

# CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

## UWS's Theatre Department takes on 'Godspell'



Cast of Godspell rehearsing in Manion Theater on March 31.

Photo by Brendyn Otradovec | Promethean

**Baylee Nygard**  
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After months of hard work and determination, University of Wisconsin-Superior's Theatre department will debut their spring production, 'Godspell,' directed by Jessica Hughes to a wide audience! "We were drawn to 'Godspell' because it's an ensemble driven piece that is truly devised together in the room. It asks students to collaborate, generate material, and build the storytelling as a group, rather than simply stepping into predetermined roles," said director Jessica Hughes. "It creates a space for creativity, ownership, and a stronger sense of community within the cast."

'Godspell' follows Jesus

and his followers as they dance, act, and sing through parables from the Bible. In songs such as "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" and "Light of the World," each parable teaches a powerful moral—often about forgiveness, community, and kindness. "It shows how people can find hope even in their darkest moments," said Gage Schmidgall, a sophomore playing John the Baptist/Judas in the production of 'Godspell'

The UW-Superior Theatre production of 'Godspell' will look a slightly different from what is portrayed from other productions, so you don't want to miss it. "Ours is supposed to be set in like a post-apocalyptic abandoned theater," said

Schmidgall, "I think it's an interesting design." There also will be different bits in the show that explore the development of media and highlighting the change of communication and technology. "We have one parable that takes place in like Shakespearean times... then, we do like a Wild West bit and a 1920s radio hour bit," Said Schmidgall, "it just slowly continues to grow... I think it's a really interesting and fun show... I'm just hoping that they (audience) get some entertainment, get some hope, get some fun out of it and get a song stuck in their head."

UW-Superior's 'Godspell' will open their doors on April 10, and will perform on April 11, 15, and 16 at 7p.m. as well as matinee shows on the April 12 and 18. "This production is a great example of what the UWS theatre department values: student-driven storytelling. It's also a fun, energetic show that's full of some of the catchiest songs in musical theatre," said Hughes. "We are excited to share something that feels both joyful and grounded in connection." Tickets are sold online or at the box office before the show.



From left to right: Gage Schmidgall, Dorian Ackman, Jenny Ostazeski, Chris Teeters, Chris Peterson. Everyone joining Jenny as she sings.

Photo by Brendyn Otradovec | Promethean

## Choral collaboration celebrates American history

**Emily Tews**  
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For America's semiquincentennial coming up, two local Twin Ports Choirs came together to collaborate and share music in Thorpe Langley Auditorium to put on "American Voices: Celebrating 250 Years of American Choral Music" on March 19.

The event featured University of Wisconsin-Superior's Choir Program, along with Lake Superior College's Concert Choir.

Both collaborating choir directors shared how much the event was truly a good time for everyone involved. Dr. Michael Fuchs, UW-Superior's director of choral activities shared that "it was just so much fun, you know?"

LSC's choir director Cal Metts shared that "it was an honor and a thrill... it was wonderful to be sort of welcomed into a more established chorale tradition here



Calland Metts director of LSC Concert Choir in Thorpe Langley Auditorium on March 19.

Photo by Emily Tews | Promethean

at UWS and be welcomed so beautifully."

"It was just so much fun seeing it all come together tonight, and having LSC here, and the energy and sharing our music with more people is just a joy," Fuchs said. He continued by saying that he "was just thrilled with the quality throughout."

Metts shared why he thought the event and its music choices were important for Americans celebrat-

ing their country's history.

"It's important to look at all the selections that were made for tonight and to celebrate American choral music, but also the tricky parts of our American history that can be experienced and shared through music," Metts said. "and Dr. Fuchs is a master at programming very important pieces that need to be heard as we tell our story and our history of this country through music."

## REVIEW: BJ's movie reviews - "Kung Fury" (2015)

**BJ Beathard**  
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"Kung Fury" is the story of a 1985 Miami police officer who becomes the chosen one, Kung Fury, when he is simultaneously struck by lightning and bitten by a cobra. The titular character uses his newfound mystical martial arts powers to become "the greatest cop in the world".

I suspect the writer, director, and star of "Kung Fury," David Sandberg, secretly read my journal from when I was 10 years old. Sandberg then decided to make the greatest movie ever, with every action fantasy a 10-year-old boy could have. Don't make that last line weird.

"Kung Fury" is a story-telling masterpiece, with amazing visuals, that features all of the following: Lamborghini driving, a killer robotic arcade machine, Triceracop (a British talking dinosaur cop), battling Hitler, time travel, Laser-Raptors (literally exactly what they sound like), a pair of viking ladies with machine guns (one of which rides a giant wolf while the other rides a T-Rex), amazing quips ("Tank you"), cartoon snakes riding flying waverunners... Hang on a sec, I gotta catch my breath... Did I mention that the production company is named "Laser Unicorns"? There's



Kung Fury (2015) Movie poster retrieved March 8. Photo from IMDB

even a David Hasselhoff cameo and enough glorious 80's synthpop to keep anyone happy.

The movie has a runtime of 31 minutes, which I assume is because audiences couldn't handle any more awesomeness in one sitting. The average human can only take so much excitement until their heart explodes. Maybe not, I don't know, I'm not a doctor.

"Kung Fury" is available free on YouTube and you should definitely join the 40 million-plus people who have checked it out. Normally I'd mention any complaints or negatives about the movie, but there are zero here.

Is "Kung Fury" the greatest movie ever? Undeniably yes, without question, at least to 10 year old me. Adult-me adores it as well. I give "Kung Fury" 5 out of 5 Laser-Raptors.



Combined UWS and LSC Concert Choirs in Thorpe Langley Auditorium on Mar. 19.

Photo by Emily Tews | Promethean



UWS Chorale and Singers in Thorpe Langley Auditorium on March 19.

Photo by Emily Tews | Promethean



Michael Fuchs, director of UWS Chorale and Singers in Thorpe Langley Auditorium on March 19.

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