YOU CAN’T TAKE IT WITH YOU
By Kauffman and Hart
Directed by Jason Gerace
“Art is an effort to create, beside the real world, a more humane world.”
~ Andre Maurois

Dear Friends,

Don’t make waves, we are warned. Say and do, live and love within society’s definitions. Go with the flow. But what if the flow would drown you? Swallow your humanity?

The Oak Park Festival Theatre 2018 Season celebrates the passionate, personal striving for self-determination and the self-definition of the souls who choose to swim against the tide.

Our 44th season promises to continue not only our rich legacy of professional theatre, but what we have always felt to be the very spirit of Shakespeare – exploring our humanity.

More than eighty years after it premiered on Broadway, our first play of the season, Kaufman and Hart’s Pulitzer-winning You Can’t Take It With You has lost none of its heartwarming message. We are looking at this laugh-out-loud classic with fresh eyes and hearts as we bring this story to life for today’s audience.

Later this summer, we are thrilled to be telling the story of The African Company Presents Richard III. This contemporary play by award-winning playwright Carlyle Brown is based on the real-life experiences of black actors performing Shakespeare in New York City forty years before the Civil War. It is part of American history, Black history, and Theater history that is almost never told. It is a behind the scenes story like no other – funny, uncompromising and uniquely American.

In addition to our traditional summer season of outdoor plays, this year we are also honored to present a cooperation with Oak Park’s Open Door Theater. The powerful and original Daughters of Ire is a one woman show in which a modern Seanchai (Irish Storyteller) brings to life women from Ireland’s rich mythology. Savanna Rae has crafted a script that’s biting, fierce, hilarious, sexy, and unsentimental – not to mention full of contradictions and incisive feminist political and cultural analysis.

Our work continues to be surprising, touching and powered by bringing fresh life to classic stories. We wish to thank our loyal audience, as well as those individuals, businesses, arts agencies, and foundations that support us with their generous donations and gifts. Without you, we simply would not exist. Together we are striving to create not only great theatre, but also that so much more humane world that we all seek.

Anne Rooney
President, Board of Directors

Jhenai Mootz
Managing Director

Barbara Zahora
Artistic Director
This year, we at Oak Park Festival Theatre celebrate stories of passion, personal striving for self-determination, and self-definition of the souls who choose to swim against the tide. This summer will be full of humor, full of wit, full of fun, but always with an eye towards the future. It is a summer of asking difficult questions, of making waves. And there is no better person to whom to dedicate this season to than our captain of 15 years, Jack Hickey. Nor could there be a better more appropriate season to dedicate to him.

On March 1st of this year Jack stepped down as Artistic Director, a position he has faithfully held since 2003. However, we are both proud and grateful to say that he will remain as Artistic Director Emeritus and an active part of our company. “I am stepping aside, but I am not stepping away. I have been invited to serve as Artistic Director Emeritus, where I will continue to lend my support to this company,” Jack said. “It’s been incredible serving this company for so many years and seeing the work we do have such an effect on the vibrancy of Oak Park. I’m proud of the successes of OPFT and excited to return to focusing on my personal goals as an actor and director.”

“When the sea was calm all ships alike showed mastership in floating” - William Shakespeare

In 2003, Jack took upon himself the monumental task of leading the Midwest’s oldest professional outdoor classical theatre. Good leaders know when change is necessary and navigate those seas with grace. And like any theatre company we have seen our share of challenges and changes. Almost immediately upon accepting the position, Jack oversaw a change that would forever define our company: the change from producing exclusively Shakespeare to expanding our repertoire to other timeless stories. This was a risk, a calculated one, and one of the best we could have made. Under Jack’s leadership, we have shattered four decades of attendance records and produced 38 productions, in which Jack has acted or directed in over 25 of them. He oversaw adding a second show to the summer season – and didn’t stop there. The exploration into expanding our Festival into producing indoor shows began under his leadership and continues as we steer the future of our company.

While faithfully dedicating himself to Oak Park Festival, he also serves as a company member at ShawChicago, is a founding member of the Chicago Shakespeare Project, and performs with The Backroom Shakespeare Project. He also fills what is potentially his most important role of all: that of dedicated husband, father, and grandfather.

