



PO Box #1498, Pawtucket RI 02862 | (401) 484-0355 | www.burbagetheatre.org
Jeff Church, *Artistic Director* | Allison Crews, *Executive Director*

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(401)484.0355, info@burbagetheatre.org

**Burbage Theatre Co announces the Rhode Island Premiere of
The School for Lies
by David Ives (Adapted from *The Misanthrope* by Molière) directed by Jeff Church**

PAWTUCKET, RI (Sept 3, 2019) - The Burbage Theatre Co announces the first production of their Ninth Season (2019-2020) with *The School for Lies* by David Ives (Adapted from *The Misanthrope* by Molière) directed by Jeff Church, running from September 26 to October 20 at **Burbage's new home in Pawtucket, 59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket, 02860.**

"We are thrilled," says Artistic Director Jeff Church, "After nine years of operating on the fringe, **we have our own home** in Pawtucket along the Blackstone River. We've put down roots and we're pulling out all the stops for the first show of our Ninth Season which opens in less than one month. **The overwhelming support of our audience made it possible for this to happen and we're so excited — we can't wait to share our new space and this play, which is a quintessentially Burbage production, with them. We are also very excited to become a member of the 59 Blackstone Community. We look forward to future partnership and collaboration with our neighbors.**

"Burbage is the foremost producer of David Ives's work in Rhode Island and with good reason. **So when considering which play would open our new space, this Rhode Island Premiere was a no-brainer,"** says Church. "As was exemplified by our highly acclaimed production of *Venus in Fur* in 2018 and *The Liar* in 2015, Ives's plays and adaptations strike the unique balance of being highly intelligent, wildly funny, and entirely accessible. *The School for Lies* is no exception. This play is hysterical, sexy, fast, relentlessly rhyming, and incredibly relevant. In today's world, where the litigious and politicians lie as easily as and as frequently as breathing and where actual honesty is often met with open hostility, *The School for Lies* shines a much needed and irreverent light. Join us as we open our new space at 59 Blackstone with *what Burbage does best.*"

The School for Lies runs from *September 26 to October 20* at 59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket RI.

Tickets are \$25 (General admission), \$15 (Students); Preview performances are \$15.
High school students receive free admission to any performance that isn't SOLD OUT.

Buy online at www.burbagetheatre.org.
For more information, email us at info@burbagetheatre.org or call (401)484-0355.

Members of the Press are invited to either of our PRESS Preview Performances.
See 'Calendar of Performances' below for specific Press Dates.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL FOR LIES

"A glittering tribute to Moliere"—*New York Times*

"A belly laughing theatrical feast." —*Chicago Critic*

It's 1666 and the widow Celimene, the host of the wittiest salon in Paris, is being sued for her sharp and satiric tongue. Surrounded by shallow suitors, whom she lives off of without surrendering to, Celimene has managed to evade love since her beloved husband died—until Frank shows up. A traveler known for his own coruscating wit and acidic misanthropy, Frank turns Celimene's world upside-down, taking on her suitors, matching her barb for barb. This wild farce of furious tempo and stunning verbal display, all in very contemporary couplets, runs variations on Molière's *The Misanthrope*, which inspired it. Another incomparable romp from the brilliant author of *All in the Timing*, *Venus in Fur*, and *The Liar*.

"...we are in prime-time rhyme time yet again with uber-clever playwright David Ives...slyly funny...an irreverent tribute to Moliere." —*Washington Post*

"...Ives' streamlined... plot, unstoppable couplets, and the infusion of mega-topical references blows [Le Misanthrope] wide open for today's audience." —*Metro Weekly*

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

THE SCHOOL FOR LIES

by David Ives, adapted from Molière's *Le Misanthrope*

directed by Jeff Church

CAST

Matthew Fagan, Acaste

Andrew Iacovelli, Dubois/Basque

James Lucey, Frank

Gabrielle McCauley, Eliante

Victor Neto, Phillinte

Richard Noble, Clitander

Vince Petronio, Oronte

Catia Ramos, Celimene

Valerie Westgate, Arsinoe

PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Management, Jessica Winward

Set Design, Andrew Iacovelli

Lighting Design, Jessica Winward

Costume Design, Jeff Church/Jessica Winward

Assistant Stage Management, Isaiah Gamboa

Assistant Stage Management, Katie Westgate

THE SCHOOL FOR LIES CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES

Thursday, September 26 at 8pm

Friday, September 27 at 8pm

Saturday, September 28 at 8pm **PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN/PRESS Preview**

Sunday, September 29 at 2pm **PRESS Preview**

Friday, October 4 at 8pm **OPENING PERFORMANCE**

Saturday, October 5 at 8pm

Sunday, October 6 at 2pm

Friday, October 11 at 8pm

Saturday, October 12 at 8pm

Sunday, October 13 at 2pm

Friday, October 18 at 8pm

Saturday, October 19 at 8pm

Sunday, October 20 at 2pm

ABOUT BURBAGE THEATRE CO

The Burbage Theatre Company strives to excite and engage a new generation of theatre-goer with socially relevant and compelling stories, both classic and contemporary, told by an inventive and expert ensemble of actors.

Burbage is dedicated to the growing and cultivating of the diverse artistic community in Rhode Island by providing affordable access to the performing arts and perpetuating a discourse about, not only content, but the actor's role as storyteller in today's world.

Burbage strives to foster a climate of purposeful inclusion of all people regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or national origin.