

11.18.16 @ 7pm
in the Leon High Auditorium
Leon's Advanced Theatre Class Presents...

Sophocles'
ANTIGONE

Adapted by Bonnie Roberts

...As soon as the generals and the politicians
can predict the motions of your mind,
lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.
Practice resurrection.

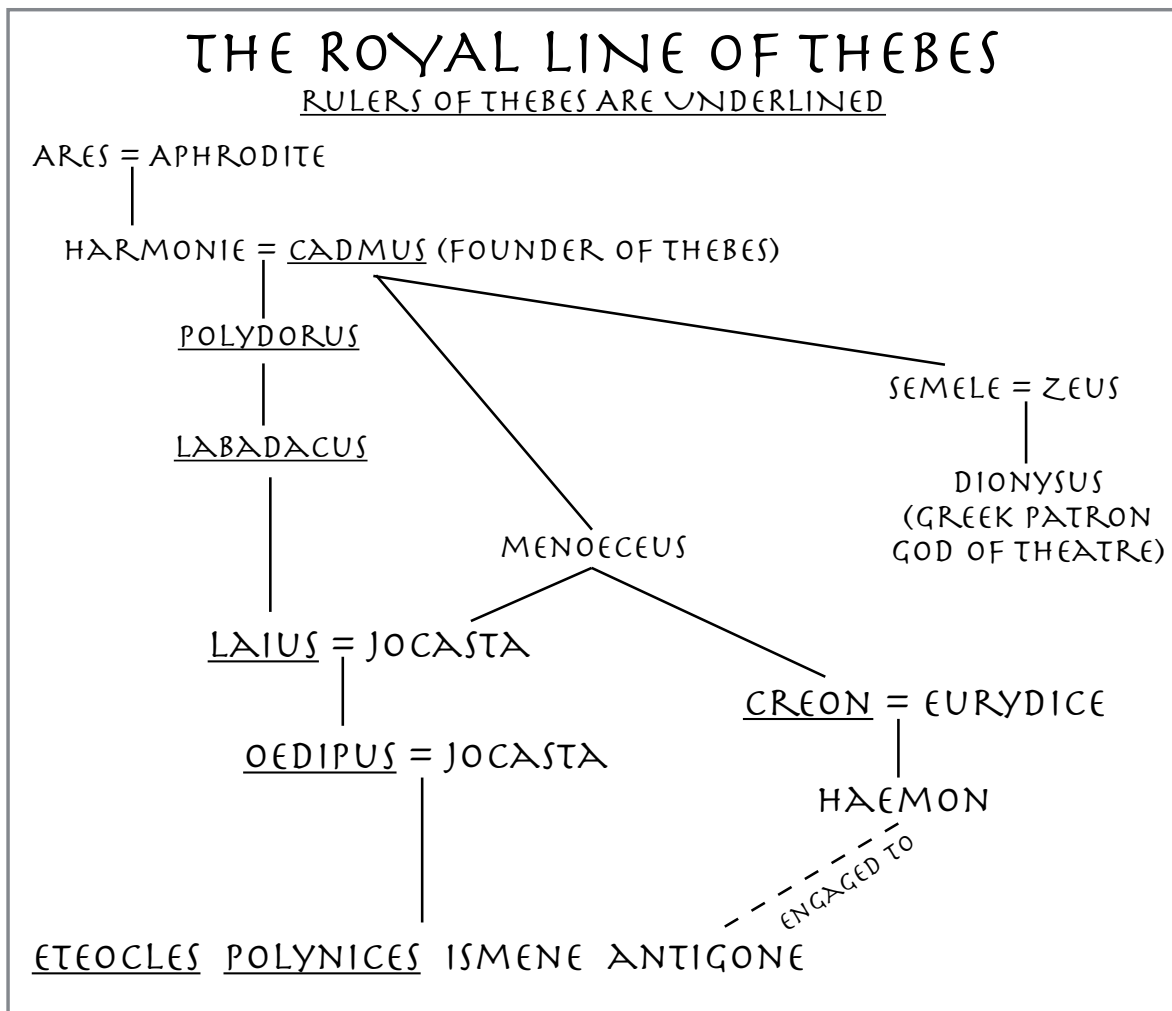
By Wendell Berry
from *Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front*

A country divided. A new and controversial leader takes office. Minutes into his rule, voices scream from every side of the debate. Will actions and reactions bring peace or more discord? Watch closely, for this is not just the timeless Greek Tragedy of Antigone, this is our world, our political system, on this very day.

