

# A-State Theatre presents "Noises Off"

LAILA CASIANO

STAFF WRITER

The Arkansas State University Department of Theatre is presenting "Noises Off," a play within a play about a traveling theater company putting on a British farce called "Nothing On."

It follows the events and lives of these characters within their rehearsals and shows. Their relationship developments and power dynamics lead to a funny drama with built-up chaos.

Dallas Martinez, director of the Fowler Center, is directing "Noises Off."

"For every show, a director usually comes up with a director's concept and it's usually centered around a metaphor," Martinez said. "Within those confines, it's supposed to be open enough for the designers to have their own artistic say."

Martinez's concept, "chaotic symphony," delves into the idea of unifying all aspects of the production, including costumes, lighting and sound, into one.

"I provided a playlist of symphonies that sound like they're tuning or they're coming apart, but then eventually they make something beautiful as they play," Martinez said. "I saw this show with all these many different parts that just seem to be going awry yet still somehow makes a whole."

Caisa Sanburg, associate professor of

theatre, is responsible for the lighting and sound designs for the production.

"I think my role is less to create aspects of the chaotic symphony myself and more to leave room for Dallas's chaotic symphony," Sanburg said. "If I'm chaotic with lighting and sound and then costumes are chaotic and then sets chaotic and acting's chaotic, then nobody knows where to look or what to do. My job in this show is to make room for that."

Emily Province, a junior musical theatre major from Searcy, Arkansas, serves as the stage manager for the upcoming production.

Province said her role as stage manager is to support the cast and director. This includes calling light cues, instructing onstage crew on what their objectives are and managing what is happening backstage.

Province said the characters use humor to explore real-world problems.

"You can see that these problems are very real to these people even though they might seem kind of silly in our eyes," Province said.

Michael Joseph, a senior theatre arts major with an emphasis in musical theatre from Sikeston, Missouri, plays the role of Gary, who plays the role of Roger Trembleman in "Nothing On."

"Gary is full of hot air and he's sort of everyone's actor," Joseph said. "He's the most



Photo by Laila Casiano | Staff Writer

The cast of "Noises Off" practicing at a dress rehearsal.

serious and at the same time, completely full of himself."

When discussing how Gary's wardrobe will play a significant role in this production, Joseph shared that the audience never sees Gary in his "everyday attire," only seeing Gary in his costume for Roger.

"I think that's interesting because it kind of delineates

who the actors are," Joseph said. "It shows what this whole production is showing, the two sides of theater. The actors you see on stage but then there's all this craziness happening backstage that a lot of people don't see."

Joseph said everyone is important in this show. "It's the understanding of

when people come on and when people need to come up. The sense of togetherness is what makes the show really special," Joseph said.

Martinez said he hopes the audience will have a great time and enjoy the experience.

"I'm just really excited for the audience to take this journey and to laugh and to feel the

energy," Martinez said. "We're at a point where we need people out here just giggling at the simplest things. People falling over does that sort of thing."

"Noises Off" will be performed in the Drama Theatre in the Fowler Center, Nov. 10-11 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 17-18 at 7:30 p.m.

## "You've Lost that Lovin' Feelin'" about Elvis after watching "Priscilla"

LUCKY GILMORE

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

"Priscilla," a chilling biographical drama, takes a deep dive into the darker nature of Elvis and Priscilla Presley's relationship. Directed by Sofia Coppola, the movie is based on Priscilla's 1985 memoir "Elvis and Me."

As someone who has never had a particular interest in Elvis Presley, I went into this movie with only the knowledge I acquired from 2022's "Elvis." I had no idea I was signing up to watch the tumultuous relationship between Elvis and Priscilla unfold in this movie.

I would like to stress the importance of the age gap, a major focus of this movie, as it severely impacted me and how I viewed every interaction between Elvis and Priscilla.

The first time they meet, Elvis learns of Priscilla's age, which was 14 at the time, and proceeds to say, "It's time to get you home, little one." He should have replied, "Please never come around me again, you are a child," which would end the movie and their relationship.

Immediately after watching the first 20 minutes of this movie, I knew it was going to be a hard one to watch. The abuse shown toward Priscilla quickly

escalates, which anyone with sense could have seen coming.

Reminder, she was 17 at the time her parents allowed her to move to Graceland by herself. In my humble opinion, that makes her parents the villains in the story.

Throughout the movie, copious amounts of abuse were shown throughout the entirety of the relationship, although a specific instance stuck with me. Elvis, while on a movie set leaving Priscilla home alone, doesn't allow her to hold a part-time job as he says, "It's either me or a career baby, I need you to be able to answer anytime I call." I let out an audible gasp when this man let those words leave his mouth.

Eventually, we get to the part of Elvis' career when he is touring and starring in movies, which is when Priscilla becomes pregnant with Lisa Marie. I think at this point, I was feeling the hope that Priscilla was feeling that maybe a baby would make it better.

