

Wells College Presents New Play about the “Mother of the American Valentine”

“Miss Valentine” will be performed Feb. 14–15 at the Morgan Opera House in Aurora.

AURORA, N.Y. — The Wells College Theatre Department is proud to present “Miss Valentine,” a new play by Nadine Bernard. Bernard is an Ithaca native and Cornell alumna whose plays have been performed throughout the U.S. and Canada. “Miss Valentine” will be performed at the Morgan Opera House above the Aurora Free Library, 370 Main Street in Aurora, N.Y. Showtimes are on Friday, Feb. 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020 at 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Admission to “Miss Valentine” is \$10 for the general public, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for children, and free for Wells College students, faculty and staff. Tickets are available by calling the box office at 315.364.3232 and in person at the door. The box office will open 30 minutes prior to each performance.

Each February, the Department of Theatre and Dance invites an alumnus or alumna of Wells to participate in a production as a playwright, director, choreographer, actor, dancer or designer. This year’s alumni production features dramaturg Claudia Nolan ’12. Claudia is a dramaturg and theater-maker focused on developing new works, as well as multicultural and international theater. She is currently the literary associate at Premiere Stages in Union, N.J. She received her MFA in dramaturgy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where her thesis focused on cross-cultural fairytales and the importance of place in performance. She has worked at Geva Theatre Center, McCarter Theatre, New Georges, HERE, MuCCC, and Bread and Water Theatre.

The production is directed by Wells College professor of theatre Siouxsie Easter and is being produced in association with Ivy Austin, Broadway producer and artist. Actors involved include Wells students: Mallory Cleere ’20, Ally Collins ’20, Sarah Durocher ’23, Luke Lauchle ’20 and Maeve Wright ’23. AJ Sage, a popular actor and director whose work has been featured at many New York State theatres, guest stars as Mr. Valentine. The set is designed by assistant professor of theatre Patti Goebel. Lighting design is by Julie Bacorn ’20. Barbara Murphy is designing the costumes. The show is stage managed by Julia Nash ’23 and Macy Salico ’23. The cast features student actors from all disciplines and class years, and the stage crew is made up of both students experienced in technical theatre and those new to the field.