

FHS Drama Presents



Tartuffe

or The Hypocrite

By: Jean-Baptiste Poquelin Molière

Translated By: Jeffrey D. Hooper

Available to Stream:

7PM on June 1st, 2021

Tartuffe

or, The Hypocrite

PLAY BY JEAN-BAPTISTE POQUELIN MOLIÈRE
TRANSLATED BY JEFFREY D. HOEPER

All acts are set in Orgon's stately home in Paris.

There will be a brief "intermission" between acts three and four.

Enjoy the show!

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Director's Note

Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, better known by his stage name Molière, is often called "The French Shakespeare." Though unappreciated in his time, he has since been recognized for his masterful command of language, his raucous wit, and his memorable characters. Just like his English counterpart, Molière's works are timeless, and *Tartuffe* is often considered his opus.

In any other play, by any other playwright, Tartuffe would be a terrifying villain: a con-man pretending to be pious to rob the estate of the gullible Orgon. Molière, however, is not trying to frighten his audience. Rather, Tartuffe is a caricature, a moronic shill whose act is so flimsy that no reasonable person would fall for it. Unfortunately, Tartuffe's mark is just as dumb as he is, and Orgon's poor family must go to ever more absurd lengths to dispel the manipulator's hold over their hapless patriarch.

In short, *Tartuffe* is a foundationally ridiculous farce, and it calls for heightened performances from its entire ensemble. There are no "easy roles" here. Our cast has routinely impressed us with their commitment and dedication to conquering this challenging performance. We are exceedingly proud with what they have produced. I hope you enjoy our rendition of Molière's *Tartuffe*.

- Michael Gagnon

Cast and Crew

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

MADAME PERNELLE (ORGON'S MOTHER).....Leslie Arnold
ELMIRE (ORGON'S WIFE).....Sammy Erickson
DORINE (THE MAID).....Nina Spinetti
DAMIS (ORGON'S SON).....Amanda To
MARIANE (ORGON'S DAUGHTER).....Sasha Davis
CLEANTE (ELMIRE'S BROTHER).....Jack Tyler
ORGON (THE FOOLISH PATRIARCH).....Ethan Roy
VALERE (MARIANE'S SUITOR).....Cecilia Kolenich
TARTUFFE (THE HYPOCRITE).....Arielle Sussman
MONSIEUR LOYAL.....Shesh Budhabhatti
POLICE OFFICER.....Wilson Zhang

DIRECTED BY MICHAEL GAGNON

PRODUCED BY CATHERINE STRYCHARZ

EDITING, GRAPHICS, AND SOUND: Evan Foreman, Lauren Frank, Sunny Cakrak, Izzy Byfield

ART PRODUCTION: Andrew Minor and Ethan Roy

SET DESIGN: Jeff Teravainen, Jordan Altimus, Willa Brasch, Katie Butch, Erin Curry, Kalina Donor, Jack Dunphy, Eloise Fairbrother, Joe-Michael Harb, Iliana Jimenez-McDermott, Jake Micknack, Sarah Pettit, John Radziwon, Justin Rubino, Avishi Shukla, Lorena Sula

Biographies

LESLIE ARNOLD '22 (MADAME PERNELLE)

Leslie has been an active participant in theatre for four years now. She has been in many production both in school and during the summer, starting with an eighth grade production of *Peter Pan Jr.* as a brave girl. The FHS productions include *A Christmas Carol* as Valentine, *The Little Mermaid* as a Fish/Sailor, *Clue* as the motorist, *Cinderella* (ensemble), and most importantly *Tartuffe* as Madame Pernelle. She has also done productions with both CFT (Connecticut family theatre) in *Annie Jr.* as maid/New Yorker and Hartford Stage's summer program in *Beauty and the Beast* as Lady with a baby (ensemble). Other art related things include being a writing tutor at the FHS Writers Block and Choir (11 years).

SHESH BUDHABHATTI '24 (MONSIEUR LOYAL)

Shesh previously performed in the play *Charlie Brown* in sixth grade. She would like to shout out her parents!

