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2018

## Ardeleons: Drama on a Woman's Campus, Part 2

Peggy L. Roske

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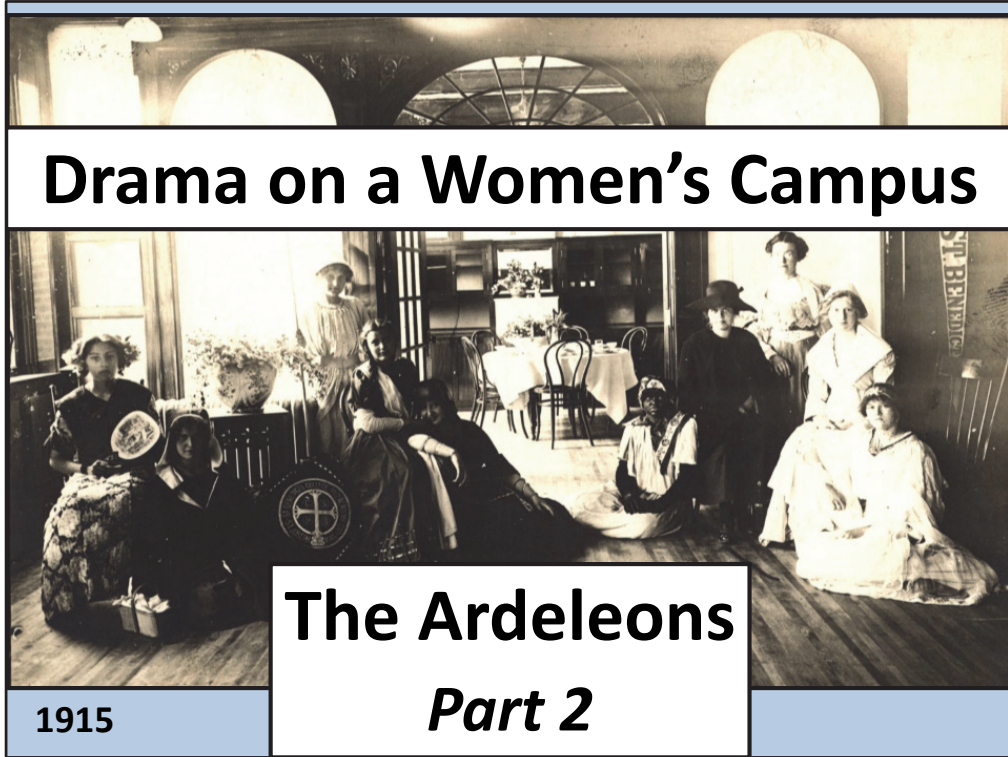
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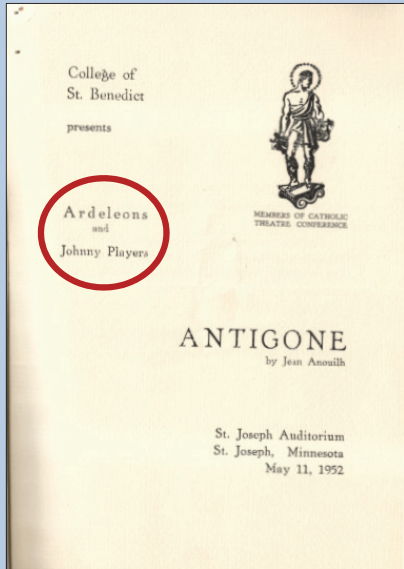
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St. Ben's Monastery Archives photo – PG Dramatics folder

And truly joint  
productions begin.



