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2018

Ardeleons: Drama on a Woman's Campus, Part 1

Peggy L. Roske

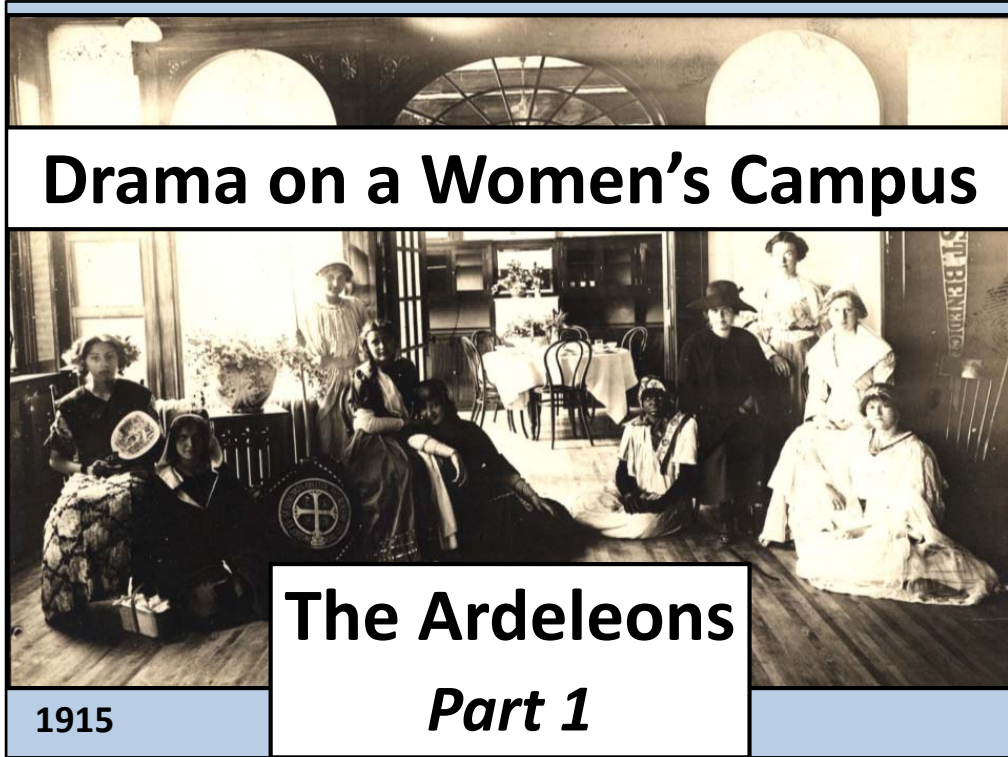
College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, proske@csbsju.edu

