CORONADO PLAYHOUSE'S 79th SEASON

EXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR

A REVENGE COMEDY
BY LAUREN GUNDERSON

DIRECTED BY KIRA BLASKOVICH

CPH
CORONADO PLAYHOUSE
A Coronado Tradition Since 1946

Aug 16–Sept 8

Thurs-Sat @ 8pm, Sat & Sun @ 2pm
1835 Strand Way, Coronado • (619) 435-4856
CoronadoPlayhouse.org

CPH CORONADO PLAYHOUSE

PRESENTS

EXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR

By LAUREN GUNDERSON

The Cast:

Kaitlyn Summers ..... Nan
Eric Peterson ..... Kyle
Jillian Jones ..... Sweetheart/Peaches/Superkyle
Isaí Luna ..... Simon
Ruth Russell ..... Nan, Sweetheart u/s
Raymond Evans ..... Kyle, Simon u/s

The Time and Place:

July 4th 2009, in the North Georgia mountains

Running Time:

Less than 90 minutes

Acknowledgements

Aaron Rumley
Blindspot Collective
CCAE Theatricals
City of Coronado
City of Coronado Building Inspector & Fire Marshal
Coronado Recreation Services and Community Center Staff
Dale Goodman
Special thanks to family and friends whose love and support helped make this production possible.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please turn off all electronic devices and cell phones during the performance. Restrooms are located in the recreation center near the front desk. If you need to exit during the performance, please use the rear exit of the theatre as light from the hallway interferes with the performance.

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Production Team and Theatre Staff

Director	Kira Blaskovich
Stage Manager	Gaby Mendoza
Board Liaisons	Desha Crownover, Lu Garcia
Scenic Designer	Frank Seed
Costume Designer	Jamie Krumenacker
Lighting Designer	Kyle Waterman
Sound Designer, Projection Designer	Steven Murdock
Props	Pam Everett
Sound Operator	Robin Wheeler
Master Carpenter	Kyle Waterman
Set Construction	Dale Goodman, Frank Seed, Kyle Waterman
Set Painter	Duane McGregor, Frank Seed
Marketing Manager	Danielle Bunch
Graphic Design & Website	Barron Henzel
Production and Headshot Photography	Ken Jacques
Additional Video	Robert Stewart
Box Office	Oliver Caro-Willcox, Amanda Everett, Pam Everett, Shawn Foote
Concessions	Harry Granruth, Katy Skyrud
Front of House Manager	Pam Everett
Usher Coordinator	Janis Vanderford

Thanks to our Board of Directors

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From the Director

Exit, Pursued by a Bear is, at its core, about recognition, education and forgiveness. How can we see each other through the lens of empathy, when so much baggage is piled up between us? And how can we turn that lens onto ourselves? Sometimes, as the author, Lauren Gunderson, suggests, we need to take that mountain apart piece by piece, until we recognize that we have each contributed to the mess...and if the threat of bears hastens the process, so be it.

In this play, I love the use of theatre to unravel Nan and Kyle's personal traumas. The characters use what some would call "drama therapy" to stage an intervention with Kyle - not to heal him, but to educate him about the consequences of his actions. We so often think the world is against us, or that a certain group of people are to blame for our current state. But that just makes us victims and keeps us from taking action. The use of flashbacks and staging past events for Kyle's benefit ties into the heart of what theatre is: creativity, collaboration, and catharsis. I think right now, stumbling through our lives as best we can, we could all use these elements.

Forgiving and moving past the blame game is not only possible, but necessary. This play, through humor, theatre, and the threat of violence, inspires its characters toward self-examination and hope - hope that, by making different choices, we can acknowledge our mistakes, forgive ourselves and each other, and move on to a brighter future. Hopefully, before we get eaten by bears - cause they're out there, y'all!

Kira Blaskovich
Director

A Note from the Playhouse - Member Supported Theatre

On behalf of the Coronado Playhouse Board of Directors, I want to thank you for attending this production of ***Exit, Pursued by a Bear***! If this is your first time visiting the Playhouse, welcome to our theater, and if you are a member or season ticket holder, we are truly grateful for your ongoing patronage.

We welcome back director Kira Blaskovich,from 2023's *Ripcord*! Kira will also be back next season as director of our Annual Free Classic: Shakespeare's ***As You Like It***.

Our 80th Season has just been announced! Along with the Free Classic, we will be presenting Robert O'Hara's ***Barbecue***. Followed by Kander and Ebb's musical comedy whodunit, ***Curtains***. After our 74th Season's hit, *The Old Man and the Old Moon,* we are thrilled to be producing ***The Mountain Song*** by Pigpen Theatre Co. The Go-Go's jukebox musical ***Head Over Heels*** will follow our Free Classic. Closing our 80th Season will be Stephen Schwartz's ***Pippin***!