1952

THE PLAYERS

Chorus .....	Marianna Milroy
Antigone .....	Rosemary Hynes
Nurse .....	Margaret Gregory
Ismene .....	Jacqueline Ulmen
Haemon .....	Douglas Brunette
Creon .....	David Kelsch
First Guard .....	Gerald Fix
Second Guard .....	John Galm
Third Guard .....	John Bachman
Messenger .....	Dolores Kohler
Page .....	Shirley Marcks
Eurydice .....	Ludmila Padrnos

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director .....	Sister Marcine, O. S. B.
Costumes .....	Sister Clarus, O. S. B.
Men's Costumes .....	Johnny Players
Stage Manager .....	Betty Zimmerman
Assistant .....	Bibiana Schirber
Lighting .....	Natalie Fish
	Dolores Daggett
Make-Up .....	The Cast
House Manager .....	Charlotte Sitar
Ushers .....	Ardeleons

"You must not let Antigone die. We shall carry the scar of her death for centuries." Zita Fearon, Pat Casey, Sally Pollock, Agnes Miller, Irma Gentilini, Julie Hughes, Cecelia Prokock, Mary Lee Foley.



Antigone was done in 1952 – but the photos are from the 1957 yearbook - just a few years later, but all the students had changed.

ANTIGONE  
by Jean Anouilh  
  
St. Joseph Auditorium  
St. Joseph, Minnesota  
May 11, 1952

*Ardeleons*

Antigone, the fifth century B.C. drama by Sophocles, complete with dance interpretive chorus, officially opened the year for the Ardeleons. "She Stoops to Conquer," an eighteenth century comedy by Oliver Goldsmith, followed in March.

Both junior and senior groups are given the opportunity to learn the arts of make-up, lights, stage craft, sound and costuming. Senior Ardeleons, in addition to taking acting parts, are given experience as student producers. The plays, given in collaboration with the Johnny Players, were under the direction of Sister Colman. President of the club this year was Jeanne O'Fallon.



"Father! They are dragging Antigone away! You've got to stop them!" Tom Murray, Bob Hall.

1957 Facula, p. 75  
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8550/rec/71>

The cast of *The Man Who Came To Dinner* wait anxiously to hear Mr. Whiteside's new idea.



### Ardeleons, Players Produce Comedy

Eight members of the Ardeleons are cooperating with the Johnny Players in the production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner" by Moss Hart and George Kaufman. Scheduled for October 25 and 26, the comedy's title role is assigned to Michael Thomas. Seventeen other Johnny players complete the male cast.

Joan Kilzer of Missoula, Montana; Jacqueline Ulmen of Mankato; Betty Zimmerman of Rochester; Dolores Daggett of Windom; Dolores Kohler of Tacoma, Washington; Jeanne Grifkowski and Marlene Delaria of St. Cloud; and Nancy Hynes of Winnebago are the Ardeleons who are appearing in the comedy about the egotistic Sheridan Whiteside, nationally famous radio star.