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Drama on a Women's Campus

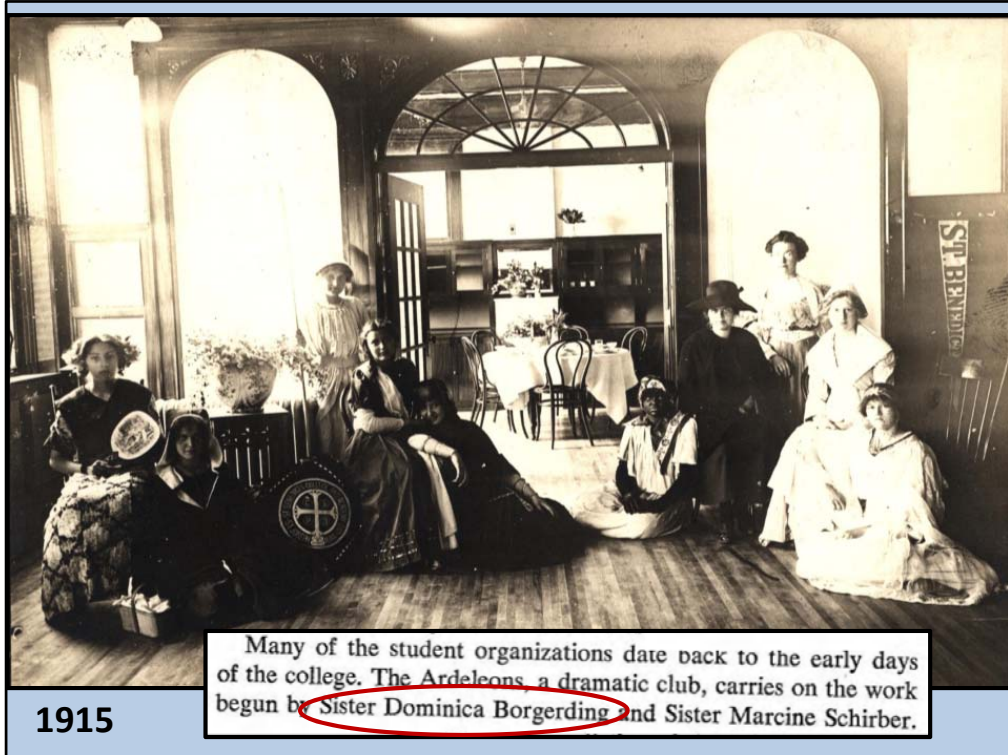
The Ardeleons
Part 1

1915

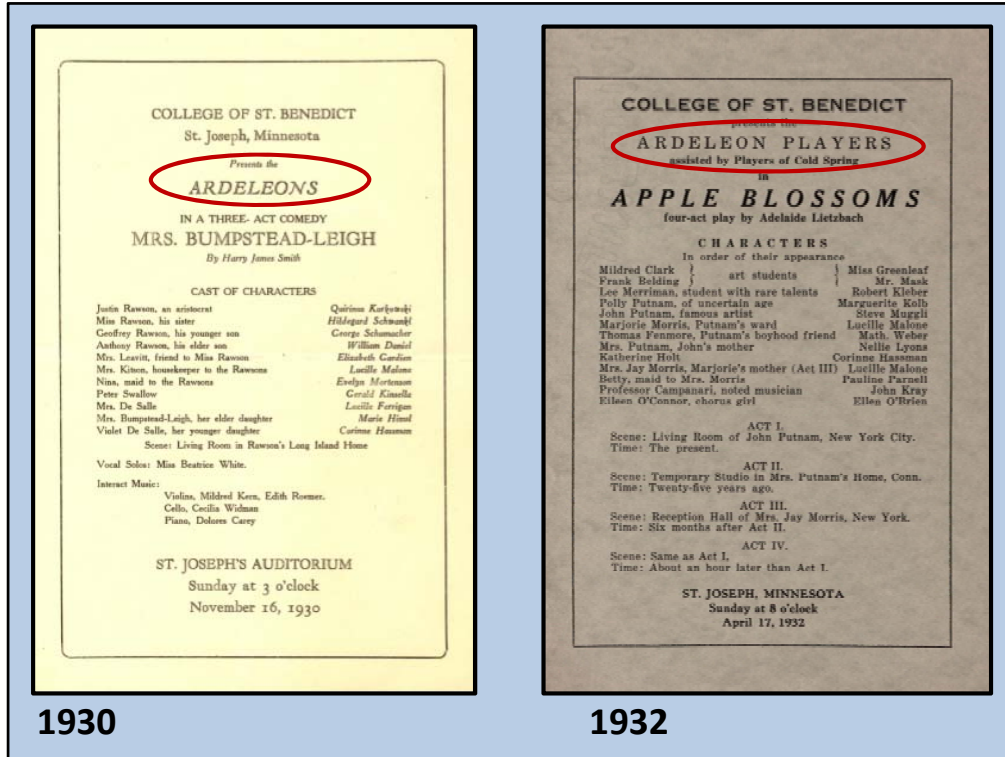
St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder
Inset from *With Lamps Burning*, p. 197
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/2525>



1930

1932

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

Were there males in the cast, too? Hard to tell...



1936

Cymbeline, a Shakesperian Play 1936

St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder

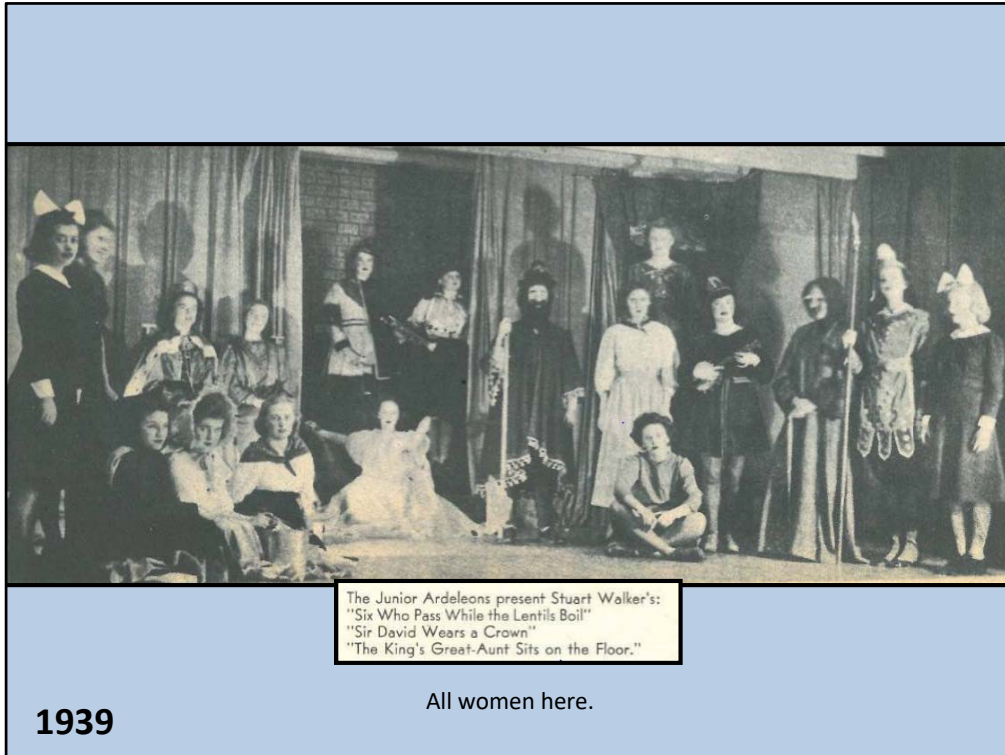


1939

The Ardeleons present the big play of the year . . . "Joyous Season" by Philip Barry . . .