The Board of Directors hand picked this upcoming season with hopes to create a diverse, entertaining season packed with new and old favorites. Offering 3, 4 and 5 show packages gives our patrons the opportunity to attend high quality theatre at every price point. Each package comes with a reserved seat to our Annual Free Classic!

If you currently have an annual subscription with us, you have early access to securing your subscription for the 80th Season! If you are interested in becoming a season subscriber, check out our website or call the box office starting October 14. Single tickets for our next season will be available November 11. Do not wait to join us for our 80th season in 2025!

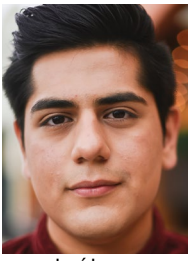
We would like to remind you of our membership program if you wish to support our theatre in a more substantial way. Our members receive free passes to productions with preferred seating, acknowledgement in the program, and invitations to attend annual members meetings where your voice can be heard to shape the future of our theatre. Various levels of membership allow patrons of all backgrounds to be a special part of Coronado Playhouse. Becoming a member gives you a unique opportunity to directly impact the quality of our productions which have grown over the past 80 seasons and will continue for the following 80 and beyond! Please speak to a box office associate or visit our website for more information about becoming a member and supporting CPH.

CPH is very proud of how dynamic and entertaining this 79th season has shown to be and the response from audiences has been wonderful! It is our promise to continue to deliver high quality entertainment for our community, while creating a welcoming and safe space for our actors, production staff and crew.

Enjoy the show, Sincerely,
Marc Caro-Willcox
CPH Board President

Raymond Evans

Jillian Jones


Isaí Luna

Eric Peterson

Ruth Russell

Kaitlyn Summers

RAYMOND EVANS (Kyle/Simon u/s) began acting in kindergarten and has performed in well over 30 stage productions. His recent roles include the suave Manolo in *The Odd Couple: Female Version* (Lamplighters), the sometimes-zealous Reverend Hale in *The Crucible* (Lamplighters - Aubrey nominated), and the wide-eyed Leonard Vole in *Witness for the Prosecution* (PowPAC). Inspired by his favorite play, *Children of a Lesser God*, he learned ASL and deeply enjoys the richness and beauty of Deaf culture.

JILLIAN JONES (Sweetheart/Peaches/ Superkyle) is delighted to be back at CPH this year! She is a graduate of San Diego State University where she received a B.A. in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Performance. Favorite acting credits include *All Bark, No Bite* (Coronado Playhouse); *Fidelity* (Scripps Ranch Theatre); *You Will Get Used To It* (Cygnet); *Actually* (San Diego State); *Stupid F*cking Bird* (Skull & Dagger Dramatic Society); *Taming of the Shrew* and *Blood Wedding* (Stagehouse Theatre). She would like to thank her cast mates and the entire creative team for creating a home away from home and a place to finally, professionally strip. Enjoy the show!

ISAÍ LUNA (Simon) is very excited to be back at Coronado Playhouse, he was last seen in *Hay Fever* as Sandy Tyrell. His favorite credits include *Bombs Over Everything!, Ripcord, Bus Stop, The Taming of the Shrew, Sonnets for an Old Century, Lorca's Blood Wedding, Stupid F*cking Bird, Dear Harvey* and *Steve Martin's Meteor Shower*. He would like to thank his friends and family for all the support.

ERIC PETERSON (Kyle) is somewhere in his 30's. He has blue eyes, brown hair, (kind of), and a job that pays him in U.S. currency here in San Diego. Perhaps you've seen Eric somewhere in a show around town. Or perhaps you haven't, either way, Eric is beyond excited to work with Coronado Playhouse again, and beside such an amazingly talented group of people! Please enjoy the show!

RUTH RUSSELL (Nan, Sweetheart u/s) is excited to be back at CPH with this lovely cast and crew. She was last seen at here in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Ruth studied acting at the University of St Thomas and has trained locally with Jacqueline Ritz, Justin Lang and Jo Anne Glover. Favorite roles: Lucy Westenra in *Dracula* (CPH), Myra Bruhl in *Deathtrap* (Lamplighters), Arlene Moss in *Rose and Walsh* (PLP,

Aubrey Award winner), Abigail Williams in *The Crucible*, and Daisy Lawrence in *Return Engagements* (Scripps Ranch Theatre). tinyurl.com/RuthRussellActor and IG: @theruthrussell

KAITLYN SUMMERS (Nan) is very excited to be back at CPH and digging her claws into this show! Credits include: Erato in *Xanadu*, *Nine*, Jenny in *Big Fish*, Bebe in *A Chorus Line* (Coronado Playhouse); *Malt Shop Memories* (Vista's Broadway Theatre); Magenta/Usherette in *Rocky Horror*, Sarah in *Assassins*, *American Idiot, Hair*, Little Becky in *Urinetown*, (OB Playhouse); Marta in *Spring Awakening* (OnStage Playhouse); *The Deadly Singer Mystery* (Playroom NYC). Lots of love and thanks to her amazing family and friends for all their support!