Another joint production in 1952

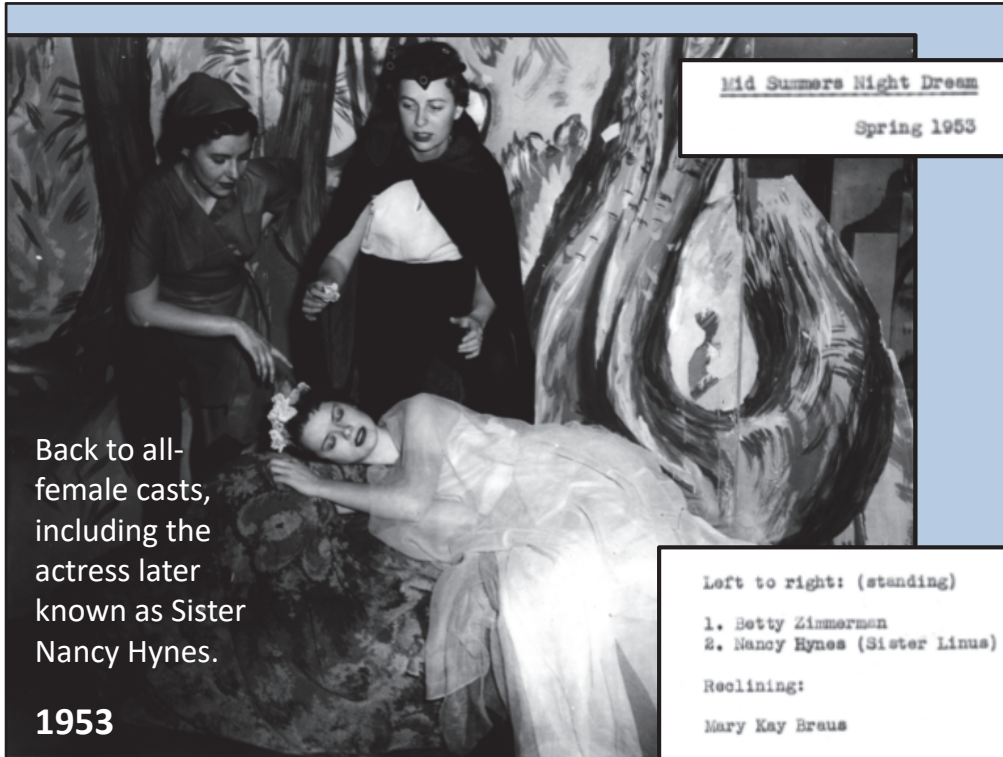
1952

Text: 1952-10 The Benet Volume 18 Number 01

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1756/rec/49>

1953 Facula p.38

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8393/rec/51>



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

In addition to plays, concerts and convocations given at St. Benedict's, the energies and talents of Bennies are extended to Johnny-Benny productions and exchange programs. This year's record shows Ardeleons collaborating with the Johnny Players in such productions as "The Lady's Not For Burning," "The Tempest" and "Macbeth," and in return the Johnnies assuming male leads in campus plays at St. Benedict's.

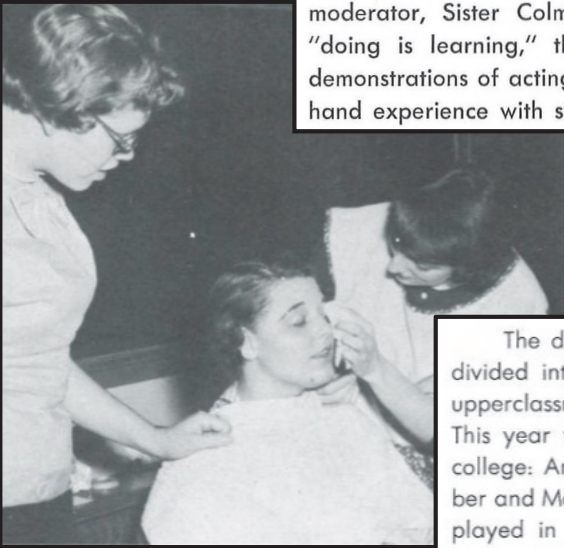
Another  
joint  
production



**1954**

Jacqueline Ulmen, Nancy Hynes, William Chisholm, Mary Ann Gallick, James Motl, Richard Betting, James Nolan in "The Lady's Not For Burning."

1954 Facula, p. 29 <http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8435/rec/57>



Ardeleons, a club of aspiring actresses, meets twice a month to read and discuss plays under the direction of moderator, Sister Colman. Believers of the adage that "doing is learning," the Ardeleons also hold practical demonstrations of acting techniques and make use of first-hand experience with stage equipment.

**1955**

The drama club on campus, Ardeleons, is divided into two sections: a Senior group for upperclassmen and a Junior group for Freshmen. This year they staged two productions at the college: Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* in December and Moliere's *The Miser* in March. They also played in the St. John's University plays *The Curious Savage* and *Othello*. All the shows here were produced in collaboration with the Johnny Players of St. John's.

