been in!" says newcomer Samantha Hixon. "Everyone is so amazing to work with and I have so many people, as a freshman, to look up to. The atmosphere is accepting and makes it way to learn from not only my director but many others along the way." Of the rehearsal process, Jared Sigman, playing familiar bad boy Ash Williams, says "It's been the most demanding but without a doubt the most fun I've had. I have learned so much and the entire cast is phenomenal and pushes me to be better every night."

While the Evil Dead films are the definition of cult movies, as a stage show, Evil Dead The Musical has become a cult sensation of its own. The original show played Off-Broadway in New York, has broken records in Toronto, won awards in Korea, launched three North American tours, and has over 500 productions mounted across the globe. Critics rave about it, with everyone from The New York Times to Maxim Magazine giving it top marks.

On why she chose this show, Lish states, "I think there's something hilarious about making musicals out of topics or popular culture that are inherently totally inappropriate for a musical. The cult following that these films have garnered over the years makes this musical particularly funny because its source material is so absurd. I love the idea that musical theater can be beautiful, can move the needle of culture, and can evoke thoughtful and complex ideas in our audiences. But I also love ridiculously fun nights of theater, where audiences can turn off the troubles of the day and have a genuinely fun time with their friends at the theater. It's not all high art. Low comedy is delightful too."

The cast includes Jared Sigman, Saige Aronson, Celia Reddoch, Elias Baravskas, Jenna Van Ommeron, Samantha Hixon, Kody Forbes, Erynn Pascual, Jeff Zavattero Jr., Matthew Bessiere, Jonathan Weiss, Caitlin Acha, Logan Schultz, Jacob Fisher, Katherine Mathers, Alex Radzanowski, Colin Fitzmaurice, Hannah Manucal, and Katie Holmes.

"Evil Dead: The Musical" runs from November 8th through November 17th, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students with a valid student ID and general admission tickets are \$20. For tickets and more information, please visit LasPositasCollege.edu/Theater or contact Titian Lish at tlish@laspositascollege.edu and (925) 424-1127. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Box Office before the show at 3000 Campus Hill Dr, Livermore, CA 9455.

For more information, please visit the website at <http://evildeadthemusical.com/history-of-show/>

About Las Positas College

Las Positas College currently enrolls 9,300 students and offers curriculum for students seeking transfer to a four-year college or university, career preparation, or basic skills education. The College provides university transfer classes, retraining classes for those in need of employment or career advancement, a first-time educational opportunity for many adults, enrichment classes for those seeking a broader perspective, and career and technical training for those entering the technical and paraprofessional workforce.