

The Cast



SAMANTHA MONTGOMERY has performed with Hansberry-Sands Theatre Company, André Lee Ellis & Company, In Tandem Theater, Firststage Children's Theater and the Milwaukee Rep. She believes that theater is the key to transforming and strengthening others. She reads the role of **Harriet Tubman**.



ANDRÉ LEE ELLIS has worked as an actor, director, instructor, advocate and is founder and managing artistic director of André Lee Ellis & Company. A graduate of Herbert Bergoff School of the Arts in New York City, Ellis has performed in over 50 productions across America and was artistic director of the Hansberry-Sands Theatre Company. He reads the role of **Martin**.



ANDREW PARCHMAN is an actor who has been in theater for many years around Milwaukee. The third generation in a family of actors, he has done theater styles from Shakespeare to more contemporary works with plans to branch out into film. He reads the role of **Joe**.



KEVINA VANN is a member of KTF Theater-Ministry. Her most recent work was in the production "Picking Up the Broken Pieces" by Demetrius Truss. A spoken word artist, she reads the roles of **Patience** and **Eliza Hampton**.



UNA VAN DUVAL, a singer and actor, has been the voice of Mondovi wines, has recorded with CBS records, toured nationally and sung with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Operation Breadbasket Choir and the local Heritage Choral during its Carnegie Hall concert. Her credits also include musicals "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Caged Sparrows" at the Skylight Theater and "Aida" at the Florentine Opera. She reads the role of **Amelia**.



KYLE STERNAD is a recent Musical Theatre graduate at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, whose recent credits include UWM's "The Wild Party" and "Into the Woods" and Sunset Playhouse's "The Drowsy Chaperone" Kyle can next be seen in Pink Banana Theatre's "Walk, Don't Walk" He reads the roles of various white characters.



MICHAEL DITTMANN is a Music Under the Stars and a Melody Top alum. He has also performed with Great Lakes Opera Company, Clavis Theater, Circle Stage and Great American Children's Theater Company. He does one-man portrayals of FDR and others and is a vocalist and magician. He reads the roles of various white characters.

Front cover picture: Artist is unknown

MISS MOSES

A PLAY BY
GREGORY STANFORD



Reception: Haggerty Museum of Art

Reading: Marquette Hall

Marquette University

March 3, 2013

Dedicated to the memory of Phylis Ravel, the force of nature who ran Marquette's theater arts program, guided me into playwriting and oversaw the beginnings of "Miss Moses."

- Gregory Stanford

I have wrought in the day – you in the night. I have had the applause of the crowd ... while the most that you have done has been witnessed by a few trembling, scarred, and foot-sore bondmen and women, ... whose heartfelt "God bless you" has been your only reward. The midnight sky and the silent stars have been the witnesses of your devotion to freedom and of your heroism.

Frederick Douglass, in a letter to Harriet Tubman, 1868

The Moses of Her People

Were Harriet Tubman living to-day, you might be seeing her on the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. She was owned by a farmer near Cambridge.

Were Harriet Tubman living to-day, you might be seeing her on the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. She was owned by a farmer near Cambridge. She acted and told her story through a coded song of her plans to flee slavery, acting her way out of tight spots time and again as she returned to Maryland to free others, and telling stories to lift morale and make points as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.



She escaped from slavery in 1849, but returned to the Eastern Shore several times to lead friends, family and strangers – dozens, all told – to freedom.

During the Civil War, she served as scout, spy and nurse for the Union Army. She helped lead the Combahee River Raid, which freed

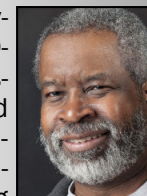
hundreds of slaves in South Carolina. She settled in Auburn, N.Y., where she ministered to the elderly. She died 100 years ago next Sunday, on March 10, 1913.

The Play

“Miss Moses” is a one-act play showing Harriet Tubman striving to lead four adults and an infant from slavery on Maryland’s Eastern Shore to freedom in Saint Catharines, Canada West (now Ontario). The play depicts a struggle to overcome the poison at the heart of the American experience.

The Writer

GREGORY STANFORD, a longtime journalist, is new to playwriting. “Miss Moses” is his first full-length play. A 10-minute play he wrote was selected to be read at the EstroGenius Festival in New York City in November. Stanford was a reporter for The Milwaukee Journal and then an editorial writer and columnist there and for the merged Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. He has won numerous writing and community service awards.



The Director



BILL JACKSON is a director, playwright, actor, and teacher resident in Milwaukee. He has worked at the Skylight Theatre, Milwaukee Shakespeare Company, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Sunset Playhouse, The Bay View Players, and is the former artistic director of the Hansberry-Sands Theatre Company. He was a teacher of theater and English at Milwaukee High School of the Arts and holds a master’s in educational leadership from Alverno College. Besides directing the reading, he narrates and reads the roles of **William Still** and **Frederick Douglass**.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to **Liz Carr** for her cheerful assistance, to **Margaret Rozga** for her helpful comments on an early, unfinished draft of “Miss Moses” and to **Sheri Pannell** and **Sheena Carey**, who did a splendid critique of a later draft. Added thanks to Sheena of MU’s Diederich College of Communication, who went above and beyond the call of duty to make this reading happen. - GS

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