Creative Team Bios

KIRA BLASKOVICH (Director) is incredibly proud of everyone involved in this production. This show is her second directorial project at Coronado, having directed *Ripcord* last year. You might have seen her perform in Coronado's *Clue*, *The Old Man in the Old Moon*, and *Macbeth*, all directed by the amazing Desha Crownover. Other favorite directing credits in San Diego include *Witness for the Prosecution* (PowPAC) and *Anything Goes* (STA). Kira has been in the performing arts for over 25 years working as an actor, director, playwright, musical director, choreographer, and teacher. Her award-winning acting and directing credits include over 65 shows, from Fringe Festivals to major regional theatres. Kira received her BFA in Dramatic Art from the University of California at Berkeley and her MFA from The American Conservatory Theatre (ACT) in San Francisco. Special thank you to Gaby, her incredible stage manager, and love to her family, always and forever - MTL.

GABRIELLA MENDOZA (Stage Manager) is excited to stage manage her first show for Coronado Playhouse. Past stage management credits include: *Puffs* at Fenix Theatre Collaborative (2022), *Puffs* at The Eastern (2019), and the annual *Showcase* at UCLA HOOLIGAN Theatre Company (2016). Performance credits at CPH include: Ensemble in *Tuck Everlasting* (2024), Muse Swing in *Xanadu* (2023), Ensemble in *The SpongeBob Musical* (2022), and Hot Box Girl in *Guys and Dolls* (2019).

FRANK SEED (Scenic Designer) is excited to create another world for Coronado Playhouse! He started his time here as the Scenic Designer for *Xanadu* last October while he was going into his senior year at university. He now has his degree in theatre from UCSD where he worked designing some new plays in the Wagner New Play Festival and the dance show Winter Works. Other Credits: *The 39 Steps* (New Village Arts) and *Letters From Home* (WOW Festival). He hopes you enjoy your trip to Dahlonega, Georgia!

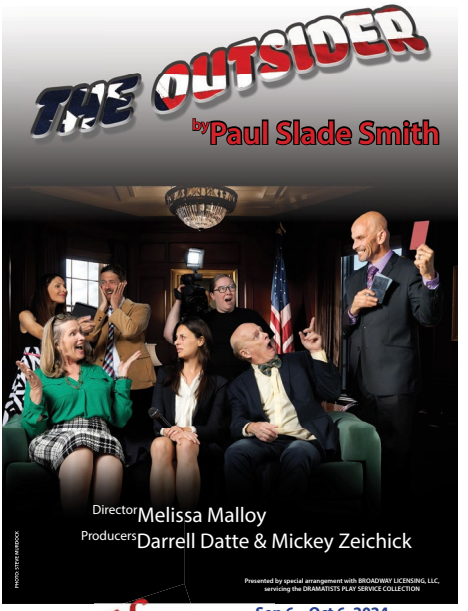
JAMIE KRUMENACKER (Costume Designer) This show would be her first professional show. Currently in community college, she has always loved the performing arts. She has done many high school theater productions: This includes *The Outsiders* (ensemble), *Testing Testing* (ensemble), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (supporting), *The Brother's Grim, Spectacularthon* (Narrator), *Moana* (supporting), *Poison Pens* (lead), and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (ensemble and assistant director). When starting out in college, she embraced more of the technical aspect of theater. Starting with: *Freaky Friday* (wig designer and run crew), *Lost Girl* (makeup designer and run crew), *Our Town* (Supporting and Costume construction).

KYLE WATERMAN (Lighting Design) is excited to be back at the light board after last designing lighting for CPH's *Macbeth* in 2018, for which he received a Star Award. Previously this season, Kyle could be seen running lights for *Nine*, and performing in *Tuck Everlasting*, for which he also designed the set. A Michigan native, Kyle has designed, choreographed, stage managed, and performed for many theatre companies and schools across the country before landing in San Diego. Some

favorite credits include *Evil Dead: The Musical* (Whole Art Theatre), *The Addams Family* (Theatre Memphis), *All Shook Up* (Kalamazoo Civic Theatre) and *Jane Eyre* (Farmers Alley Theatre).

STEVE MURDOCK (Sound/Video Design) Steve has designed, directed, or performed in over 100 productions to date. Steve's last project for CPH was *Ripcord*. He recently directed productions of *Death by Design*, and *Another Antigone*. He most recently appeared as Terrence in *Passing Conversations*, and may currently be seen in Vantage Theater's *Best Laid Plans* at the 10th Avenue Arts Center. Steve also performs recurring roles on audio dramas including *Rex Rivetter, Private Eye,* and *October's Children*.

Get social with us!



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Ticket prices only cover a portion of production costs. Our members keep Coronado Playhouse operating! **Anyone can become a member.** Benefits include: free passes to shows, preferred seating, your name in show programs, newsletters, invitations to special events and voting rights to determine theatre productions and leadership.

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