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# POTUS:

OR, BEHIND EVERY GREAT  
DUMBASS ARE SEVEN WOMEN  
TRYING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE

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EDUCATION PACKET

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Developed by  
Luis Galvez



# ABOUT THE PLAY

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By playwright Selina Fillinger, *POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive* is a riotous comedy about the women in charge of the man in charge of the free world.

“One four-letter word is about to rock 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. When the President unwittingly spins a PR nightmare into a global crisis, the seven brilliant and beleaguered women he relies upon most risk life, liberty, and the pursuit of sanity to keep the commander-in-chief out of trouble.

Selina Fillinger’s brilliant, all-female farce took Broadway by storm in a star-studded production that earned three 2022 Tony nominations.”



# ABOUT THE PLAY

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## Setting:

“The White House. Perhaps not the current administration, exactly - but broad strokes of past presidents, combined with stress dreams of future ones.

And, if we're being honest, an amalgamation of them all...”



## Major Themes:

- Female Empowerment
- Misogyny and Patriarchy
- Politics
- Ambition and Resilience
- Responsibility and Authority
- Political Satire



## Content Warning:

This play contains mentions of sex, depictions of weapons, and drug use. Adult language is used throughout the play.

# TERMS TO KNOW

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## President of the United States (POTUS)

- Current POTUS: Joe Biden
- Responsibilities
  - Manage politics with other countries
  - Hire executive staff
  - Enforce federal laws
  - Supreme commander of the U.S. military
  - Recommend new laws to Congress
  - Hold Regular press conferences



## First Lady of the United States (FLOTUS)

- Current FLOTUS: Jill Biden
- No formal responsibilities, but often leads public initiatives and has a strong media presence.



## Chief of Staff

- Current Chief of Staff: Jeff Zients
- Responsibilities:
  - Help develop policies with the President
  - Oversee daily operations
  - Coordinate staff activities



# TERMS TO KNOW

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## White House Press Secretary

- Current Press Secretary: Karine Jean-Pierre
- Responsibilities
  - Collect information about executive activities
  - Manage the relationship between POTUS and the media



## President's Secretary

- Current President's Secretary: Julia Reed
- Responsibilities
  - Bookkeeping
  - Scheduling
  - Organizing correspondence (letters, phone calls, emails)



Madeleine Westerhout  
(In office 2017-2019)

## The Press Corps

- A group of journalists that report to news networks such as CNN, FOX, and ABC News
- Inform the public about President's actions and activities to ensure transparency and accountability



# DURING THE SHOW

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- There is no photography or recording of any kind allowed during the performance. Silence your phone and refrain from texting, as it can be distracting to those around you or on stage.
- No outside food or drink is allowed in the theater. However, any purchases made at our concession stand can be enjoyed in the theater during the show. Remain seated throughout the duration of the play.
- There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts, which would be a great time to check your phone, go to the bathroom, grab some snacks, or talk about the play.



# OTHER REMINDERS

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- Timeliness is KEY
    - It is important to arrive before the show's start time (7:30 pm for preview and evening shows, 2:00 pm for Sunday matinees).
    - Consider arriving earlier to beat the lines and snag good parking.
    - Doors open thirty minutes before curtain.
- Parking

- Parking
  - Do not park between our building and the red brick building on the east side of Reno Little Theater. (You will be towed)
  - Street parking is available but limited.



# ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

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*POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive* is being produced by Reno Little Theater at 147 E. Pueblo St. Reno, NV.

*POTUS* will be running in rep (alternating weekends) with *Support Group for Men*.

| SEPTEMBER 2024   |     |     |     |          |                  |                  |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|------------------|------------------|
| SUN              | MON | TUE | WED | THU      | FRI              | SAT              |
| 1                | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5        | 6                | 7                |
| 8                | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12       | 13 POTUS         | 14 POTUS         |
| 15 POTUS         | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19       | 20 Support Group | 21 Support Group |
| 22 Support Group | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26 POTUS | 27 POTUS         | 28 POTUS         |
| 29 POTUS         | 30  |     |     |          |                  |                  |

| OCTOBER 2024     |     |     |     |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| SUN              | MON | TUE | WED | THU              | FRI              | SAT              |
|                  |     | 1   | 2   | 3 Support Group  | 4 Support Group  | 5 Support Group  |
| 6 Support Group  | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10 POTUS         | 11 POTUS         | 12 POTUS         |
| 13 POTUS         | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17 Support Group | 18 Support Group | 19 Support Group |
| 20 Support Group | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24               | 25               | 26               |

For more information about the production and Reno Little Theater, visit [renolittletheater.org](http://renolittletheater.org)