In our version The Greek Chorus are not bystanders, but involved human entities hoping to influence the outcome. They speak directly to the timeless characters of Antigone and to the audience. They represent the real people invested in the peace and prosperity of their beloved country. They are you, and me. They are us.

There are no heroes and no villains on this stage. There are only individuals who face difficult choices. Should I do what I feel is right? Do I risk following my conscience? Do I react in fear? Or do I act in love?

There are also no clear answers here. There is only the reality of anger coming from fear leading to reactions and the idea that perhaps love can bring an action, a sacrifice, that is greater than fear and anger.



Kate Sander
ANTIGONE

"I must bury
my brother."



Caitlyn Burke
CHORUS
ANTIGONE

"Will you
refuse the
responsibility
of making a
decision, of
taking action?"



Ben Miller
CREON

"I must take
control and
stop this
madness."

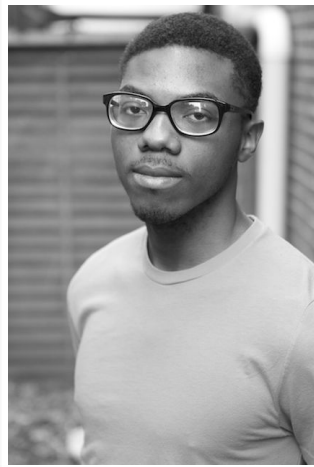
James Hayes
CHORUS
CREON

"Are you willing
to die for your
actions?"



Jaylyn Williams
HAEMON

"I must
convince my
father to see
reason."



Amanda Barker
CHORUS
HAEMON

"What if your
life was in
danger because
of a decision
you made; an
action you
decided to
take?"



Malori Wallace
ISMENE

"I must
protect
Antigone ... and
myself."

Jessica Johnson
CHORUS
ISMENE

"What if your
family & friends
begged you to
change your
mind, begged you
to be silent,
be safe?"



Nate Caldwell
TEIRESIAS

"I must help
others see the
truth."



Kelsey Gilmore
CHORUS
TEIRESIAS

"What if your
beliefs put you
in conflict with
the laws of the
land?"



Juliette
Pfeiffer
EURYDICE

"I must love
my husband
and my son."

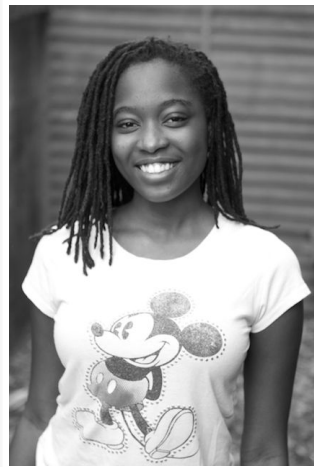
Imani Thomas
CHORUS
EURYDICE

"What if
everyone refused
to understand
your decisions,
your actions?"



Zira Brown
HOPLON

"I must
follow orders."



Erika
Fornero-Monia
CHORUS
HOPLON

"What if you
were in danger
for following
orders?"

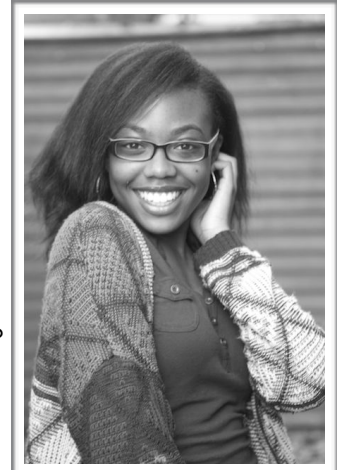


Tait Treadwell
AGGELLOS

"I must
report the
tragedy I have
seen."

