To the *School for Lies* cast and production crew,

Although we are sure you have all reached this conclusion by now, it is with a heavy heart that we must inform you all that we are no longer proceeding with plans to perform *The School for Lies* this semester. The board remained hopeful in these last few days that there would be certain conditions to Clark's COVID-19 response that would allow for us to continue working in perhaps a limited capacity towards a final product, but it no longer is feasible between the amount of students that must relocate from campus and Clark's restrictions on events. We are devastated with this news and feel enormously for the folks who are grieving the results of this decision.

First and foremost, we want to highlight and thank our sound designer for this show, Spike Bleyer. Spike is a graduating senior who will not be returning to Clark in the fall, and she is a beloved member of the theatre community on-campus. Spike has been sound designing for CUPS and on-campus shows since before all of us even received our Clark acceptance letters, and her talent and devotion will be an enormous loss felt by CUPS, CMT, and any other performance that depends on her prowess. Spike, thank you for everything you've done for us these past four years, and for your incredible knack for jumping onto projects head-on, felt in both *School for Lies* and last month's 24-Hour Playfest.

I would also like to thank the rest of our production team for their unmatched dedication to this production. Back in January, the board was facing a Google form with only three names attached, and we were terrified of the prospect of producing a show with such an insurmountably tiny crew. To have watched you all throw your support behind this show and jump in at any stage of the process was not only reassuring, but uplifting. On behalf of the whole board, thank you for everything you have given *School for Lies*. It is our hope your thoughts, designs, and visions will have not been created in vain.

Thank you to the cast of *School for Lies* for all that Andrew has already said and more. Hearing your praise for how rehearsals were conducted and how much you loved your team was invigorating, and left us with nothing but excitement each time we spoke with one of you. I know it is hugely disappointing that a true presentation of your efforts is in limbo at the moment, but I am a firm believer in the idea that there is still a great deal of joy to be found in the rehearsal process, and I hope have all been able to find it.

And last but certainly not least, to Andrew and Kelsey: thank you for being the absolute dream team. Everything we could have hoped to find in a director and stage manager was met tenfold, and it's a privilege to be able to say that. During a semester that saw an extremely green Executive Board take the reins for a full-fledged production, we depended on you both for a smooth and sound rehearsal process that was communicative and effective, and to say we are impressed is an understatement. We are beyond thankful to have gotten the chance to work with Andrew and Kelsey, just as we are sure the rest of this team is equally grateful. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you both.

This is a difficult time for everyone, and we promise that this is not the last you will hear from the board regarding contingency plans for this show. We aren't sure what the future will bring regarding *School for Lies* (all the more uncertain regarding the Little Center's closure in early May), but we are confident some sort of performance will be feasibly achieved early next semester. While the board will certainly discuss this in the coming days and weeks, we ask that you all be patient, as many of us are students in the process of transitioning out of campus life and returning to where we call home.

CUPS will be sending out a mass-email update to our mailing list, and updating our website with developments on all current and future events for the spring semester, including board elections. We encourage you to keep watch for this information as it is released this weekend. For now, thank you all once more for being such a wonderful team. This email will be closely monitored in the weeks ahead, so please know we are always available to talk to anyone who may need someone to listen to them at this moment. Stay safe everyone, and thank you.

Best,

The CUPS Executive Board

*Brett Iarrobino, President*

*Dylan Parra, Secretary*

*Casey Bowers, Treasurer*

*Will McKeon, Events Chair*

*Alex Sklarz, Publicity Chair*