

# Message from President Cook and Jill Schotters

April 16, 2024

Hello, everyone. I'm joining you today from the set of "Proof", the last of four Theater NDSU Productions in 2023-2024.

Jilli Schotters, who plays Catherine in Proof, and a music theater major here at NDSU is here to, uh, here with me to share a little bit more about the upcoming performance. We're super excited, so uh...

Tell us a little bit more about yourself and how you got involved in theater.

Well, I am a sophomore here at NDSU and I am a Musical Theater major and I'm getting a minor in Human Developmental and Family Sciences.

I came here originally for elementary education but then I started getting involved in the theater department and I decided that I just wanted to be in the program full-time.

Love it! So what's the best part of being an NDSU student?

Oh, the people... and the theater community here, it's great! And I'm just always so supportive and I get to do so much cool stuff like this, and yeah...

-- And the president right?

Oh yeah, of course...

-- Okay, very good!

[Laughter] So uh, what is "Proof" about and how can the NDSU community show its support?

"Proof" is what we kind of have been calling a family drama, and it's about Catherine and she grew up with her father, who was a crazy mathematician, and he gave her a lot of those talents and also a lot of his negative traits. The show deals with themes of mental illness and how to take care of aging parents and things like that.

Pretty deep important topics. [Yeah!] That's very cool.

Well, looking forward to seeing it here soon so, can you give us a small preview about what's to come [I can] in Proof, Catherine?

I can give you the largest Germain Prime which is 92305 times 2 to the 16998th plus 1.

Let me just make sure you got that right [laughter]. I think you did, so, good! [Laughter] That's fantastic, so... well there you have it! The show opens Thursday...

-- it does...

-- And my wife and I (Kate) are really looking forward to seeing the whole performance... just coming down here, period, for the entire NDSU community, the community at large.

It's a great place to see our students and faculty and staff perform and knock it out of the park day, day in and day out.

So this is going to be a lot of fun. I hope everybody comes and celebrates our students, our amazing faculty including Marc Devine, Mark Engler, and Tiffany Fier, who lead them. We appreciate their leadership, and thank you Jill for sharing with us all that Proof is about... --Of course...

--It's going to be a very exciting opportunity, so, you got it?

Ready?

Go Bison! --Go Bison!

Go Bison! There you go.