**1956**

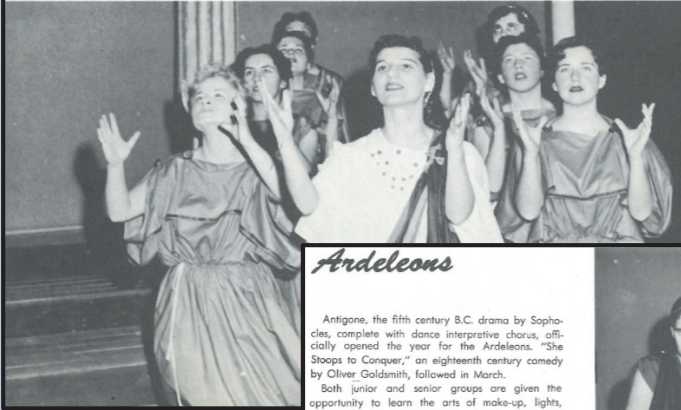
1955 *Facula*, p.30 <http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3491/rec/62>

1956 *Facula* p.36

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8493/rec/68>



"You must not let Antigone die. We shall carry the scar of her death for centuries." Zita Fearon, Pat Casey, Sally Pallock, Agnes Miller, Irma Gentilini, Julie Hughes, Cecelia Prokosch, Mary Lee Foley.



*Antigone – again.*

### *Ardeleons*

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**1957**

1957 Facula, p. 75

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8550/rec/71>

## ARDELEONS

"All work and no play" would make the Benny Ardeleons quite unhappy. Swinging into the dramatic whirl this fall, the Ardeleons, along with the Johnny Players, presented "The Lute Song" under the able direction of Sister Colman.

### "Lute Song" - December 7-8, 1958

"The meeting of the Junior & Senior Ardeleons was held on Thursday, December 11, 1958 at 6:30 o'clock..."

"The heads of all the committees were asked to give a report on their committee."

1958

The meeting was held with a prayer of the meeting of the J & S Ardeleons held on Thursday, December 11, 1958 at 6:30 o'clock. The heads of all the committees were asked to give a report on their committee. (1) - music committee - good (2) - costumes - good, very little opposition. (3) - Colman has done almost all the work by herself. She gave about 150 hrs. (4) - Kates & programs - late - the first one didn't cover the expenses - (5) publicity - the girls were not enthusiastic enough & can't wait to make mistakes & learn by experience. (6) makeup - very good, pleased with the committee (7) prop - too small a crew, also what but quite from these committees helped - would work during the play (8) light - late start - not enough time to practice so after girls had to do the work (9) stage - suppose we had a difficulty in putting things back (10) house committees - good - but girls dropped out and two girls ended up being about. The cleaning up work done.

1958 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01  
Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

1. Music committee - good.
2. Costumes - poor; very little cooperation. Sr. Clarus had done almost all the work by herself. She gave about 150 hrs. freely.

The meeting was opened with a prayer & the meeting of the G.S. An award shield on Thursday, December 11, 1958 at 6:30 o'clock.

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Home Economics, Education,  
Sigma Kappa Phi, Costumes

**S. COLMAN**  
Speech and Drama,  
Ardeleons



**1958**

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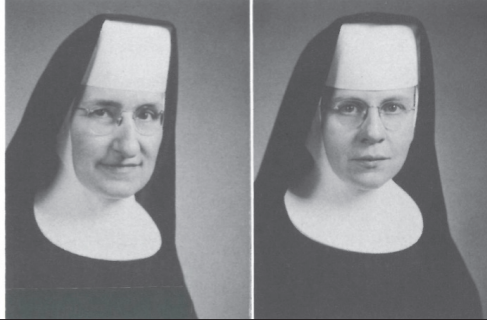
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"It was pointed out that all should stay and help on the play at least the last two weekends before the production and certainly the weekend of it. From now on they are closed to Ardeleons except for special permission. We don't realize that each and every person is important. The Freshmen must learn to realize their responsibilities."

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upon to give Ben a box of candy and to  
St. Clause and Miss Allen a spiritual  
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St. Coleman then gave a pep talk. She was  
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**1958**

1958 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01

Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

Photos in 1959 Facula, p. 9 & 10

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8578/rec/21>

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Sr. Coleman then was not displeased and the actress gave the sense of gratitude.



MISS ALLEN  
Physical Education,  
Modern Dance

1958 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01

Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

Photos in 1959 Facula, p. 9 & 10

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8578/rec/21>

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But - she was embarrassed & humiliated at (1) our lack of responsibility, like going home when it was our duty to be here, and letting Sr. Claws do most of the costumes (2) the money had been left in Sr. Mary Patrick's office (3) the refreshments were slow (4) the coming late for rehearsals (5) some props were treated badly (6) and the failure to put the things away and Sr. had to do most of the cleaning up herself.