Jordyn Berrian
CHORUS
AGGELLOS

"What would
happen if we
all stopped
and listened to
each other?"





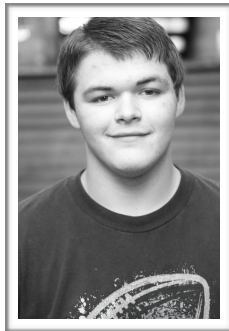
Sean Terlikkis
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



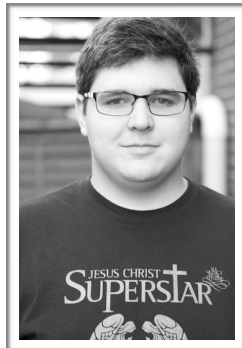
Ajzonee Williams
STAGE MANAGER



COSTUMES
Mia Ford-Green, Jordan Merrill, Emily Turknett,
& Stephen Fryson



SET
Jeremy Rau & Taveion Mickens



LIGHTS *Bond Peuckert*

KATE SANDERS (ANTIGONE) is a senior in the Theatre Honors class at Leon High School and is the Vice President of Leon's Gay Straight Alliance. Kate can relate to her role as Antigone on several levels which brings new life to her acting. In her free time, Kate enjoys playing the ukulele, watching history documentaries, or pogo sticking. Wanting to be a History teacher when she is older, Kate hopes to go to FSU for history and teaching. Kate also hopes to be a Pokémon trainer and with her favorite Pokémon, Slyvion by her side, she hopes to one day "catch them all."

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Kate was the epitome of Antigone from the moment she stepped up to audition. She is a person who would follow her conscience into battle. Her presence on stage is as strong and steadfast as Sophocles could have desired for his Antigone. The way she merges her love for family with just a hint of regret for the way things have moved so quickly further develops Antigone into a nuanced and believable character. Kate brings all of her control and coolness to the role of Antigone, and she is a worthy heroine.

CAITLYN BURKE (CHORUS ANTIGONE) Caitlyn Burke is a 16-year-old sophomore. Her favorite color is black, and she has a fondness for Harry Potter and YouTube. The expression of theatre is what initially drew Caitlyn to this class, and she loves the process of character development needed for shows. She also has a wide range of interest and hobbies outside of theatre. She is the president of Leon's Japanese Animation club, plays the piano, and enjoys crafting. She hopes to attend FSU or Savannah College of Art and Design for graphic design and voice acting. She has also considered pursuing traditional theatre further in her education.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Caitlyn does an incredible job of being a sympathetic chorus and a questioning force to Antigone. She prepares her acting roles with an urgency and seriousness that makes her a confident performer. She also excels at costuming, make-up, and set design. This makes her incredibly useful and supportive in the cast or on a tech crew for she applies a conceptual approach for all areas of theatre.

BEN MILLER (CREON) is ecstatic to be in his first (and certainly not his last) lead role. You may remember Ben from *Phantom of the Opera*, *Mary Poppins* (as a featured dancer), and most recently in *The Little Mermaid* (also as a featured dancer.) He would like to thank the cast and crew and also invites everyone to come to support Pas de Vie Ballet's performance of *The Nutcracker*, November 25th & 27th. Tickets are available at www.pasdevieballet.com.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Ben approaches his role as Creon as a carefully choreographed dance between Creon's love for his country, his family, his control and his fear of losing his country/family/control. Ben has been carefully constructing Creon's roller coaster of emotional levels and establishing a different relationship with each character onstage from the first moment of rehearsals. This attention to every line of dialogue and each nuanced movement shows in a multi-layered leader/father/uncle/husband/man Creon.