Needless to say, we both should have known better. Elvis continued to be abusive and unfaithful in their marriage. At this point, I'm just hoping we're close to the part where she leaves him. Thankfully, we were.

Nearing the end of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLING STONE

Jacob Elordi (left) and Cailee Spaeny (right) in "Priscilla."

movie, we see Priscilla finally at a happy point living in L.A. with baby Lisa Marie and I am finally able to feel some relief for her. Just as I thought the worst was over, we got to the end.

Elvis calls Priscilla to meet him at his hotel after a show, to which she obliges. I wished I could telepathically communicate with her through the movie screen to not go. Elvis proceeds to attempt to sexually assault Priscilla and she finally decides at that moment to divorce him.

I did not enjoy how the movie ended in the middle of a climactic part of the story. The last scene is her telling

Elvis she wants to divorce him, to which she packs her bags and leaves Graceland.

Then it ends, that's it, leaving me wondering what happened next. What did she do during the time Elvis was still alive and they were co-parenting? All my questions were left unanswered.

I enjoyed this movie and the impact it is having on who people thought Elvis was. This showcased the darker side of his personality and the effect it had on the ones closest to him.

This movie is not catered to those who choose to idolize Elvis, as it does paint him in an unflattering light. As for me, a self-proclaimed non-Elvis

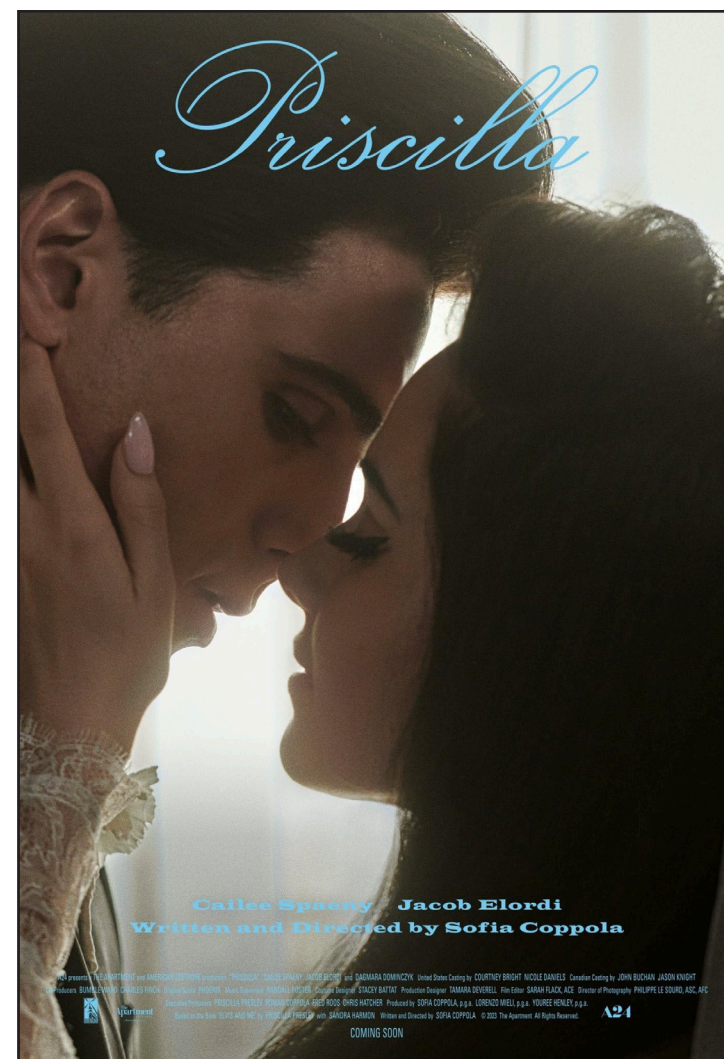


PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

Poster for "Priscilla"

fan, I loved it and the realism it brings to celebrities who are held to such high standards.

**Final Score: 7/10**

(for a guide on how The Herald grades its reviews, visit [astatetheherald.com](http://astatetheherald.com)).

## Lit'l Bita Christmas brings Christmas spirit to A-State

RACHEL RUDD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I got to spend my Friday afternoon getting in the Christmas spirit and admiring local businesses at the 37th annual Lit'l Bita Christmas craft show.

If you've never been to Lit'l Bita Christmas, all I can tell you to do is prepare yourself and your wallet. It takes up the entire First National Bank Arena, with the top and bottom floors crammed full of unique vendors and equally unique items.

I arrived right at 12 p.m., when the event was first starting up. Even then, the arena was packed with people. For anyone wanting to do this next year, I recommend trying to get there right as it opens. The lines move pretty fast and on the first day, students get in free with an Arkansas State University ID.

Despite how big the show is, it never feels like you have to rush through it. The vendors were all friendly and were more than willing to explain pieces of merchandise. Some even offered to customize certain items such as Christmas ornaments.

In fact, I walked away with a customized dinosaur ornament and I can't wait to

put it on my Christmas tree.