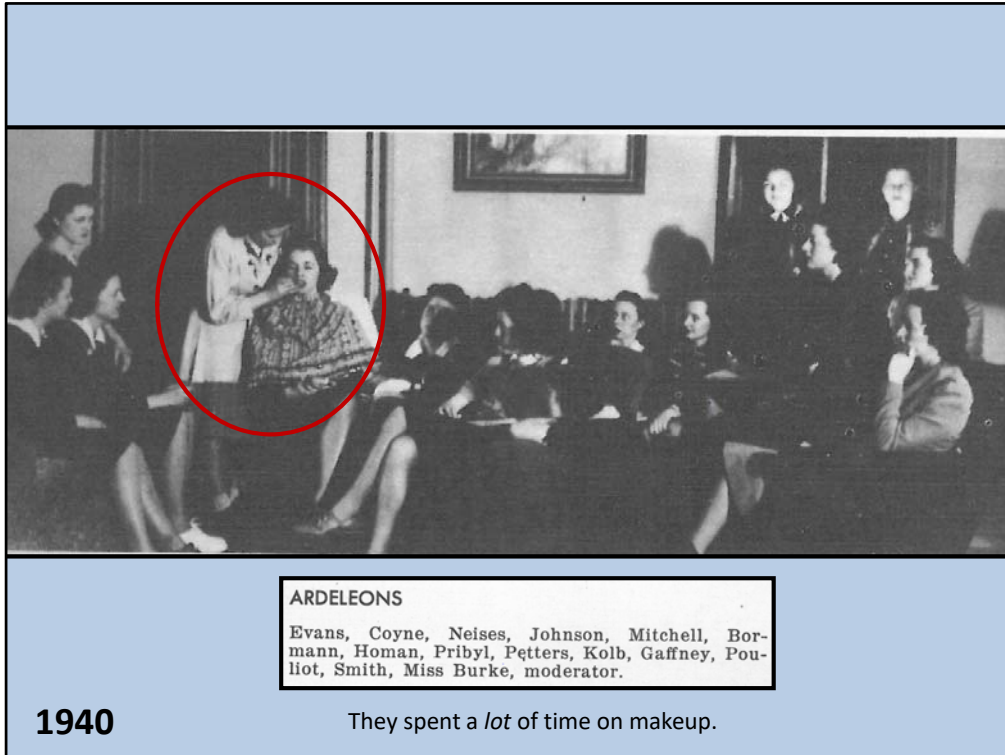
Hmm, there seems to be a man in this one...

1939 Facula, p.20
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/9323/rec/2>



1939 Facula, p.20

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/9323/rec/2>



ARDELEONS
Evans, Coyne, Neises, Johnson, Mitchell, Bormann, Homan, Pribyl, Petters, Kolb, Gaffney, Poulit, Smith, Miss Burke, moderator.

1940

They spent a *lot* of time on makeup.

1940 Facula, p. 36

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7047/rec/3>




The first Benny-Johnny broadcast . . . Pat Hohf tells us her ideas on "Meeting the Right Girl and Boy" as George LePage, Homer Hurd, Mary Louise Mitchell, and Betty Chisholm await their cues . . .

1940

The *original* Johnnie-Bennie Campus News crew?

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7045/rec/3>
1940 Facula, p. 34



Presenting

Senior Ardeleons
Assisted by
Local Players

Sunday
March thirtieth
Eight fifteen o'clock

Shadow and Substance

by Paul Vincent Carroll

St. Joseph Auditorium


1941

THE HANDSHAKE

Official Student and Alumnae Publication of the College of St. Benedict

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 4 MARCH, 1941 ST. JOSEPH, MINNESOTA

Ardeleons Give Shadow and Substance



Lenore Kidwell and Jerry Kinella

Second Abbey Theatre Play Will Be Presented March 30

On March 30 at 8:15 p. m., the curtain will rise for the second time this year at the College of St. Benedict on an Abbey Theatre play of tremendous popularity in stage circles—"Shadow and Substance," by Paul Vincent Carroll.

Of great religious import, the theme of the play is one of serious conflict between the fervent religion of Ireland, cultured, continental-bred Canon Sherritt and the apparent ignorance and violence of the people of his parish—and his native-in Country Louth, Ireland.

The story unfolds as one discovers the lines upon which the Canon—Jerry Kinella—disputes with Father Cerr and Kirwin, his two Irish curates, who are interpreted by Daniel Grunnetrup, St. Cloud, and Adeline White, instructor at St. John's.

The Canon is also at odds with Father Francis O'Flaherty, an Irish schoolmaster, who is discovered to be the author of an anonymously published criticism of Irish education in general and of Canon Sherritt in particular. The part of O'Flaherty is played by Thomas Cassidy of St. John's University.