SASHA DAVIS '21 (MARIANE)

This is Sasha's second and last year of being a member of the FHS Drama Club. She will be attending college in the fall at Lasell University. In her free time, Sasha enjoys hanging out with her family and friends, playing tennis, and baking. Sasha will miss the drama club immensely and would like to thank her family and her teachers for helping her along the way.

SAMMY ERICKSON '21 (ELMIRE)

Previous roles include Stepsister in *Cinderella*, Gull/ Princess in *The Little Mermaid*, Cook in *Clue*, Laundress in *A Christmas Carol*, Ensemble in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Chef Assistant in *Cinderella Jr.*, and Orphan in *Annie Jr.*

Biographies

CECILIA KOLENICH '24 (VALERE)

In the past, Cecilia has performed in *Seussical The Musical* and twice in *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, as well as controlled lighting and sound for several other performances. During her free time, she enjoys photography and drawing and would like to thank her friends for helping her run lines.

ETHAN ROY '22 (ORGON)

Ethan previously featured in *The Little Mermaid* as a chef and sailor among other ensemble roles freshman year, and ensemble roles in *Cinderella* sophomore year. He also participated in FHS Drama Club's production of the play *Clue* as a running man (stage crew). Ethan played as a goalkeeper for the JV soccer team sophomore and junior year and currently is the Co-Vice President of the Mental Health Awareness Club. He'd like to thank his cat, Cinnamon, for not meowing loudly for attention during recording rehearsals.

NINA SPINETI '21 (DORINE)

Previous roles include "Madame" in *Cinderella*, "Yvette" in *Clue*, "Gull/Princess" in *The Little Mermaid*, "Mrs. Cratchit" in *A Christmas Carol*, "Ensemble" in *Fiddler On The Roof* and "Chef Assistant" in *Cinderella Jr.* Nina is attending New York University as a music major and is thankful for all that the Farmington drama departments as given her.

Biographies

ARIELLE SUSSMAN '22 (TARTUFFE)

Arielle Sussman is a junior at Farmington High School. She has so enjoyed being able to help bring this production to life with her fellow cast members, and is so grateful for this opportunity to perform during such a crazy year. Some of her previous roles include Gomez Addams (*The Addams Family*), Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*), Atina (*The Little Mermaid*), and Wadsworth (*Clue*). For the past two summers, Arielle has also worked with the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, CT, and plans to perform there again this coming season. She would like to thank her incredible castmates and directors for making this show happen, and cannot wait to resume in-person theatre next year!

AMANDA TO '24 (DAMIS)

Amanda has not played any previous roles in FHS drama, but at IAR she was part of the Charlie Brown production for the musical and played Mrs Mayor in *Seussical Jr.* for last year's musical. She is also invested in art and music is by creating her own. She like painting and takes choir currently.

JACK TYLER '21 (CLEANTE)

Jack Tyler, a senior at FHS, has been involved in the drama program for all four years. Some of his previous roles include, Marley in *A Christmas Carol*, Grimsby in *The Little Mermaid*, and Prince Charming in *Cinderella*. He has also been involved in orchestra and choir throughout his high school career, and would like to thank the department and his family for constant support throughout the years.

WILSON ZHANG '23 (POLICE OFFICER)

This is Wilson's first year participating in FHS Drama, but was part of a play called *The Jungle Book* at a younger age, he enjoys music and art. He would like to thank everyone who participated in the play, and for giving him this opportunity to be a part of it. Also, he wants to congratulate all seniors who graduate this year, and wish them the best of luck!

Thank you to our administration for your
constant support of the arts in Farmington.

KATHLEEN C. GREIDER
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

KIMBERLY WYNNE
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

ALICIA BOWMAN
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS

DR. SCOTT HURWITZ
PRINCIPAL, FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

LISA KAPCINSKI RUSS CRIST MARY LUNDQUIST
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL DEAN OF STUDENTS
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Additional thanks to...

THE FHS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

THE FHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

THE FHS CUSTODIAL STAFF

MR. FOREMAN AND THE AV CREW

MR. MINOR, MR. TERAVAINEN, AND THE STAGECRAFT CLASS

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
FHS DRAMA, ESPECIALLY IN THESE UNCONVENTIONAL
CIRCUMSTANCES! WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR TALENTS
AND TIME IN ASSISTING OUR STUDENTS' PERFORMANCES.