JAMES HAYES (CHORUS CREON) is a Senior at Leon High School. You may have seen in past shows such as *Dearly Departed* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. *Antigone* will be his third show at Leon. James loves Improv Theatre and hopes to do much more of that in the future as well.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: James is great at taking on a challenge! He envisioned his Choral role as Creon's bodyguard, and he plays this brilliantly. In his words, "I complain about having to do things, and then, in the end, I always get them done. " That is so true! James can always be counted on to give 100% of himself to his role. He is such a kind and honest presence on and off stage. It is my pleasure to direct and teach him this year!

JAYLYN WILLIAMS (HAEMON) is a Senior at Leon High School. He is a part of Thespian Troupe #1429 and has won 3 superiors in his previous District Competitions. His credits include *Oedipus Rex* (chorus), *Harvey* (Judge), *Nutcracker: All Jazzed Up* (Dancer), *Pas de Vie Ballet*, and FAMU's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Costume/Prop Advisor.) He is currently an intern at FAMU's Essential Theatre and is helping out with multiple shows.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Jaylyn brings together his passion for dance and a quiet inner strength into each role. He is talented in many different areas of theatre, and it is a joy to watch him work so thoughtfully on the stage and behind the curtain. He has a fantastic stage presence and is equally as strong in a comedic role as a dramatic one. He brings a depth to the character of Haemon that is realistic and redolent of an aristocratic lovestruck youth.

AMANDA BARKER (CHORUS HAEMON) is a Senior at Leon High School. She is the Vice-President of Thespian Troupe #1429. She has been in several Leon shows including, *And Then There Were None* (Mrs. Rogers), *Dearly Departed* (Lucille Understudy), *Impromptu* (Wilfred), *Prospect High* (Bria), and *Selfie: One Act*. She would like to thank her former theatre teacher Mr. Mitchell for his support with her talents in theatre and for giving her the opportunities to act. To her current teacher, Mrs. Marshall, she would like to thank her for casting her in their first show together.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Amanda can speak in a way that makes you hang on her every word. She is a masterful actress with a sense of physicality and timing that captures each character she plays in a memorable way. She puts so much energy into everything that she does. She is also an disciplined and enthusiastic cast member. She helps everyone be at the peak of their performance level. It has been wonderful getting to know her and watching her perform.

MALORI WALLACE (ISMENE) is a Junior at Leon High School and has been involved in theatre since her middle school days. She plans on continuing in theatre to open up her confidence through performing. She has experience doing Leon's summer show, *The Little Mermaid*, this past season. She was also a part of *The Big Doll House* at Thespian Stage Competition last year. In college, she would like to pursue a degree in design.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Malori brings an evaluative and analytic design sensibility to everything that she does. She "designs" her performances with an artist's eye, always asking questions, seeking the pattern and texture of the words, and finding the bright spots amidst the darker moments. She exhibits a depth, sincerity, and passion in her acting (and in her design work) that is evocative and exciting.

JESSICA JOHNSON (CHORUS ISMENE) is a Junior at Leon High School. She has been involved in performing arts since she was six years old and plans to continue her theatrical adventures through high school. She was in *Big Doll's House* and *Factory Girls* at Thespian State Competition last year. She has also performed in musical theatre in *Aladdin*, *101 Dalmatians*, and *Sleeping Beauty*.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Jessica is a disciplined and delightful actress. Her joy in performing and in life can be seen on the stage and in every activity in which she is involved. Her years of performing have made her a creative, confident, and captivating performer. Her smile lights up the stage and the classroom!