The "quitting star" in the play, however, is Brigit, the Canon's naive, intensely spiritual servant girl—Lenore Kidwell—who ultimately, and with a supreme sacrifice, solves


Maud Sheerer Visits School

Maud Sheerer, versatile actress and dramatic critic, will be at the College of St. Benedict on March 31. She will present "Portraits of The Queen," an arrangement made from Maxwell Anderson's historical plays, "Mary of Scotland" and "Elizabeth the Queen."

Miss Sheerer has had a thorough training in dramatic art, studying under Lionel Patten, George Kiddle, and Miss Tadora Daykin-Barrow, and in Europe. She has acted in stock, headed her own Shakespearean company, and in famous stock companies in London and

Males are back on the cast. Maybe having women as clergy was just out of the question. (Then, as now?)

Left: St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs
 Right: 1941-03 The Handshake Volume 06 Number 04
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1696/rec/9>



Presenting

Senior Ardeleons
Assisted by
Local Players

Sunday
March thirtieth
Eight fifteen o'clock

Shadow
and
Substance

by Paul Vincent Carroll

St. Joseph Auditorium

1941

More males than females on the cast:

SHADOW AND SUBSTANCE

Cast of Characters
In order of appearance

Brigid, Canon Skerritt's servant	Lenore Kidwell
Dermot Francis O'Flingsley, the local schoolmaster	Thomas Cassidy
Thomasina Concannon, Canon Skerritt's niece	Ina Mae Pouliet
Father Corr	Daniel Grumpstrup
Father Kerwin	Adrian Winkle
} local curates	
Very Reverend Thomas Canon Skerritt	Gerald Kinsella
Miss Jemima Cooney, a local spinster	Mary Jane Smith
Francis Ignatius O'Connor, her nephew	Philip Hartman
Martin Mullahone, the local publican	Patrick Bisonette
Rosey Violet, his wife	Mildred Bowers

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

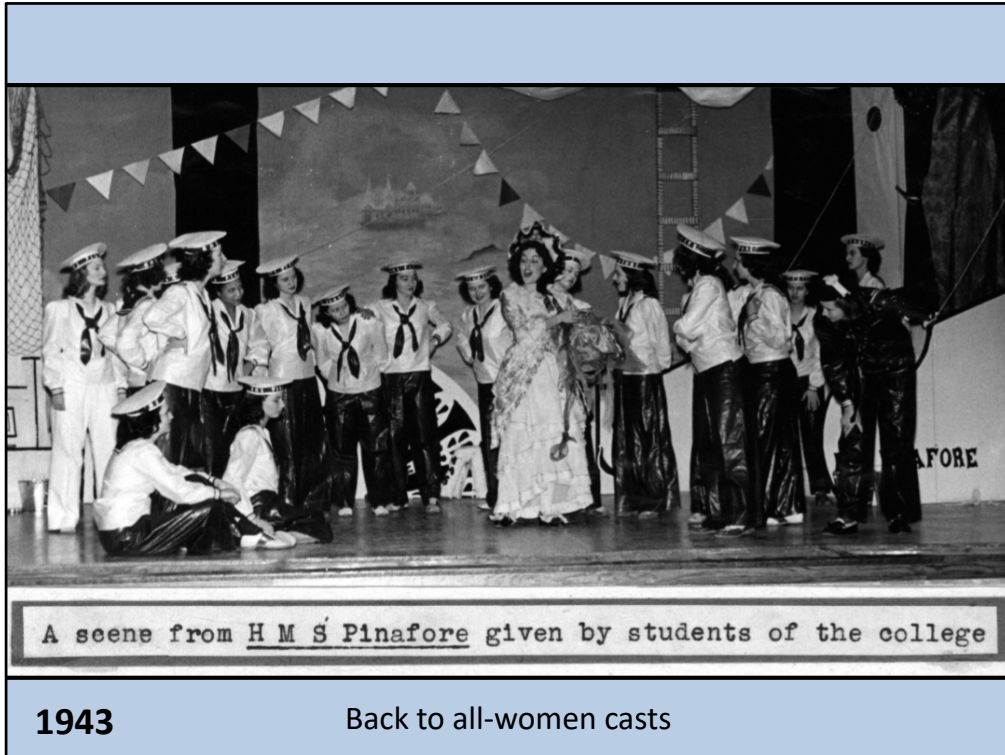


1942

The Junior Ardeleons examine costumes for "O Hanu San," a Chinese operetta, given February 22.

The sisters' mission work in China led to several Chinese students coming to CSB in the 1930s. The Ardeleons put on quite a few plays of Chinese origin over the years.

