

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, 45,979 Americans committed suicide in 2020. This means that over 40,000 important lives were lost and over 40,000 families and loved ones were left to cope with the grief that follows such a devastating tragedy.

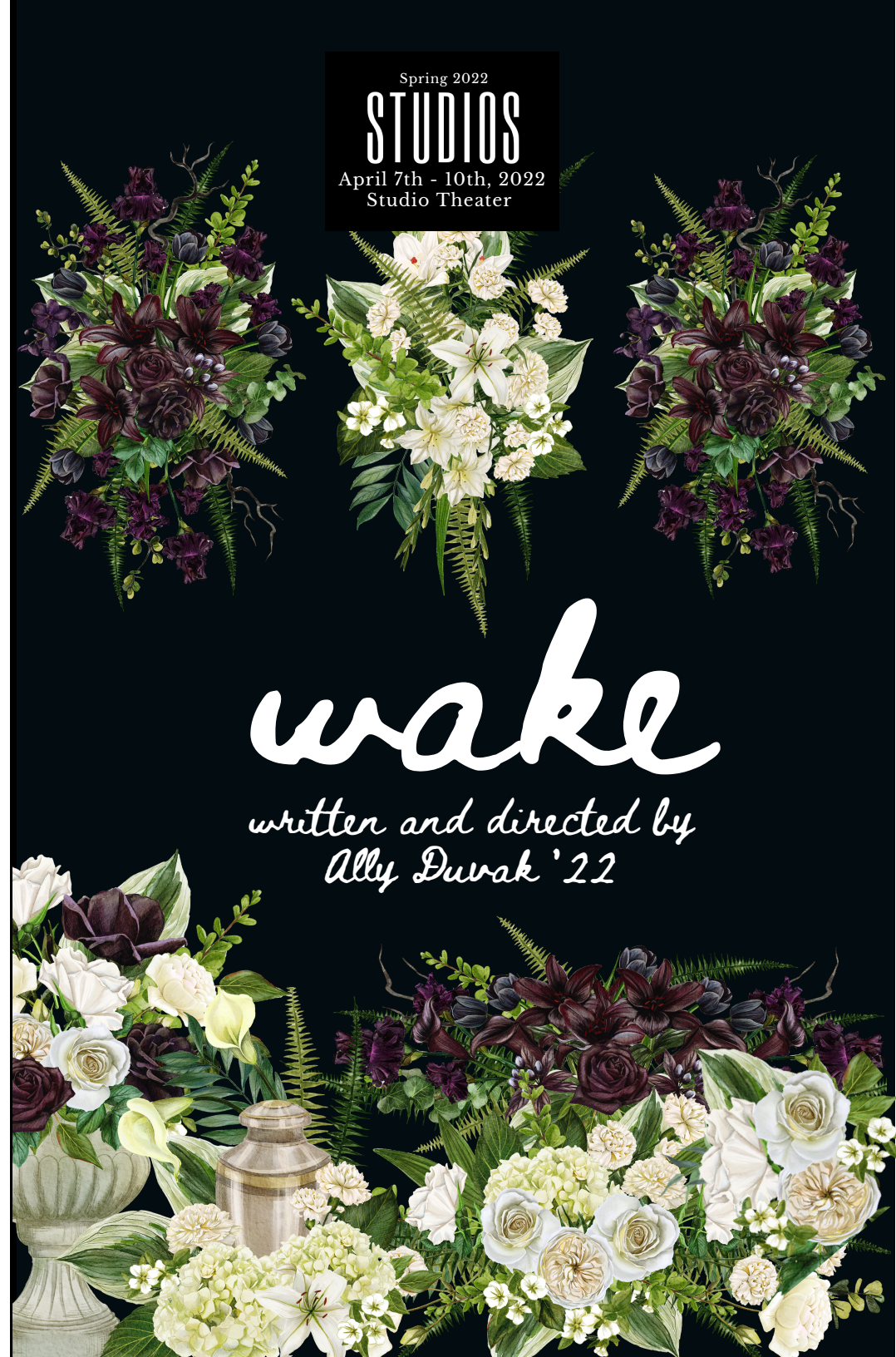
If someone comes to you expressing suicidal thoughts, take the following steps as recommended by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention:

1. **Take the person seriously.**
2. **Stay with them.** Even if you are only able to contact them over the phone, maintaining contact can decrease the likelihood of suicidal behavior.
3. **Remove their access to lethal means.** A temporary moment of intense pain and hopelessness can generate impulsive suicidal behavior. Limiting access to lethal means like weapons can help to save a life.
4. **Contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.** They can be reached by phone at 1-800-273-8255 or via text by texting 'TALK' to 741741. Help is available 24/7.
5. **Escort them to mental health services or an emergency room.**

And if you are experiencing these thoughts yourself, treat yourself like you would treat someone else who needs your help. Contact the Lifeline, seek mental health treatment, or tell your clinician about your suicidal thinking.

In short, know that even if it feels like it, you are not alone. Simply reaching out to someone and starting the conversation could save your life.

To learn more, visit afsp.org.



CONTENT: *References to suicide, depression, staged drug use, profanity, flashing lights*

Director/Author's Note

In my opinion, ghost stories are love stories. More often than not, the spirit in question cannot leave this world because of love. Or is fought off in the name of love. Or lives on in memory thanks to love. This story is no exception.

At first, Wake was just a writing exercise for me in a genre that I had never written before (plays), testing the waters of a genre that I have always loved (ghost stories). But after going through in-class workshops, an online public presentation, a production in the Red Doors, and rehearsals for its Studios iteration, the play has blossomed into so much more. In its latest form, Wake is an ode to the friendships that shape us, an examination of life after loss, and a reminder to tell people that you love them while you still have the chance.