If you want to do some Christmas shopping early, this is definitely the place to do it. I found a Red Wolf Christmas ornament and some Red Wolf coasters for my mom and I can't wait to see her reaction when she opens them (it's not like she was right next to me when I bought them or anything).

Even if you don't come away with any gifts, at the very least it's a good place to pick up some stocking stuffers or some sweet treats.

Now, when I came to this event, I was hoping to find some good shark items (as I love sharks), but I did not find much of anything. While this was disappointing, I will not be removing a point from my final score. Just as I cannot control the weather, I cannot control the presence of sharks at Lit'l Bita Christmas.

A fair warning to anyone going next year, some items can be very expensive. I had to walk away from a super cute Pink Floyd sweatshirt and some cool geodes just because they weren't in my budget.

However, as long as you keep looking, you'll be sure to find something that fits both your budget and your style.



The booths at Lit'l Bita Christmas.

Photo by Rebecca Worthington | Photo Editor

For about \$8, I picked up some Goldfish Crackers earrings (that I might be wearing as I'm writing this). I picked up some cute video game socks, also \$8 and a little frog statue for my

desk for, you guessed it, \$8. The atmosphere of the event was great. A local choir was singing Christmas carols and whenever they weren't singing, Christmas music

played over the speakers. Overall, everyone should experience this event at least once and I recommend going with friends or family. You can bet money I will

be going back next year. **Final Score: 8/10** (for a guide on how The Herald scores its reviews, visit [astatetheherald.com](http://astatetheherald.com)).

### Q&A with U-Hall Elevator Haters

CAROLINE AVERITT  
LIFE EDITOR

An Arkansas State University student created a new Instagram account

last week to promote student safety in elevators at University Hall.

Jalynn Hammock, a first-year social work major from Steele, Missouri, runs [@uhallelevatorhaters](https://www.instagram.com/uhallelevatorhaters).

**Q: What made you start U-Hall Elevator Haters?**

**A:** I started The UHEH mainly for a class project on persuasion. I decided to have a little fun with the freedom of being able to pick how I wanted to present my argument.

**Q: Do you live in U-Hall?**

**A:** I do!

**Q: Have you had any personal bad experiences with U-Hall elevators? What was it?**

**A:** I have. Personally, I get spooked when the elevator takes off before the door closes and the noises it makes.

**Q: Do you plan to talk about other dorms or buildings on campus?**

**A:** I do plan on talking about other buildings and dorms.

**Q: What do you think students should know about elevator safety?**

**A:** I think students should definitely know what to do if an elevator does break down. I've reshared a TikTok on my page on that.

**Q: What do you hope to accomplish with this account?**

**A:** I hope to accomplish getting the elevators in date at the least. Other than that, just here for fun!



PHOTO COURTESY OF JALYNN HAMMOCK  
Jalynn Hammock, a first-year social work major from Steele, Missouri, runs [@uhallelevatorhaters](https://www.instagram.com/uhallelevatorhaters).



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF JALYNN HAMMOCK  
The logo for U-Hall Elevator Haters

## Leftover Halloween candy cookie recipe

RACHEL RUDD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LUCKY GILMORE

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

As the Halloween season comes to a close and people begin to gear up for Thanksgiving and Christmas, one question weighs heavily on people's minds: what do I do with all my leftover Halloween candy?

Never fear, for I have a delicious and easy cookie recipe that will be sure to use up all your old candy (if you haven't eaten it already).



COURTESY OF THE RIVER REPORTER

Leftover Halloween candy cookies

- Utensils:**
- Ice cream scooper
  - Large mixing bowl
  - Rubber spatula
  - Parchment paper
  - Cookie sheet
  - Wire cooling rack
- Ingredients:**
- 1 15.25 oz. box of chocolate cake mix
  - 2 eggs
  - ½ vegetable oil
  - 1 cup chopped candies of your choice (preferably chocolate candies, but you can use whatever you'd like)
- Directions:**
1. Start with collecting all needed utensils and ingredients.
  2. Then, make sure

3. While waiting for your oven to finish preheating you will want to begin creating the cooking dough. First, grab your large mixing bowl and mix together your chocolate cake mix, two eggs and vegetable oil.
4. Once the dough is fully mixed together and has a smooth consistency, add in your chopped Halloween candy.
5. After the candy has been fully incorporated, start scooping out two tablespoons of cookie dough.
6. Form your individual balls of cookie dough onto your cookie sheet. To keep your cookies

7. from sticking to the pan, add butter or some form of grease, although parchment paper will work as well.
7. Once the oven has finished preheating, put your cookies in the oven.
8. Let them bake for 10 minutes. Once fully cooked, remove them from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool.
9. A tip for checking the readiness of your cookies is poking a toothpick in the center. If nothing sticks to the toothpick, your cookies are fully baked. You are then ready to enjoy a delicious sweet treat and not have any waste from your Halloween adventures!