

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE  
*presents...*

# Bus Stop

by William Inge  
directed by Lyle Tate

produced by special arrangements  
with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.



April 11, 12, 13 & 14 and April 18, 19, 20 & 21  
Playhouse on Main

# The Cast

Elma Duckworth .....	Vaughan Shearer
Grace Hoylard .....	Madeline Golden
Will Masters .....	Brian Hawkins
Cherie .....	Krista Wolf
Dr. Gerald Lyman.....	Kris Lee
Carl.....	Charles Campell
Virgil Blessing.....	Gabe Smith
Bo Decker .....	Jeff Mathews

## THE PLACE

The action of the play takes place in a street-corner diner in a small town about 30 miles west of Kansas City.

## TIME

March 1957

## ACT I

A night in early March. 1:00 a.m.

## ACT II

A few minutes later.

## ACT III

Early morning. About 5:00 a.m.

*There will be a 10-minute intermission between acts II and III.*

# Behind the Scenes

directed by Lyle Tate

assistant directed by Pattye Archer

Stage Manager .....	Tony Daniel
Properties/Assistant Stage Manager .....	Amanda Lopez
Lights and Sound Design .....	Thomas La Foe
Set Design .....	Lyle Tate and Tony Daniel
Set Construction .....	Mike Tate with Lyle Tate & Tony Daniel
Flooring Design .....	Tony Daniel
Set Decoration .....	Pattye Archer
Costumes .....	Tony Daniel & Cast
Poster Design .....	Jim Tomlinson
Box Office Manager .....	Marsha Williams
Opening Night Party .....	Angel Ray with Kimberly Hill
House Managers .....	Angela Ray, Molly and Andrew Watkins, Stephen Cunetto, Steven Mayo and Nita Hutchinson



# About the Cast

**Charles Campbell** (*Carl*) is a professor of economics at Mississippi State University. He has resided in Starkville since 1985 with his extremely understanding wife, Carol, and his sons Garth, Zeke, and Luke. Three years ago, he saw a newspaper article about SCT tryouts and has been here ever since. Since all of his theatre experience has been at SCT, he is terribly spoiled. He has previously appeared as Arthur Parker in The Haunting of Hill House, as the Judge in Night of January 16th, as Ernie Cusack in Rumors, as Albert in Dutch Treat, as Mathew Perry in A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody, and as Fred Abernathy in Divorce Southern Style. He is especially grateful for the great colleagues and warm audiences at SCT, the little playhouse waaaaay off Broadway.

**Madeline Golden** (*Grace*) comes to Bus Stop straight from SCT's successful run of The Foreigner and her award-winning performance at the 2002 Mississippi Theatre Association Festival in Exact Center of the Universe. She sends a huge thank you to Alice Carol Caldwell for leaving the country, creating an opening in the festival cast of Exact Center... Madeline was more than happy to step into the role of *Marybell* and, if pressed, is willing to share the award with A.C...but *only* if pressed! Life is good in the Office of Agricultural Communications at MSU and at home with kitty cats and puppy dogs. And it doesn't get any better than this: sharing live theater with cast, crew, and audience.

**Brian Hawkins** (*Will*) is making his fourth appearance on the SCT stage, having performed previously in the 1999, 2000 and 2001 summer musical revues. His performance as *Will Masters* in Bus Stop is his first role in a non-musical theatrical production. When not impersonating a law enforcement officer onstage, Brian works as managing editor of the *Starkville Daily News* and is active in other areas of the community. He thanks Lyle, Pattye, Tony, and the cast for their help and support and for making this show so much fun to do. He dedicates his performance to the memory of his late grandfather, Claud Hawkins, who died earlier this year.

**Kris Lee** (*Dr. Lyman*) has appeared in numerous productions such as Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, and Lost in Yonkers, among others. He has recently begun humbling work in film, having acquired two independent film credits to date: The Immaculate Reception (August 2001), and Wall-to-Wall (December 2001). The Immaculate Reception is due for release to selected film festivals in May 2002. He is tentatively scheduled to film entitled Shades of Paradise, which begins shooting in June 2002.

**Jeff Mathews** (*Bo*) is making his second appearance on the SCT stage. After getting his start as an arrogant actor in Smoke and Mirrors, Jeff decided to become one (just kidding). He is glad to be returning to SCT and has enjoyed working with the cast of Bus Stop. When not performing rope tricks, Jeff works as the bar manager at Old Venice Pizza Co. and attends school at Mississippi State University. A former MSU cheerleader, Jeff is a senior majoring in Communication, and he hopes to graduate “in a couple of a semesters.” His real-life “feeancy” is Erin Duncan, a future elementary education teacher. Jeff thanks Erin for her love and support and Old Venice for allowing him this opportunity.

