Artists have an innate compulsion to discover Truth: theatre artists in particular. Whatever its nature may be - factual, emotional, and spiritual – the best playwrights, actors, and directors delve deeply to uncover Truth. It’s that effort that illuminates the best in what theatre artists do. The effort is often grueling and can be painful. Stripping away artifice is an unpleasant process.

The search for truth is the central theme of The Drawer Boy, and it’s no accident that the story’s protagonist is a young thespian. The play takes place on a small farm in Ontario, Canada, where Miles (played by Aaron Alford) comes to find material for a large-scale project he and his acting troupe are working on.

Playwright Michael Healey invents the episodes that occur during the actor’s stay, as Miles gets to know Morgan and Angus, the two farm owners. Angus (played by Jim Hackett) is particularly fascinating to Miles. He suffers from a brain injury, and his short-term memory is practically nonexistent. Morgan (played by Barry Chambers) is his caretaker, and has created a fictional story of their past, based on elements of truth, that protects Angus from some very painful memories.

The irony of Miles’ character is that as he searches for artistic truth, he never questions the series of outlandish chores Morgan requires him to do or the hysterically bad information Morgan gives him about the work of the farm. Miles accepts the seemingly obvious absurdity of that statement, yet he is relentless about uncovering what happened to Angus.

But in the end, The Drawer Boy is effective because of its compassion. It tells a compelling story of friendship and deep, personal loyalty that is quite moving. “The Drawer Boy” runs from May 21-June 7. Please call the Theatre Box Office for tickets or information at (409) 933-8345, ext. 8345 or order tickets online at www.com.edu/theatre.
Barry Chambers (Morgan) is delighted to be working with the cast and crew of “Drawer Boy.” He thanks director Brian for his talent, vision and wit. Barry’s favorite COM roles include Harry Rote in “Wait Until Dark” and Ira in “Laughter on the 23rd Floor.” As a writer, his plays have been produced across the country. His novels, “Rattler” (Pinnacle) and “Willy the Hit Man” (Coldwater), are widely enjoyed. Barry and his wife have a comic/romance e-book series about Emma, a matchmaker who works in a luxury Galveston hotel. Barry dedicates his performance to Mark Adams. We miss you, Admiral.

Jim Hackett (Angus) last trod the COM stage in 2012 in “Deathtrap,” playing Sidney Bruhl. Before that, Jim portrayed a multitude of different characters in “The 39 Steps.” In 2010 he played Elwood P. Dowd in “Harvey,” his third production on the COM stage that year, having also acted in “The Importance of Being Earnest” and “Spinning into Butter.” Jim’s other appearances at the “Biggest Li’l Theatre in Texas” include “The Woman in Black,” “Red Herring,” “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” “Comic Potential,” “Bus Stop” and “The Taming of the Shrew.” Jim is a professor of speech communication and humanities department chair at College of the Mainland. He and his lovely wife, Jeanette, make their home in League City.

Aaron Alford (Miles) is thrilled to be participating in his first production at College of the Mainland. He would like to thank his friends, family and bride-to-be, Alayna Willey, for their continued support. He would like to dedicate this performance to Allen Wayne Alford. Previous appearances include “Boeing Boeing” (Bernard), “Pillowman” (Michal Katurian), “The 39 Steps” (Man #2), “The Producers” (Leo Bloom), “Little Shop of Horrors” (Orin Scivello, D.D.S.) and “Young Frankenstein” (Dr. Frederick Frankenstein). Sit back, relax and enjoy the talents of Aaron Alford!
Don’t miss our summer musical production!

**Sweeney Todd:**
The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by Hugh Wheeler
Directed by Eva De La Cruz
Music Direction by Jo Ellen Heburt

**July 16 – Aug. 2, 2015**

Thursdays – Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

For reservations, call the Box Office at 888-258-8859, ext. 8345 or 409-933-8345, or purchase tickets online at www.com.edu/theatre.
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College of the Mainland Community Theatre is always in need of backstage help for the performances. If you’ve ever had an interest in seeing how a play really works and don’t mind making some new friends and having some fun, we’d love to add you to our list of potential volunteers. You don’t need any experience (we’ll teach you what you need to know!), just availability for the performances and a few rehearsals. If you might be interested and available to work on any of our shows this year, please contact our Technical Director, Curt Meyer, at 409-933-8371.

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Online Ticket Sales

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