Sr. Coleman was disappointed with the freshmen and thought we had shown babies but it will be up to us to show her that we aren't and that we can accept responsibility. We will have to improve greatly in order to prove ourselves.

It was then decided that each girl should evaluate herself and see if she is worthy to remain in the club.


Her evaluation would then be read and decided upon.

The meeting was then closed.

Respectfully submitted  
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1959-60. Ardelions

The first meeting of the Junior Ardelions was held on Tuesday, October 13, 1959, tenth hour in Room 107.

Sister Colman opened the meeting with a prayer and then began to discuss the purpose of the Ardelions. Its purpose is to give good plays for the audience, to delight them, and to entertain them.

Also, it gives its members some training in the theatre, in helping to understand it, the delight of creating and very important is the training in responsibility.

It is the students' responsibility to see that the club works. The duties of its members are to co-operate in every production unless excused, to be dependable, and to work hard.

**Oct. 13**

"The purpose of the Ardelions [sic]...is to give good plays for the audience, to delight them, and to entertain them..."

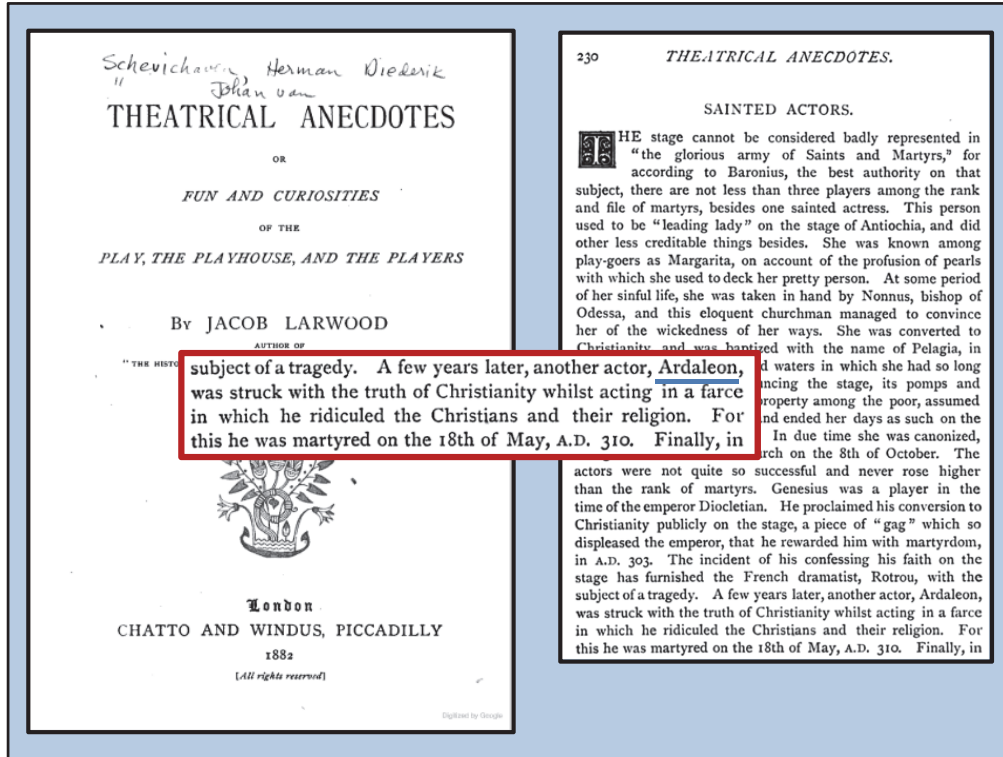
S. Colman continues to drive home the same points with subsequent generations of students

**1959**

1959 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01  
Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955

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1959 - from CSB Archives, Theater Dept 1930s-1970s AC 07.41 Box 01  
 Ardeleon Minutes and Notebook, 1950 to 1955



