26/27 USC School of Dramatic Arts

presents

This Is Our Youth

by Kenneth Lonergan

Directed by Susan Dalian

McClintock Theatre

October 29–November 1, 2026

USC School of Dramatic Arts presents

This Is Our Youth

by **Kenneth Lonergan**

With

Jonathan Burt **Tess Lovell** **Oscar Rudecindo**

Scenic Design
Tom Buderwitz

Costume Design
Sophia April Grose
BFA Theatrical Design '23

Lighting Design
Anthony Tapia

Production Stage Manager
Lauren Robertson Collins
BA Dramatic Arts Junior

Directed by Susan Dalian

McClintock Theatre October 29–November 1, 2026

World Premiere originally presented by The Group
Scott Elliott, Artistic Director; Claudia Catania, Executive Producer
Produced by Second Stage Theatre Carole Rothman, Artistic Director;
Carol Fishman, Managing Director; Alexander Fraser, Executive Director
Subsequently produced Off-Broadway by Barry and Fran Weissler and Eric Krebs.

THIS IS OUR YOUTH is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Dramatists Play Service. www.concordtheatricals.com

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CAST (In alphabetical order)



Jonathan Burt *He/Him*
Warren
MFA Acting Year 2



Tess Lovell *She/Her*
Jessica
MFA Acting Year 2



Oscar Rudecindo *He/Him*
Dennis
MFA Acting Year 2

This performance contains a 15-minute intermission.

CONTENT WARNING Please be advised that this production includes depictions of emotional abuse, and also includes discussions of death, abusive family dynamics, as well as frequent references to drug use and intoxication. The production contains derogatory language directed toward groups of individuals, as well as casual misogyny and outdated gender and social norms.

ADDITIONAL *THIS IS OUR YOUTH* PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Director **Ella Seong** | *Fight Choreography* **Jamie Cline**
Intimacy Consultant **Joy DeMichelle** | *Production Deputy* **Tess Lovell**
Assistant Stage Manager **Valencia Miller** | *Production Manager* **Anthony Tapia**
Stage Management Mentor **Miriam Mendoza** | *Wardrobe Supervisor* **Yuree Son**
Technical Crew **Gigi Chaney, Himani Jamwal, Olivia Liu, Arjun Sen, Ella Seong, Joshua Yi**

SPECIAL THANKS: Lawrence Faljean Hair

When this play premiered in 1996, critics recognized it as a sharp, funny, and deeply insightful portrait of privileged young people trying—and often failing—to figure out who they are. The play takes place in March 1982, the dawn of "Reaganomics," when the country experienced a shift in politics, economics, and ideas about the role of government through tax cuts, deregulation, reduced government spending, and increased military spending while the nation was moving through a serious recession.

Dennis, Warren, and Jessica are Upper West Side New York City kids on the brink of adulthood. With privilege, education, and plenty of opinions, we meet them caught between the world they grew up in and the adults they are supposed to become. Lonergan captures that limbo with a relentless combination of humor, cruelty, tenderness, and absurdity.

It's easy to judge them as selfish, manipulative, entitled, and spectacularly unaware of themselves, but Lonergan goes beyond judgment. Beneath that behavior is something more vulnerable: three young people who don't yet know how to make sense of themselves or the world around them.

Maybe you won't see yourself in these characters. Maybe you'll recognize someone you know. Or maybe, underneath their bad decisions and ridiculous behavior, you'll recognize something human—that part of all of us still trying to figure out who we are, faults and all. ■

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Scenic Charge Artist Jazmin Lopez
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LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

USC is built on the unceded land of the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people. We at SDA acknowledge and honor the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people/communities and wish to amplify that they are still here. We encourage everyone to find out whose ancestral land you live on and commit to our shared responsibility to be agents of change, and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization and allyship.

The most exuberant love letter to musical theatre ever written.

The Drowsy Chaperone

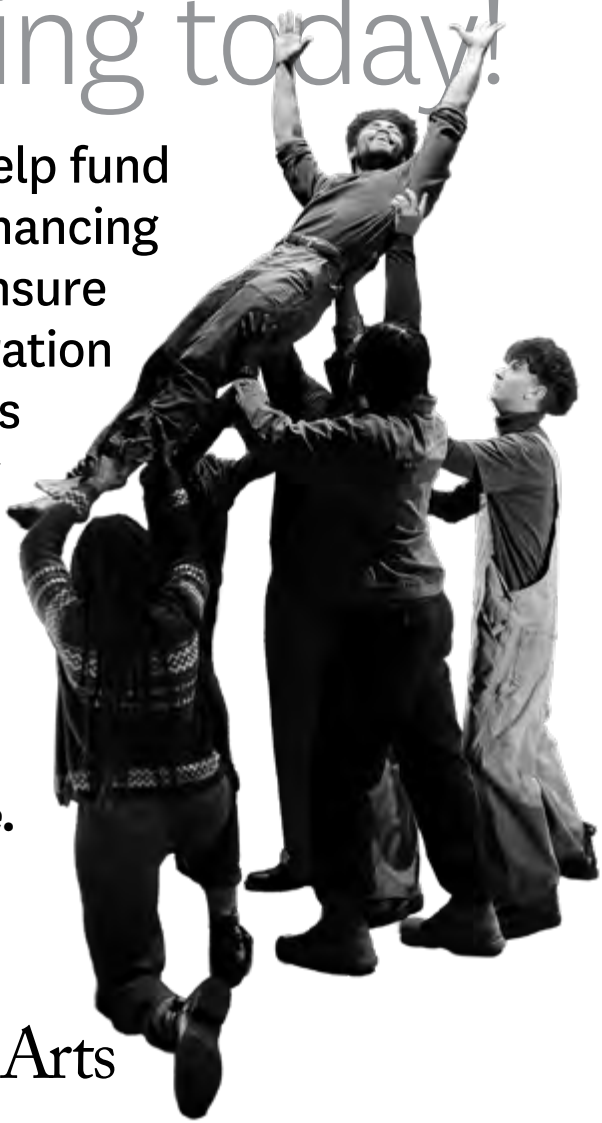


The Drowsy Chaperone
Music & Lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison
Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar
Bing Theatre | Nov 5-8, 2026

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