I am so proud of how far this play has come. Bringing this story to life with this group of people has been such an exciting opportunity. After two years away from live theatre, it is thrilling to be back.

Thank you for joining us! Enjoy the show.

-Ally Duvak

Cast & Crew

Jo..... Cailyn Murray
April..... Piper Ackerman
Phoebe..... Alex Goldman

Director/Playwright..... Ally Duvak
Stage Manager..... Leanna Niesen
Costume Designer/Lighting Designer..... Bri Ramberg
Scenic Designer..... Kira Wiener
Sound Designer..... Susa List

**For more
information about
this show and full
cast bios, scan this
QR code:**



Featuring

Ally Duvak (Playwright/Director) is an English major with minors in Creative Writing and French & Francophone Studies. When she's not writing plays, she's writing and editing for The Muhlenberg Weekly, writing for her classes, or just writing for fun. She writes a lot. Wake was her first-ever foray into playwriting – she hopes and plans to continue in the future! Other Muhlenberg directing credits include Still Growing Up (New Voices / New Visions) and Wake (Red Door Play Festival).

Susa List (Sound Designer) is a Media-Communications and Political Science double major with a minor in German Studies. Previous credits include: Stage Manager: A Marriage Proposal (Studio Production); An Experiment (Fish Project Play Festival); and Far Away (Fish Project Play Festival); Sound Designer: An Experiment; Far Away; and Scared Silly (Studio Production) Outside of Muhlenberg theatre Susa is also a campus delegate, tutor, and member of Berg Production.

Bri Ramberg (Lighting Designer and Costume Designer) As a high school theatre major, Bri spent her time focusing on theatrical leadership in technical theatre and directing, namely as the director of Qui Nguyen's She Kills Monsters: Young Adventurers Edition. At Muhlenberg, they were the scenic, lighting and sound designer for Charles Busch's Vampire Lesbians of Sodom in the Fish Project Play Festival (Fall 2020) and was the director of Things People Say in the Red Door Festival (Fall 2021).

Kira Wiener (Scenic Designer) recently wrote and directed a play for the New Play Reading Series at Muhlenberg. Favorite pre-Muhlenberg credits include The Theory of Relativity (Catherine and scenic design), Legally Blonde (Ensemble and scenic design), and Plants and Other Growing Things (playwright). Kira plans to major in environmental science, but take some technical theater classes for fun.

Featuring

Isabelle Peters (Makeup Designer) This is Isabelle's second time working on makeup for Wake, as well as her second time participating in MTA Studios! She performed in Scared Silly last semester and has also participated in the New Play Reading Series and the Red Door Play Festival. She is a new member of the Muhlenberg Chaimonics and is double majoring in Theatre and Media and Communications.

Leanna Niesen (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working on this show again, after stage managing the Red Doors production in the fall. Most recently, they stage managed Earl Mosley's Unconquered. Before that, they assistant stage managed Call Me By Any Other Name... Just As Sweet, and last year's virtual production of Magic. Outside of Muhlenberg, they act as the Production Manager for The Virtual Theatre Co., a non-profit theatre company which seeks to increase accessibility in the arts.

Cailyn Murray (Jo) This is Cailyn's first time appearing in a studio production at Muhlenberg. They previously appeared in The Saint Plays last semester where she played Judas Iscariot. Favorite past credits include Josephine in Big Fish and Judy in A Chorus Line (The Theatre Lab). Cailyn is a theatre major with an acting concentration who is graduating next fall, and they are also a member of the Muhlenberg Circus.

Alex Goldman (Phoebe) appeared in Dandelions, 10X10 (the Decameron), and Muhlenberg's En Route Site-Responsive Festival last spring. Alex is a Media and Communications and Theatre double-major, music director of Coda a cappella, and president of Songsycle.

Featuring

Piper Ackerman (April) is a theater and media and communications double major. She is a member of Alpha Chi Omega and works as a campus tutor. Piper was most recently in The Vagina Monologues produced by Muhlenberg's Feminist Collective. Other Muhlenberg credits include Comment Is Free, Vampire Lesbians of Sodom, and Guest Speaker written by Joey Marcacci. Piper plans to study abroad in Italy with the Accademia Dell'Arte theater program.

We would like to recognize that the cast and creative team of this production is predominately white. The MTA continues to actively work to expand our application pool and programming in order to better represent the Muhlenberg community.

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A Message from the Studios Coordinator

When I was asked to be Studios Coordinator for this season, I had no idea what I was in for. As a sophomore coming out of the thick of the pandemic on campus, I was just beginning to learn how live theatre operated, let alone how to operate it myself. In these last four months, however, I not only discovered what live theatre at Muhlenberg was, but I also rediscovered what theatre really meant to me. I learned as I went along, and the more that I learned, the more I remembered why I loved Theatre in the first place. The dedication I have seen from everyone with a hand on deck has been no less than inspiring, and I am so grateful to have worked with such amazing and talented people in order to make Studios happen this semester. I would be remiss not to thank my Studios team for holding my hand and cheering for our small victories. Allison, Gabi, Hannah, and of course our MTA President Elizabeth, I could not have done any of this without you. I also want to thank my assistant Kyle for tying my loose ends, our Studios Advisors Beth Schachter and Nigel Semaj for providing invaluable mentorship for our directors, Jim Peck for supporting me in my new position, and Jess Bien for being there for me every step of the way. Directors, stage managers, designers, and actors, thank you for all of your hard work and commitment to your projects. I am so proud of every single one of us involved in this process, and I can only hope our audiences can be proud of us too.

Sincerely, your Studios Coordinator,
Rachelle