**Theatrical Anecdotes: Or Fun and Curiosities of the Play, the Playhouse, and ...** by Jacob Larwood, 1882, p.

230 [https://books.google.com/books?id=RjMOAAAIAAJ&lpg=PA230&ots=\\_lqcvwW4jk&dq=ardaleon%20actor&pg=PP9#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=RjMOAAAIAAJ&lpg=PA230&ots=_lqcvwW4jk&dq=ardaleon%20actor&pg=PP9#v=onepage&q&f=false)



*Ardeleons*  
Theater Arts

"All the world's a stage" and Benny Ardeleons are busy proving this to audiences throughout the year. Ardeleons is an organization for the students on the CSB campus who are interested in any phase of theater production. During the course of the year various meetings are used to instruct members in the many arts that go on behind the scenes of a play. Stagecraft, make-up, costuming, property work and direction give everyone a chance to show her talent other than on the stage.

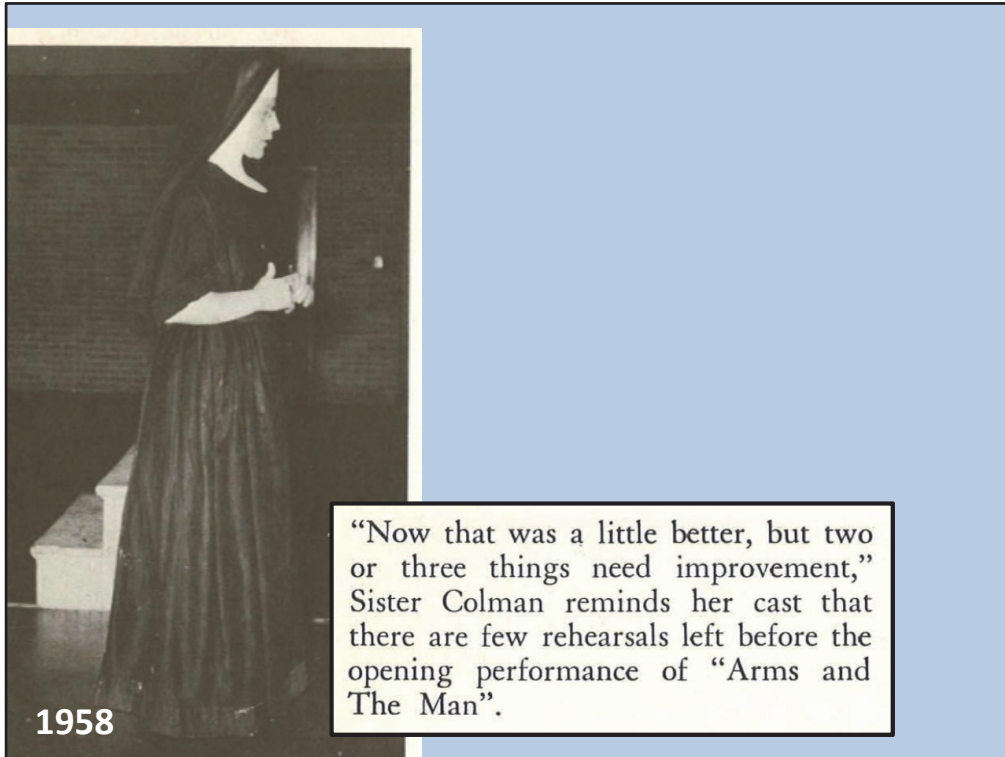
Productions range from Greek to Shakespeare to modern. Each year a children's play is also given.

"Now that was a little better, but two or three things need improvement," Sister Colman reminds her cast that there are few rehearsals left before the opening performance of "Arms and The Man".