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7198/rec/12>
1942 Facula, p. 30



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder

<p>ARDELEONstor The College of St. Benedict</p> <p>present</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">OUR TOWN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pulitzer Prize Play by Thornton Wilder</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St. Joseph's Auditorium St. Joseph, Minnesota Sunday, February 24, 1948 8:00 p.m.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">1946</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CAST</p> <p>Stage Manager.....Marycharlotte Lethert Dr. Gibbs.....Loretta Lies Joe Crowell.....Eileen Schwartzbauer later Si, his brother Howie Newsome.....Irene Gleesing Mrs. Gibbs.....Dorothy Dirkswager Mrs. Webb.....Virginia Cerufel George Gibbs.....Audrey Mettel Rebecca Gibbs.....Mary Ann Violette Wally Webb.....Ruth Spohn Emily Webb.....Ann Harvey Professor Willard.....Mary Jo Bauer Mr. Webb.....Helen Louise Pribyl Man in the auditorium.....Eulalia Mae Wagner Lady in the box.....Gertrude Swentik Mrs. Scemes.....Adeline Kohler Laura Craig.....Arlene Gray Mrs. Stodderd.....Jacqueline Poppert Assistant stage managers.....Eulalia Mae Wagner Mary Martin Simon Stinson, choir master.....Dolores Besudette Choir members: Dorothy Anne Hebert Patricia Murphy Jacqueline Poppert Bernetta Stassen Gertrude Swentik Suzanne Sheldon Mary Jane Chouinard Arlene Gray</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Townpeople, Mourners, the Dead</p>
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St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT

presents

ARDELEONS

in

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE

dramatized from Werfel's novel

by

JEAN and WALTER KERR

ST. JOSEPH AUDITORIUM
ST. JOSEPH, MINNESOTA

SUNDAY, NOV. 24, 1946 8:00 P. M.

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY

CHARACTERS

Sister Marie Therese Vauzous Ruth Schellinger

Jeanne Abadie, school girl friend of Bernadette Sally Riley

Bernadette Soubrious Marycharlotte Lethert

Marie Soubrious, Bernadette's sister Shirley Scholz

Students

(Renee Kulzer

 Mary Ann Linnemann

 Lorraine Breher

 Marcelline Breher

 Sally Lloyd

 Kathleen Wald

Dean Peyramale, principal cleric of Lourdes Dolores Beaudette

Louise Soubrious, Bernadette's mother Charlotte Brantl

Soubrious, Bernadette's father Mary Heaton

Croisine Bouhouborts, the next-door neighbor Ann Harvey

Louis Bouriette, half-blind stonemason Violet Mollovan

Bernarde Casterot, Louise Soubrious' sister Arlene Gray

Madame Sajou, a rather well-to-do neighbor Sally Mamer

Antoine Nicolau, a young miller Patricia Murphy

Lacade, Mayor of Lourdes Joan Meehan

Jacomet, Chief of Police in Lourdes Eileen Traxler

Dr. Douzous, principal Physician of Lourdes Geraldine Schmit

Celeste, Dean Peyramayle's housekeeper Virginette Hardwig

Madame Pernet, matron of the Tarbes asylum Shirley Savoie

Mother Josephine, superior of the Nevers Convent Eleanor Buchl

1946

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

Clubs

Further opportunity for recreation, social life, and cultural pursuits is offered by the various clubs. In joining clubs a student who maintains an average of A may select 18 points, one who maintains an average of B, 15 points, and one who maintains an average of C, 9 points. The point-rating of the various clubs follows.


GROUP I 9 Points	GROUP II 6 Points	GROUP III 3 Points
Orchestra	I. R. C.	Lukonians
Choral Ensemble	Ardeleons	Readers' Guild
Facula	W. A. A. Cabinet	Sigma Kappa Phi
Benet	Scribes and Critics	Sodality Committee
Quarterly and Scribes and Critics		

A student having a service contract, which carries 6 points, may select a club from any one of the three groups.

1946-47 Bulletin

1946-47 Bulletin p. 13 (22)

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/2749/rec/28>



College of St. Benedict
Presents

Pride and Prejudice

by Ardeleons
St. Joseph Auditorium
November 14, 1948 Eight o'clock

1948

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

A Romantic Comedy in Three Acts
dramatized from
the novel of Jane Austen

CHARACTERS

Mr. Bennet	Sally Riley
Mrs. Bennet	Jean LaBerge
Jane Bennet	Eleanor Buchl
Elizabeth Bennet	Patricia Gits
Mary Bennet	Patricia Johnson
Catherine Bennet	Donna Irgens
Lydia Bennet	Pauline Bresnahan
Mr. Collins	Marilyn Moorhouse
Mr. Bingley	Jeanne O'Neill
Miss Bingley	Mary Ann Votava
Mr. Darcy	Joan Poncelet
Lady Catherine	Leona Thompson
Lady Lucas	Constance Rosett
Charlotte	Arlene Miller
Mr. Wickham	Eileen Johnston
Hill	Phyllis Foley

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

Reasons why ARDELEONS is known as one of the most active clubs on campus are evident in their presentation of *Our Hearts Were Young and Gay*, *Twelfth Night*, and *A Good Vintage*. The club, open to any student interested in dramatics, is divided into two groups, the junior and senior.