NATE CALSWELL (TEIRESIAS) is a junior at Leon High School. His theatrical repertoire includes Leon Performing Arts' *The Little Mermaid*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*; Thomasville Center of the Arts' and Quincy Music Theatre's *A Christmas Carol*; Montford Middle School's *Oklahoma!* (as "Will Parker"), and *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* (as "Lumiere"). He has also received instruction in theatre tech, working in shows such as Quincy Music Theatre's production of *Mary Poppins* and *Cats*. Nate is the historian for Troupe 1429 (Leon's Thespian Club), and an active participant in Leon High School's Capital Singers and Madrigal Choir, and a second-year member of "The Mane Event". Nate would like to thank his family for supporting him and his goals, as well as Mrs. Naomi Rose-Mock, Dr. Carla Connors, Dr. Judy Arthur, Mrs. Tabitha Peck and Mr. Peter Pursino for mentoring him in acting and musicianship.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Nate is great. And not just because his name rhymes with great... but also because of his total commitment to everything that he undertakes. He is a positive and dependable presence in our classroom and on the stage. He acts with his physicality, his facial expression, and his voice. This gives him an inherent ability to inhabit a character onstage, and every character he creates is unique and exciting to watch.

KELSEY GILMORE (CHORUS TEIRESIAS) is a junior at Leon High School. She is involved in Leon's Student Government Association, Spanish Honor Society, "El Cid", Ladies of Distinction and local Thespian Troupe #1429. Some of her recent Leon High School productions include *Harvey* (as Veta), *Prospect High* (Rachel), *Dearly Departed* (Marguerite) and Leon's 2015 Summer show *The Phantom of the Opera* (sound technician).

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: You would think a gal with energy and a humor level that is off the charts would be the most comfortable with comedic roles. But Kelsey is comfortable with ANY role on stage. She illuminates every role and makes every line have meaning and depth. She does not shy away from the spotlight (Kelsey doesn't shy away from ANY challenge), but she is also a fantastic ensemble member, and her strength of characterization makes everyone on stage shine.

JULIETTE PFIFFER (EURYDICE) is involved in Thespians and Ladies of Distinction at Leon High School. She also spends her time doing volunteer work at Gretchen Everhart, Betton Hills Preparatory School, and Hands and Hearts for Horses. She has been involved in several Leon productions and is very excited for this one!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Juliette is one of those natural actresses with an ability to step into any role and creates distinct characters with just a touch of Juliette's mix of quirkiness and authentic kindness. It is always a treat to watch Juliette instinctively and immediately begin to create a memorable character just minutes after she has been handed a script.

IMANI THOMAS (CHORUS EURYDICE)

- Vice President of Pearls of Perfection
- Helped organize Women's Basket for Hope Community Center
- Cheered on Leon Varsity and Competitive Team
- Youth Usher Board At Bethel AME
- Senior debutante for Tallahassee Charmettes.
- Bethel/Brownsville (counselor)
- Paged for Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate
- The National Bar Association California Service Project
- Volunteered for Thompson House/Senate campaign, Pittman Law Group, & Alan Williams

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: I am not sure if Imani ever sleeps! She is involved in so many activities, and does them all with a beautiful smile and radiant personality. She is as multifaceted as her resume, and she approaches every challenge with an energy level and optimism that ensures her success. Her nurturing and co-operative spirit can be seen on and off stage as she works to make everyone in the ensemble feel capable and confident.

ZIRA BROWN (HOPLON) is a smiley person, always happy and ready to help everyone, but she is also a little bit crazy...sometimes more than a little bit! She goes to Leon High School, and she is in the 11th grade. Since her first year of High School she joined theatre, she started for fun, just to have friends in her new school. She didn't imagine that this would have become her passion, probably her major at the University, and eventually her future job. She is already trying to pursue this dream. She auditioned for the FSU film this year, and she was part of the cast being the friend of the protagonist. She is excited to act in *Antigone* because she likes the play. She enjoys the complex structure and the hard work that it requires. She knows it will be super fun because the cast and her Theatre class is "actually amazing". Her character was part of her since the first day, and she took her role so seriously that now she can't follow orders without saluting.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Zira has incredible energy (on and off stage.) She brings her "A" game into everything, from auditions, into rehearsals, and then she ZINGS onstage! She lights up any room she is in with her smile and puts that energy to work as she analyzes each line of her script for motivation and purpose. Watch her face and eyes; she acts with every fiber of her body!