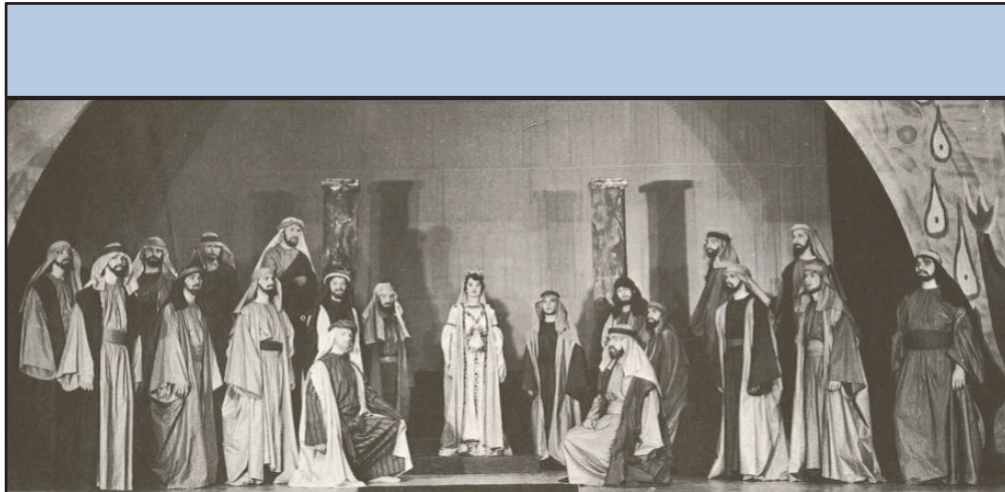


**1958**

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3549/rec/20>  
1958 Facula p. 65-66



<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3549/rec/20>  
1958 Facula p. 65



Freshman Florence Wagener joins the Johnny Players to read the title role in a production of Ronald Knox's translation of *The Book of Judith*. It is an arrangement for use in choric reading to which was added costumes and scenery. The arrangement was made and directed by Fr. Dominic, OSB.

**1958**

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3550/rec/20>  
1958 Facula p. 68





Members of the Ardeleons sign out before going to St. John's to join the Johnnies in presenting *The Admirable Crichton*.

**1960**

1960 Facula, p. 64 <http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8745/rec/22>

From:  
Delores Krause, News Director  
College of St. Benedict  
St. Joseph, Minnesota  
Phone: St. Joseph 2011, Ex. 10  
Re: St. Cloud TIMES  
For immediate release 4/19/60

About:  
CHILDREN'S PLAY TO BE PRESENTED AT 7:30 SATURDAY

This is the fourth annual production of a children's play in the St. Cloud area given by the Ardeleons.

The children of the St. Cloud area have a treat in store for them on Saturday when the Ardeleons of the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, present "Out of the Booby's Box", a play especially written for children, at Technical High School auditorium. Two performances will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The admission price is only 25¢.

"Out of the Booby's Box" was viewed by over 16,000 children in the Los Angeles area last year. It is a delightful fantasy about greenrunches, Jollyruspus, and Bum Bum, a baker doll. Lasting about 1½ hours, the play is filled with original songs, creative dances, and colorful costumes and scenery designed with the children in mind.

This is the fourth annual production of a children's play in the St. Cloud area given by the Ardeleons. Previously the plays have been presented in the Cathedral High School auditorium but this year it has been moved to Technical High because of the larger seating capacity and the fact that the entire stage can be viewed from all of the seats.

# # # # #

1960

1960 - CSB Archives, AC 12.01 F02 Box 01, PIO News Releases

From: News Director  
Tel.: St. Joseph 363-7711  
To: St. Cloud TIMES  
April 22, 1961

About: ARDELEONS TO GIVE AREA CHILDREN THEATER OPPORTUNITY

The magic world of make-believe will come to life for the children of the St. Cloud area when Grimm's beloved fairy tale, "Hansel and Gretel", is presented by the Ardeleons of The College of St. Benedict, April 29-30.

Performances will be given at Technical High School gymnasium Saturday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There will be two presentations at Mary Hall on the campus of the College of St. Benedict on Sunday. Curtain time will be 2 and 3 p.m.