1948

1948 Facula p. 66

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7494/rec/32>

<p style="text-align: center;">ARDELEONS in WHEN SHAKESPEARE'S LADIES MEET A little "comedy of errors" by Charles George (with apologies to the Bard)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAST OF CHARACTERS</p> <p>JULIET, from "Romeo and Juliet".....Lois LaBonne PORTIA, from "The Merchant of Venice".....Alice Nolan DESDEMONA, from "Othello".....Jeannene Hann CLEOPATRA, from "Antony and Cleopatra".....Mary Kuchera OPHELIA, from "Hamlet".....Dorothy Waldorf KATHA IRE, from "The Taming of the Shrew".... Rosemary Hynes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE: A garden of Juliet's home in Verona</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Director</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Doris Bogat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage Manager</td> <td>Mariann Wilroy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Costumes</td> <td>Ludmila padmos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lights</td> <td>Mary Anne Hunt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Make-up</td> <td>Kathleen Schroeder</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poster</td> <td>Jeannene Hann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program Cover</td> <td>Wanda Ayers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Programs</td> <td>Donna Scherer</td> </tr> </table>	Director	Doris Bogat	Stage Manager	Mariann Wilroy	Costumes	Ludmila padmos	Lights	Mary Anne Hunt	Make-up	Kathleen Schroeder	Poster	Jeannene Hann	Program Cover	Wanda Ayers	Programs	Donna Scherer	<p style="text-align: right;">ST. BENEDICT'S ARDELEONS presents</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WHEN SHAKESPEARE'S LADIES MEET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY NOV. 26 8:15</p>
Director	Doris Bogat																
Stage Manager	Mariann Wilroy																
Costumes	Ludmila padmos																
Lights	Mary Anne Hunt																
Make-up	Kathleen Schroeder																
Poster	Jeannene Hann																
Program Cover	Wanda Ayers																
Programs	Donna Scherer																
<p>1950 All-female cast</p>																	

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder
When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet Ardeleons costumed Theater and Drama 1930-1970s 51
2

<p style="text-align: center;"> ANGELONS in WHEN SHAKESPEARE'S LADIES MEET A little "comedy of errors" by Charles George (with apologies to the Bard) </p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAST OF CHARACTERS</p> <p> JULIET, from "Romeo and Juliet".....Lois LaBonne PORTIA, from "The Merchant of Venice".....Alice Nolan DESDEMONA, from "Othello".....Jeannene Hann CLEOPATRA, from "Antony and Cleopatra".....Mary Kuchera OPHELIA, from "Hamlet".....Dorothy Waldorf KATHA IRIS, from "The Taming of the Shrew"..... Rosemary Hynes </p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE: A garden of Juliet's home in Verona</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Doris Bogat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage Manager</td> <td>Marianna Wilroy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Costumes</td> <td>Ludmila Padmos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lights</td> <td>Mary Anne Hunt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Make-up</td> <td>Kathleen Schroeder</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poster</td> <td>Jeannene Hann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program Cover</td> <td>Wanda Ayers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Programs</td> <td>Donna Scherer</td> </tr> </table>	Director	Doris Bogat	Stage Manager	Marianna Wilroy	Costumes	Ludmila Padmos	Lights	Mary Anne Hunt	Make-up	Kathleen Schroeder	Poster	Jeannene Hann	Program Cover	Wanda Ayers	Programs	Donna Scherer	<p style="text-align: center;"> THE JOHNNY PLAYERS in WHEN SHAKESPEARE'S GENTLEMEN GET TOGETHER A "much-ado-about-nothing" in one act by Charles George (with apologies to the Bard) </p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAST OF CHARACTERS</p> <p> ROMEO, from "Romeo and Juliet".....Edward Harvey SHYLOCK, from "The Merchant of Venice".....Dahiel Grantipoo OTHELLO, from "Othello".....Wally Jenner ANTONY, from "Antony and Cleopatra".....William Kelsch HAMLET, from "Hamlet".....John Kielly PETRUCCIO, from "The Taming of the Shrew"..... Robert Johnson </p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCENE: A room in the home of Shylock in Venice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STAGE CREW: Eugene Riley, James Haggmann, Richard Stipe</p>
Director	Doris Bogat																
Stage Manager	Marianna Wilroy																
Costumes	Ludmila Padmos																
Lights	Mary Anne Hunt																
Make-up	Kathleen Schroeder																
Poster	Jeannene Hann																
Program Cover	Wanda Ayers																
Programs	Donna Scherer																
1950	All-female cast	All-male cast															

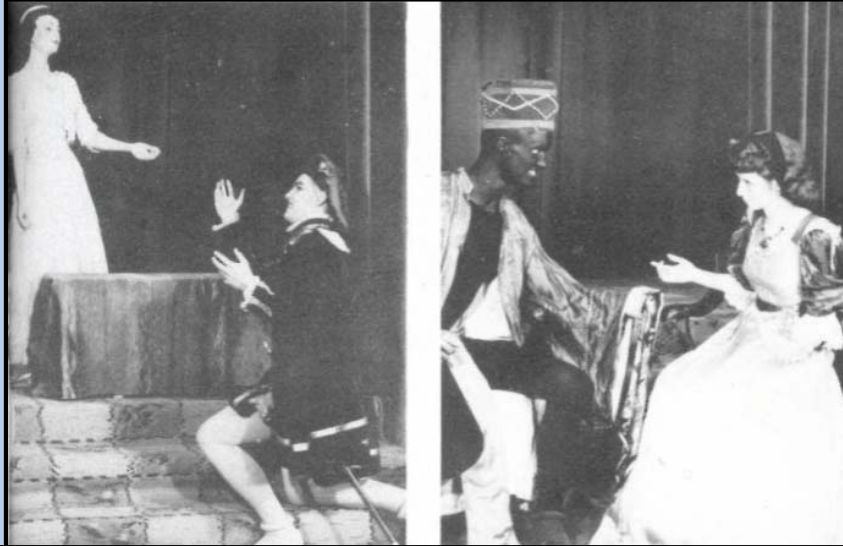
St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

