



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CATCO Names 2016-17 Apprentices**

*Funding provided by Crane Group, Kitty Morton Epler*

CATCO is excited to announce the appointment of five apprentices for the 2016-17 season funded in part by the Crane Group and longtime CATCO and CATCO is Kids supporter Kitty Morton Epler. The apprentices are Nick Murphy (sound and light); Janin Rosas (costumes); Matthew Sierra (acting); Ben Tracy (acting); and Abigail Worden (acting).

Murphy, a recent graduate of Wesleyan University with a degree in government and environmental studies, spent four years as a theatre technician at Wesleyan's Center for the Arts, working for both university productions and touring theatre and dance companies. Recent onstage roles include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and *Much Ado about Nothing*.

Rosas, a student stitcher in the costume shop and women's dresser for the Porthouse Theatre this summer, recently graduated from the University of Michigan with a theatre arts degree. Her costume designer credits include *Mary Poppins*, *Seussical the Musical* and *Agamemnon*. Her technical theatre credits in wardrobe include *Guys and Dolls*, *American Idiot* and *Julius Caesar in Egypt*.

Sierra has appeared on stage recently at multiple central Ohio theatre organizations. His acting credits include Lord Alfred Douglas in CATCO's recent production of *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, *The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* with CATCO is Kids!, and *POZ* with Evolution Theatre company.

Tracy recently graduated from Wright State University with a bachelor of fine arts degree in acting, where he appeared in *The Great Gatsby* (Nick Carraway) and *The Music Man* (Charlie Cowell), among other shows. A native of Minneapolis, he has worked with CLIMB Theatre and Old Log Theatre. His short play, *One Cow Mooing*, premiered with Theatre Oxford in Mississippi this October.

A recent graduate of Capital University with a degree in theatre studies/communication and a minor in public relations, Worden's theatre credits include: stage management (*The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*); properties (*The Addams Family*, *Speed Dating Tonight*); directing (*Cabaret*); and performance (*Metamorphoses*, *A Flea in Her Ear*).

“CATCO and CATCO is Kids are excited to welcome these extremely talented apprentices and look forward to working with them in our productions and in our education and outreach programs,” said Steven C. Anderson, CATCO producing director. CATCO’s apprentice program provides young artists experience in various aspects of the theatre, including acting for CATCO and CATCO is Kids, understudying CATCO productions, and providing educational programming in schools.

During the season, CATCO’s apprentices will take classes and workshops from CATCO staff, ranging from audition master classes to artist education training. They will also tackle understudy assignments in main stage season productions; perform leading roles in touring productions and main-stage productions on the CATCO is Kids stage; and perform leading and supporting roles on the CATCO stage. They will also be asked to perform technical theatre and administrative assignments.

CATCO’s 32nd season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Barbara B. Coons, Nina B. Pohlman, and Martha G. Staub Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city’s artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO’s season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. For more information, visit [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org).

Remaining shows in CATCO and CATCO is Kids 2016-17 seasons follow. Subscriptions and single tickets are available by contacting the box office at 614.469.0939 or visiting [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org).

CATCO’s and CATCO is Kids’ remaining shows of the season are:

- ***Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery***  
(Columbus Premiere)  
By Ken Ludwig  
Jan. 25-Feb. 12, 2017  
Studio Two
- ***Sex with Strangers***  
(Regional Premiere)  
By Laura Eason  
Feb. 15-March 5, 2017

Studio Two

- ***Henry Ford's Model E***  
(World Premiere)  
By Herb Brown  
April 19-May 7, 2017  
Studio Two
- ***I Do! I Do!***  
Books and lyrics by Tom Jones  
Music by Harvey Schmidt  
May 31-June 18, 2017  
Studio Two

CATCO Is Kids' remaining shows of the season are below:

- ***A Seussified Christmas Carol***  
(Regional Premiere)  
By Peter Bloedel  
Dec. 2-11, 2016  
Columbus Performing Arts Center
- ***Goldilocks and the Three Bears***  
(Regional Premiere)  
By George Stiles and Anthony Drewe  
Jan. 13-22, 2017  
Columbus Performing Arts Center
- ***Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras***  
(World Premiere)  
By Chris Leyva  
March 3-12, 2017  
Columbus Performing Arts Center
- ***Anne of Green Gables***  
(Co-Production with Columbus School for Girls)  
Music by Nancy Ford  
Book and Lyrics by Gretchen Cryer  
May 5-14, 2017  
Columbus School for Girls

For more information about the 2016-17 season, visit [www.catcoistheatre.org](http://www.catcoistheatre.org)

**About CATCO**

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org). Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages.

**CATCO Mission Statement**

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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