ERIKA FORNERO-MONIA (CHORUS HOPLON) has been involved in Theatre for two years in her home country of Italy. In Italy, theatre primarily focuses on your improv skills. Someone tells you the gist of a scene, and then you improv the rest. When it comes to this more formal and scripted form of theatre, Erika says she like it for several reasons. She likes the fact that theatre can relate to any and everything. In Italy, theatre related only to things that happened within the theatre community. Erika is enjoying the experience of being a chorus member in *Antigone*, even though it is quite complicated and difficult to learn all the language required. She loves the ideas presented through the play and cannot wait for the performance.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Erika and her lovely Italian accent is such a fantastic way to experience a different way of seeing the world without ever leaving the classroom. We love to hear her say each line. Having to explain certain terms and concepts to her, has helped us all realize the power of words and language and cross-cultural ties! Erika is a determined actress and human being, and she brings a unique voice to our class and the stage.

TAIT TREADWELL (AGGELLOS) is a Sophomore at Leon High School and is in Theater 3 Honors. He is also a Level 2 Latin Certamen, Treasurer of the Anime Club and a member of Boy Scouts. Tait's hobbies are anime, video games, Dungeons and Dragons, eating and sleeping. Tait feels like his character, Aggellos, hates fighting and is too submissive to fight back if he tried. So, in the long run, he doesn't take a stand for what he feels. He stands back and watches as the word around unravels.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Tait is a thoughtful actor and carefully evaluates his character's motives and tactics. He is able to "find himself" in each role which gives his acting a realistic quality. His understanding of how a story is put together and the role each character plays helps him to be a caring ensemble member on and off stage.

JORDYN BERRIAN (CHORUS AGGELLOS) is a Senior Honor Roll student. This is her 4th year of Theatre at Leon. Apart from Thespians, she participates in the Key Club, Mane Event, and is President of Pearls of Perfection, a nonprofit organization under the DKO chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc. She has participated in Rocktober-fest for two years in the band J2. She enjoys singing, volunteer work, hanging out with her friends, and of course, eating and sleeping!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Jordyn loves the spotlight, and the spotlight loves Jordyn! She has a magnetic stage presence and a beautiful spirit of peaceful joy that overflows into her acting, singing, and her many other pursuits. She is constantly encouraging the cast and crew (and her favorite Theatre teacher). Jordyn continually inspires us with positive thoughts and comments and keeps everyone smiling no matter what!

I knew that I would need an **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** for this production, especially since we were trying to have the majority of the rehearsals/design meetings during our class time. **Sean Tterlikkis** stepped into that role masterfully. He was constantly working with the cast/crew to solidify the vision of the show, and make suggestions about areas where he thought we could tell the story in a more vivid and visceral way. His creative ideas can be seen in every aspect of the show and I am grateful for his vision and patience with me!

The job of **STAGE MANAGER** is a thankless job. It requires a unique mix of a quiet, behind-the-scenes presence but the job also needs a powerful person to control a thousand things at one time. **Ajzonee Williams** has exactly the right mix of contradictory skills to make a fantastic Stage Manager. She is never ruffled or stressed, always ready to take notes, and calmly (with only a hint of forcefulness) tell everyone where they need to be at each moment! And she does it all with a smile and a hug for me at the end of each rehearsal.

The **COSTUME** crew consisted of **Mia Ford-Green, Jordan Merrill, Emily Turknett,** and **Stephen Fryson.** They envisioned a modern vision for this complex Character/Chorus match up that included each set having a color and theme for their minimalistic wear. They also kept with the Greek tradition of having royalty wearing similar items to show their power and prestige. Pops of color help to tell the story of Character and their Choral companion while keeping all of our cast unified with white shirts and jeans. Creon is the one exception to this as he stands above and beyond the crowd in "his righteousness" and costume.