A unique presentation by the Ardeleons this year was "When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet," directed by Doris Bogut. Co-operating with the Johnny Players who produced "When Shakespeare's Gentlemen Get Together," the two one-act plays were presented at both St. Benedict's and St. John's. Pictured below are Shakespeare's ladies and gentlemen who were brought together: Mark Antony and Cleopatra, Petruchio and Katherine, Ophelia and Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, Desdemona and Othello, and Shylock and Portia.

An all-female cast and an all-male cast doing similar productions.

Did this mark the beginning of something new?

1950



COLLEGE OF SAINT BENEDICT

presents

ARDELEONS

in

AS YOU LIKE IT

by

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

St. Joseph Auditorium
St. Joseph, Minnesota
April 22, 1951

1951

Back to an all -female cast...

CAST

(In Order of Their Speaking)

Celia.....	Jeannene Hann
Rosalind.....	Dora Dionne
Touchatone.....	Marianna Milroy
Le Beau.....	Rosemary Hynes
Duke Fredrick.....	Annella O'Meara
Orlando.....	Doris Bogut
Adam.....	Marlene Krieger
Duke Senior.....	Dolores Kohler
Amiens.....	Florence Hardwig
First Lord.....	Sheila Harvey
Second Lord.....	Carolyn Tyler
Jaques.....	Mary Anne Hunt
Corin.....	Patricia Potter
Silvius.....	Ludmilla Padnos
Phebe.....	Betty Zimmerman
William.....	Jovita Beste
Audry.....	Mary McErlane
Oliver.....	Kathleen Schroeder
Lords and Ladies.....	Phyllis Shockman, Jean Marie Guettler Jeanne Gnifkowski, Mary Lou Casey, Betty Lou Sweet

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

COLLEGE OF SAINT BENEDICT
presents
ARDELEONS
in
AS YOU LIKE IT
by
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

...but who was the Director?

St. Joseph Auditorium
St. Joseph, Minnesota
April 22, 1951

1951

...with a female Assistant Director

THE SCENES

ACT I: The estate of Duke Fredrick
ACT II: The Forest of Arden
ACT III: The Forest of Arden

Lapse of time will be indicated by change in lights.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Director	Rosemary Hynes
Stage Manager	Lu Anne Kulas
Costumes	{ Betty Boyer, Doris Kamm Lyla Korb, Janet Anderson Dolores DesRoches, Ruth Young
Lights	{ Ludmilla Padrnos Jovita Beste
Make-Up	The Cast
Properties.....	{ Sheila Harvey Patricia Potter
Posters.....	Design Class

Scenery was designed and painted by Don Humphrey

St. Ben's Monastery Archives RG 22-6B-2 f1, Programs

Nonetheless, back to all -female casts

ARDELEONS

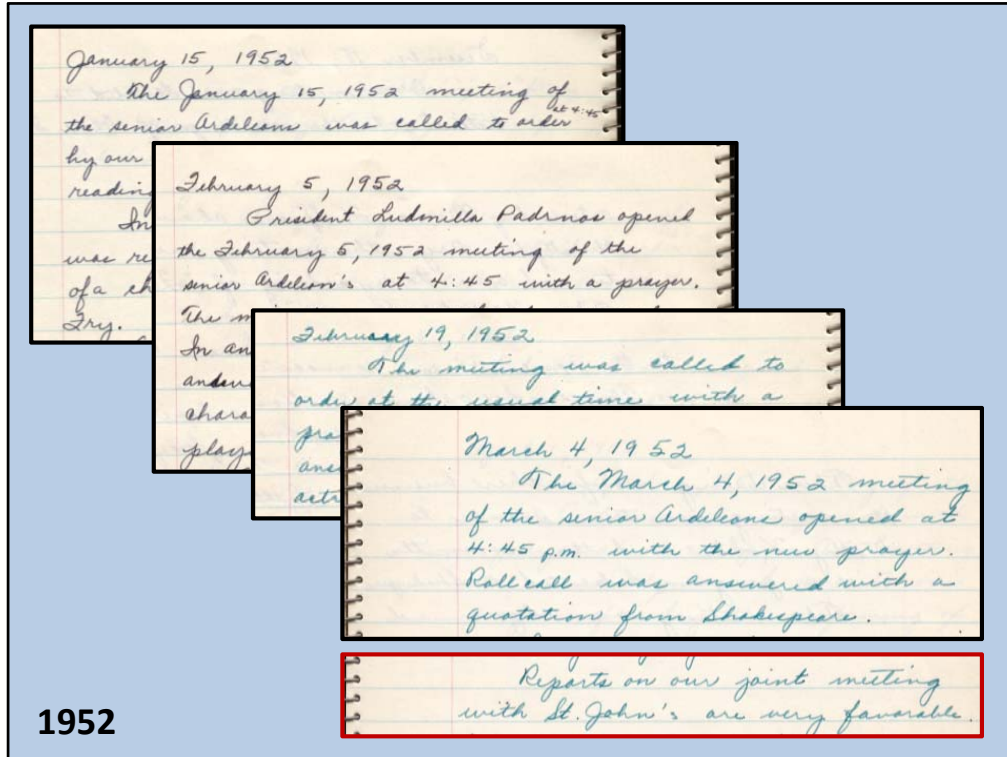
Attending the king, Mary McErlane, in "The Knave of Hearts" are Dora Dionne, Rose Dunbar, Pat Potter, Marlene Cummings, Dolores Kohler, and Annela O'Meara.