\* \* \*

1961

1961 -- CSB Archives, AC 12.01 F02 Box 01, PIO News Releases

Also sent to: 5 others  
St. Jo Benton Col News  
Cold Spring  
Richmond  
Albany  
From: News Director  
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About:  
CINDERELLA SELECTED AS CHILDREN'S PLAY TO BE PRESENTED BY BENNY PLAYERS

A comic-musical  
sixth annual children's play  
College of St. Benedict, M

A comic-musical version of CINDERELLA has been selected as the sixth annual children's play to be presented by the Benny Players of the College of St. Benedict, May 12-14.

According to Sister Colman, head of the speech and drama department at the college, the Players launched into children's theater a few years ago to give youngsters in the

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"We feel," says Sister Colman, "that the children's play does much more than offer entertainment on the child's level which is of lasting cultural, educational and social value. Story book favorites who come to life act as a powerful stimulus to the imagination and to creative play."

"You see," she  
three-dimensional vision that

Students from the play production class, taught by Sister Colman, will direct the play. They are: Susan Dirkswager, St. Cloud; Joanne Jedlicki, Sauk Rapids; and Kristin Lundheim, Minneapolis.

Maryterese Schweitzer and Carol Kron, St. Cloud, are included in the cast.

Performances will  
Auditorium and at the coll

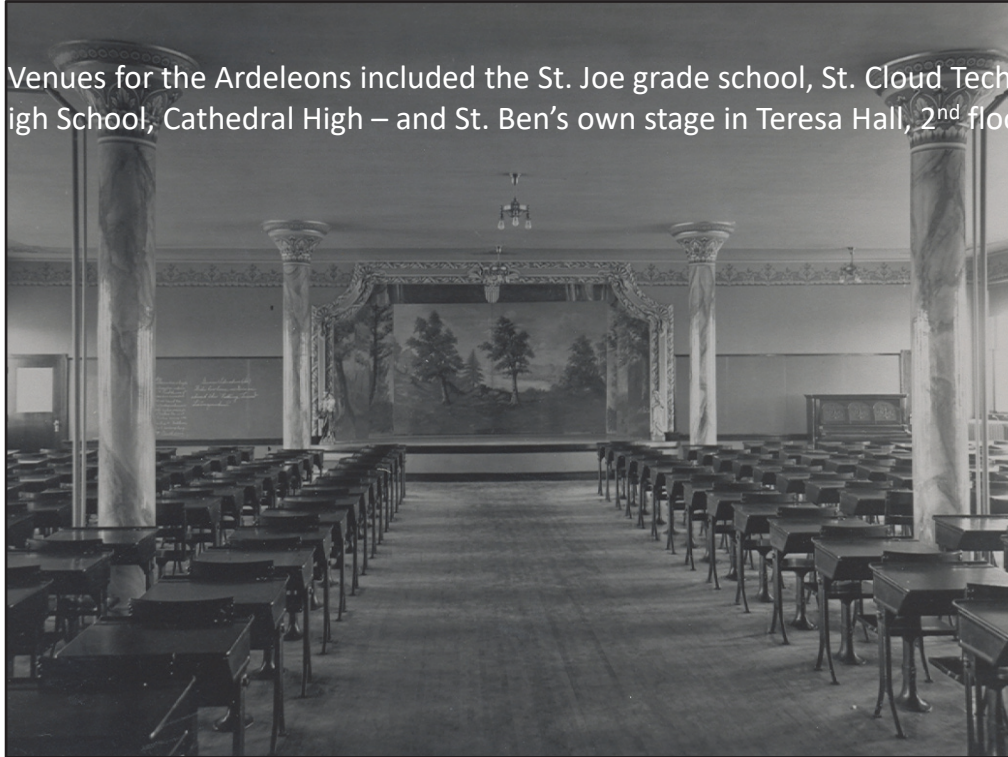
"You see," she adds, "spectators of live theater play a part in the three-dimensional vision that is denied to inert TV and film viewers."

1962

Some philosophical words from Colman that are still relevant in these days of video-on-demand!

1962 -- CSB Archives, AC 12.01 F02 Box 01, PIO News Releases

Venues for the Ardeleons included the St. Joe grade school, St. Cloud Tech High School, Cathedral High – and St. Ben's own stage in Teresa Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor



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2018 10 26 photo by P. Roske



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