**Vaughan Shearer** (*Elma*) is a freshman at Mississippi State University majoring in Communication with an emphasis in broadcasting. This is her first time on stage at Starkville Community Theatre, although her interest in the theatre sparked about eight years ago. She is very excited about her role in Bus Stop. She graduated from Jackson Preparatory School in Jackson, and while in high school, she participated in Guys and Dolls, Music Man, and All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten. Her favorite roles so far are as *June Sanders* in Smoke on the Mountain and as *Elsa* in Sound of Music. She sends thanks to Mom and Dad for their support while she juggled (most importantly) school and practice and a special thanks to the cast and crew for making this such an enjoyable experience! “I love y’all.”

**Gabe Smith** (*Virgil*) is a 20-year-old junior at Mississippi State University, where he is majoring in Communication with an emphasis in theatre. Gabe has been involved in numerous shows at MSU, both onstage and off-, including Streetcar Named Desire, The Man Who Came to Dinner, and The Classics Professor (for which he received an Irene Ryan Award nomination in the fall of 2001). Bus Stop marks his second involvement with SCT (he ran lights and sound for The Foreigner) but first appearance onstage at the Playhouse on Main. “I want to thank my parents for their continual support and understanding and for letting me waste my life in theatre. I’d like to thank my friends for their love and encouragement (even when I don’t particularly deserve it). It’s been a privilege working with such a talented cast, and I hope everyone enjoys the show.”

**Krista Wolf** (*Cherie*) is the news director for WMSV radio in Starkville and is the mother of two wonderful children, Peyton and Meghan. She loves working with the folks at SCT and is excited to be a part of Bus Stop. Krista’s stage credits include The Crucible, The Glass Menagerie, Last Night of Ballyhoo, Steel Magnolias, Sound of Music, as well as several industrial films. She hopes you all enjoy the performance and wishes to thank you all for your continued support of the arts in our community. A special note to Peyton, Meghan, and Marcus: “With you three in my corner, I feel like I have my own cheering section every day. Thank you for that. I couldn’t do it without you!!!”

# Special Thanks

Mike Tate

Cecil Simmons

David Hancock

Jeneanne Vowell

Wilson Boyd

Kevin Tate

Terry McDowell

Marianne Ulmer

Wayne Durst and Theatre MSU

Old Venice Pizza Co.

Angel Ray

Paul Ruff

Andrew and Molly Watkins

Jim Tomlinson

Brian Loden

Oktibbeha County Sheriff's Department

Shipley's Doughnuts

Harveys

Stuart Burleson

Chad Mask

Tom Daniel

Paula Mabry and the Starkville High School Theatre

Lisa Daniel

El Camino Mobile Homes & Gini's Attic

Joan and Robert Wilson



# From the Director...

Rather than my finding Bus Stop, this play really found me. Allana said to me many moons ago at the cabin, "You know, SCT should do Bus Stop." In searching for a fourth show for this season, I decided I might be ready to direct, so I took a chance, took a copy of Bus Stop home, read it, liked it, and the end product is what you'll see tonight. Over the months of preparation and the weeks of rehearsal, I've become quite attached to these characters and to the actors who bring them to life so well every night. My hope is that after spending this night with Bo, Cherie, and everyone else in Grace's Diner, you will feel the same.

Throughout this project, a number of people have been invaluable to me. Pattye, the goddess of stage dress that you are, again you prove to me that friendship knows no boundaries. Thank you for knowing how important you and your support are to me, even when I neglect to show it. Tony, how could I have made it without you? Thank you for staying one step ahead of me and for making sure I didn't settle for less than my best. Wherever you go, know that I am always your friend. Thank you Angel, Amanda, my Brian, Thomas, Wilson, Jim, and Marsha for handling details (big and small) so very skillfully. Molly and Andrew, you are two of my favorite people.

To Vaughan, Kris, Charley, Madeline, Krista, Jeff, Brian, and Gabe: thank you for working so hard, for making me look competent, and for reaffirming for me that one of life's most fulfilling places to be is in the theatre. EP, my soul's twin, I am thinking of you. Terry, always, thanks for your friendship. And to my Dad: without you, this project would have been far less magical and special for me. Bus Stop is as much yours as it is mine. Thank you for your hard work, your excitement, and your expertise and willingness to build my vision and to create such an amazing atmosphere for me and for all of us here. I owe you big-time (and a lot of fishing trips...). Love, L

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# Opening Night

Thank you for coming to our production of Bus Stop! For those of you reading this on opening night, please stay after the performance and join the cast and crew upstairs for champagne. The Opening Night Party is one of our favorite traditions here at the Playhouse on Main, and we want to invite all of you to take part. If you're here on any other night, thanks just as much!! But please remember and make plans to join us on opening night of our next production, not only for whatever fabulous production you'll be seeing, but for the champagne and merriment afterward!

## SCT OFFICERS

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Marsha Williams ~ Vice President

Pattye Archer ~ Vice President for Membership

Lyle Tate ~ Vice President for Play Selection

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