1951

1951 Facula, p. 35

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7566/rec/40>



1951 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01
Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

January 15, 1952
The January 15, 1952 meeting of the senior Ardeleon was called to order by our president Mil Padmos with the reading of the official Ardeleon prayer. In answering the roll each member was requested to answer with the name of a character from any play of Christopher Dry.

Creativity & theatrics in the roll call of every meeting!

February 5, 1952
President Ludovilla Padmos opened the February 5, 1952 meeting of the senior Ardeleon's at 4:45 with a prayer. The minutes were read and approved. In answering the roll those present answered by naming their favorite character from one of their favorite plays.

1952

1951 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01
Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

February 19, 1952

The meeting was called to order at the usual time with a prayer by our president. Members answered roll call with an actor or actress of the legitimate stage.

Creativity & theatrics in the roll call of every meeting!

March 4, 1952

The March 4, 1952 meeting of the senior Ardeleons opened at 4:45 p.m. with the new prayer. Roll call was answered with a quotation from Shakespeare.

Reports on our joint meeting with St. John's are very favorable.

1952

1951 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01
Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

The twelfth meeting of the year took place on March 31.

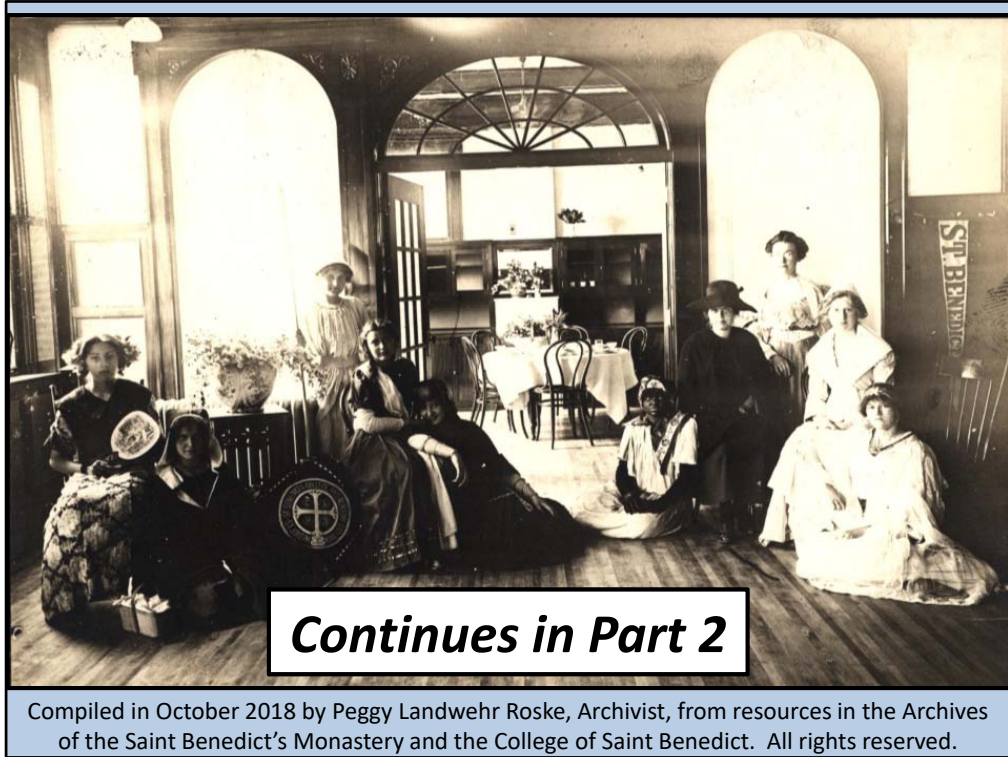
Joan Kiltzer made up M.L. Wenne's like a fairy.
Raney Hynes suggested we get some big powder puffs & brushes & Madam Pres. said she would pick some up.

The Ardeleons and the Johnnies get together for joint meetings:

The thirteenth meeting of the year was held May 5th.
May 19th was agreed upon & have a joint meeting with St. John's here. Plans were discussed for the entertainment of the meeting. All the members were assigned either to the ^{the} entertainment or refreshment committee.

1952

1952 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01 Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955



St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder