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Performer and Writer Biographies

University of Dayton

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THE CROSSROADS



A storm traps a group of strangers in a local bar: The Crossroads. As the mysteries of their past are revealed, so is the sinister nature of the bar itself.

THE PERFORMERS

Emily Battaglia: Emily is a Communication major from Michigan. While she has never been involved in voice acting, she was an active member of the theatre program at her high school. She has especially enjoyed playing the role of the narrator in The Crossroads, and hopes that listeners enjoy the podcast as much as she has!

Sean Brouwer: Sean is a freshman Discover Arts major from Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He's a pretty whacky dude and if you've ever wondered "Who the hell is playing the bagpipes at this hour?!?!", it's most likely been him. This is his first experience with any form of acting, but he's confident that it won't be the last!

Rose DeFluri: Rose is an Art Education Major, from Dayton, Ohio. A lover of books on tape, and radio dramas, she's always wanted to try voice acting. Her only previous dramatic role was a lizard in a pantomime play at age 10. A whole decade later, she's following her voice acting dreams in the starring role as "Flirty Woman" in episode 5.

Jessica de Groot: This is Jess' first foray into voice acting, and she has very much enjoyed working on The Crossroads. Listen for her emotional tones in her portrayal of "Judith" in episode one. After graduation she hopes to hike the Appalachian Trail, learn how to juggle, and find her way into a graduate program for Social Work

Joey Gore: Joey is a Sophomore Computer Engineering student from Columbus, Ohio. This is his first time voice acting in any format, but he has held a few small roles in high school theater and here at UD Studio Theater. And no, he is not related to Al.

Andrea Hansgen: Andrea is a PoliSci and German major from Centerville, OH. She has been quite active in theatre both at UD and in the community but this is her first venture into voice acting. She is excited to continue with voice acting beyond *The Crossroads* and will be playing Ellie Davis in the next Writer's Room Podcast *Off The Record*.

Owen Kane: Owen is a Sophomore Marketing and Advertising major from Hingham, Massachusetts. His previous theatre experiences at UD include All in the Timing, 13 Ways to Ruin Your College Interview, Rocky Horror Picture Show and Arsenic and Old Lace.

Benjamin McMillin: Ben is a Sophomore Mechanical Engineering Technology major from Reminderville, Ohio. This is his first time voice acting. He has held many roles in a variety of shows since he was in elementary school. His favorite role was Patrick O'rielly in the show "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" during his Junior year of high school.

Quintenilla Merriweather: Quin is a Journalism and Counseling major from Milton Under Wychwood, England, UK. Previous theatre experiences include doing make-up and sound for productions of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Beauty and the Beast, West Side Story, Footloose, and The Little Shop of Horrors. She is excited to be a part of the talented cast and crew of *The Crossroads*.

Jorge Muñoz: Jorge, from Ponce, Puerto Rico, is a senior at UD majoring in Communication and minoring in Theatre. Jorge began pursuing acting in high school in Romeo and Juliet. Recently, he has starred in And a Child Shall Lead, Unnoticed, and Peter Pan and Wendy: The Musical. *The Crossroads* is his first podcast production and he hopes to do many more.

Giesha Nunez: Giesha was born in the Philippines and raised in Hawaii. She currently attends the University of Dayton as a Communications major. Giesha enjoys photography, reading, and going to the beach. She was active in her high school's drama club and served as the president for three years. Giesha is excited to portray Laura Bravo-Miles in *The Crossroads*!

Katie Obear: Katie is a senior Education major from Bloomfield Hills, MI. This is her first time acting at UD and with voice acting in a podcast, but prior to this she was involved in six musicals and a play where she played various roles. After graduation, she will be attending UD to earn her masters.

Dominic Sanfilippo: Dominic graduated from the University of Dayton in 2016 with a BA in Philosophy and Human Rights Studies. Although he has been involved with various writing and literary efforts in the past, this is his first podcast/voice acting experience, and he is really excited to work with such talented people and put his raspy voice to the test!