SET Design also helps to tell the story of *Antigone* in a subtle but powerful way. I had envisioned this as a political rally (perhaps by watching way too many of those in the recent days.) And **Jeremy Rau** and **Taveion Mickens** helped to make that a reality with their simple but powerful ode to a mixture of Greek politics (the color scheme) and an American political rally (balloons and streamers.) This was done on a very strict budget and timeline and give us just a minimum of set with enough impact so that we feel "at home" in Thebes given our recent overexposure to political rallies!

LIGHTS are the work of our own **Bond Peuckert.** He and **Sean Tterlikkis** envisioned and created the shadow work that perfectly illuminates the "darkness" of *Antigone's* tragedy. It is the perfect melding of the traditional Greek style of violence and death being offstage mixed with the more modern version that we are presenting.

THANK YOU to **Mrs. Peck's THEATRE TECH** class for helping us with this production (especially **SAM HANSON** and **AMELIA COOPER**). You make us look (and sound) so much better with your technical assistance!

THANK YOU to the incredible group of **THESPIAN PARENTS** who provided our GREEK dinner for our dress rehearsal and ran the donation table before our performance. **Rochelle Schweizer** has been invaluable with her delicious snack and food provision for EVERY Leon Theatre event this year!

Dena Coukoulis lovingly made our GREEK BAKLAVA for this evening's performance. Contact her for any of your Greek food needs. You can contact her at denacoukoulis@yahoo.com.

IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME

Aristotle believed that every piece of poetry or drama must have a beginning, middle, and end. These divisions were eventually called **protasis**, **epitasis**, and **catastrophe**. The three act structure can still be seen in a variety of movies, TV shows, and plays today. The beginning (protasis) consists of setup, the middle (epitasis) contains conflicts, thwarted protagonist, or complications, and the end (catastrophe) is where fortunes are reversed and the protagonist meets their fate.

Protasis: Antigone's brothers are dead, but her uncle has decided to leave Polynices unburied. She knows this is not right, and decides to ignore Creon's law to do what is right and follow the god's laws for burial.

Epitasis: Antigone is able to give her brother funeral rights, but she is caught. She has challenged Creon's authority, and he sentences her to death. Even his son, her fiancé, cannot convince him to change his mind.

Catastrophe: Antigone is walled away in a cave to starve to death. Meanwhile, Teiresias, the prophet, comes to reason with Creon. Teiresias frightens Creon with the wrath of the gods, and Creon agrees to bury Polynices and free Antigone. They arrive at the cave too late; Antigone has hung herself. Her fiancé, Haemon, kills himself, leading his mother, the queen, to do the same. In the end, Creon is left cursed, and in despair.

Also watch in our play for traditional Greek Tragedy **Episodes** (Character driven story telling) followed by **Stasimons** (Choral Members commenting or reacting to the characters' actions.)

And here are a few more GREEK ELEMENTS found in Antigone:

Hamartia: Hero's flaw that causes downfall (in Creon & Antigone)

Hubris: Excessive pride (in Creon & Antigone)

Peripeteia: Reversal of fortune (for Creon & Antigone)

Anagnorisis: Moment of critical discovery

Dramatic Irony: The audience knows something before the Characters
(Creon is coming to release Antigone, but she doesn't know it.)

Nemesis: Fate that cannot be avoided

Catharsis: Audience's strong feelings brought about by the story, especially feelings of pity and fear, that results in renewal and restoration.

May this production be **CATHARTIC** for all of us! Thank you for supporting our One Act. Check out LEONTHEATRE.SQUARESPACE.COM for more upcoming Leon Theatre events!

LEON THEATRE EXISTS TO
INTENTIONALLY,
RESPECTFULLY, &
EXCELLENTLY,
TELL A MORE BEAUTIFUL STORY
THAT INFORMS, INFUSES,
INSPIRES, INVOLVES,
& **IMPROVES**
OURSELVES & OUR AUDIENCE.