Olivia Thomakos: Olivia is a junior English and Secondary Education double major from New Philadelphia, Ohio. The last time she performed was as Mrs. Paroo in her 7th grade production of The Music Man. Olivia enjoys piña coladas and gettin caught in the rain. She hopes you love *The Crossroads*!

Emily Ullman: Emily is a junior English major from Cincinnati, Ohio. Her previous experiences in acting span back to her days in her high school's theatre program. She is excited to take part in *The Crossroads* as Lucy Scottlinn and hopes you enjoy the podcast series!

Norb Wessels: Norb is a senior Criminal Justice Studies major from Northern Kentucky. He is a member of On the Fly Improv and Studio Theatre. This is first experience with voice acting, and he hopes that you enjoy the hard work of the cast and crew of *The Crossroads*.

THE WRITERS

Alyssa Argentine: Alyssa is a UD Media Production major with minors in English and Film Studies from Chicago, Illinois. *The Crossroads* is her first podcast she's ever written for and worked on. However, she's been writing since she was a kid, starting with fan fictions inspired by the band, Fall Out Boy. She hopes to become a television screenwriter and producer.

Steven Dougherty: Steven is a junior English and Philosophy major at the University of Dayton. *The Crossroads* is the first podcast he has ever worked on, but he has some experience in writing poetry and short fiction. Currently working on a ground breaking project in the history of falling down, he is constantly made aware of the gravity of his work.

Rose Dyar: Rose is a sophomore English and Human Rights major at the University of Dayton. She enjoys putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard, to be more accurate), people watching (especially grandpas and babies, together or separate), and laughing (so hard she snorts). Grateful for the opportunity to write for *The Crossroads*, she welcomes listeners to the story.

Cathy Hol: Cathy graduated from UD in December 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Media Productions. As a student, Cathy was a member of FlyerTV and the UD Dance Ensemble. Cathy had a wonderful time writing and producing *The Crossroads*, and she can't wait for its official release. She looks forward to the future and to the writing projects ahead!

William Lawrence: William Lawrence is a senior English major from Akron, Ohio. This is his first time writing a podcast, but he worked as a sound engineer throughout high school. He enjoys dramatic podcasts and is excited to be a writer for *The Crossroads*.

Katherine McCaffery: Katherine is a Junior at UD majoring in English and Spanish. She is incredibly excited to be a part of this project. Katherine enjoys watching Netflix, getting free food, and avoiding her impending adult responsibilities. She thanks her family and friends for their support, her fellow writers, Prof. Burnside, Street Sounds, and the English Department for their inspiration and help.

Rachel Pohlman: Rachel is a senior Psychology and English double major from Rochester, MI and is very excited to be participating in *The Crossroads* production. While this is her first time writing a podcast, she enjoys writing short stories and recently delved into poetry. Upon graduation, she hopes to obtain her Masters in Industrial and Organizational Psychology.

Katlin Sarantou: Katlin is a senior English major from Toledo, Ohio. *The Crossroads* is her first podcast experience. In her spare time she can be found binge-watching Netflix, reading Jane Austen, writing short fiction, and advocating for the Oxford comma.

Molly Stanifer: Molly is a Secondary Education and English double major from Springboro, Ohio. The Crossroads is the first podcast she has participated with, but enjoys writing in various publications during her undergraduate career. After graduation, Molly hopes to go on to teach high school English.

William Van Winkle: Will is a third-year English major from Indianapolis, IN. He enjoys swimming, playing ultimate, and reads a book every now and then. He has never been a part of a screenwriting class, but interned for a documentary film group in summer 2016. He has many interests/hobbies, so you should definitely stop him and question his life choices whenever possible.

Cari Zahn: Cari is a junior English and journalism double major from Dayton, Ohio. She has been involved with several different writing and editing projects, but nothing like The Crossroads. She is very excited that this podcast is her first venture into scriptwriting and hopes listeners become as invested in the story as she is.