Jack has spent over a decade serving our company, serving our community, and serving our stories. On behalf of Oak Park Festival Theatre, we are honored to dedicate this 44th Season of our Festival to him and his legacy.
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You Can't Take It With You was created from a collaboration by Moss Hart and “the Great Collaborator” George S. Kaufman; this remarkable team created such comic Broadway classics as Once in a Lifetime in 1930 and The Man Who Came to Dinner in 1939. Those were the deepest, darkest days of the Great Depression when the country sorely needed such wacky and outlandish comedies such as You Can’t Take It With You as respite from the distresses of their everyday life.

Both Kaufman and Hart each drew on various aspects of their own families to create the Vanderhof clan. Kaufman’s father, Joseph, somehow managed to raise his family despite coming in on every business venture just as the business was folding. His net profit was four dollars. Moss Hart grew up in grinding poverty with “the grim smell of actual want always at the end of my nose,” as he writes in his memoir Act One. His beloved childhood idol was his eccentric Aunt Kate, who lived as if she were in the Belle Epoque and always went into Manhattan to the theater, no matter how strapped the family was. The voices of the indomitable spirits of Joseph Kaufman and Aunt Kate live in the voices of Grandpa Vanderhof and Penny Sycamore.

You Can't Take It With You was created when Kaufman and Hart were at the height of their powers. That year, 1936, The team was in Los Angeles to collaborate on a play during the summer of 1936. They rejected a political farce and were working around a somewhat rambling, character-driven story of a “slightly mad family,” as Kaufman put it in a letter to his wife. “But it has a point,” he continued, “as you can see—that the way to live and be happy is just to go ahead and live, and not pay attention to the world.” It easily came together and debuted at the Booth Theater in New York City, the play and its audiences enjoyed a run of an astonishing 838 performances, a phenomenal figure back in the hard scrabble 1930s. In 1937, it won the Pulitzer Prize, one of a handful of comedies ever to do so.

A film version, directed and heavily altered by Frank Capra, starring Lionel Barrymore won the Academy Award as Best Picture of 1938.

A 2014 Broadway revival at the Longacre Theater featured James Earl Jones as Grandpa, and Rose Byrne as Alice Sycamore. This cherished evergreen comedy is still as popular and widely produced as ever. Kaufman and Hart's tender and wise celebration of the resilient love at the heart of all families, conventional or “crackpot”, speaks to all the world but most especially to the American character in times of crisis.
CAST

Penelope or “Penny” Sycamore ................................................................. Barbara Zahora*†
Essie Carmichael .................................................................................... Erica Bittner†
Rheba ...................................................................................................... Lizzie Bourne
Paul Sycamore ...................................................................................... Scott Westerman
Mr. De Pinna .......................................................................................... Chase McCurdy
Ed Carmichael .......................................................................................... Gage Wallace
Martin “Grandpa” Vanderhof ................................................................. Jack Hickey*†
Alice Sycamore ...................................................................................... Tyler Meredith
Wilbur C. Henderson .............................................................................. Jerry Bloom
Tony Kirby ................................................................................................ Debo Balogun
Boris Kolenkhov ..................................................................................... Kent Joseph
Gay Wellington ....................................................................................... Eleanor “Eli” Katz
Mr. Kirby .................................................................................................. Charls Sedgwick Halll*
Mrs. Kirby ................................................................................................ Jeri Marshall
The Grand Duchess Olga Katrina .......................................................... Eleanor “Eli” Katz

SETTING

Place: The home of Martin Vanderhof, New York
Time: 1937
Act I – A Wednesday evening
Act II – A week later
Act III – The next day

There will be one 15-minute intermission

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for listed performers unless announced at the time of the performance.

For Penny— Eleanor “Eli” Katz
For Essie—Grace Beyerl‡
For Reba—Emma Davis‡
For Alice—Caroline McCance‡
For Ed and Paul—Chase McCurdy
For Mr. De Pinna—Rio Ragazzone
For Grandpa and Boris Kolenkhov—Errol McClendon
For Mr. Henderson—Reed Percefull‡
For Mrs. Kirby, Gay Wellington and The Grand Duchess—Taylor Cannon
For Tony and Mr. Kirby—Tristien Marcellous Winfree

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association - The Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers
†Oak Park Festival Theatre Company Member
‡Summer Intern
PRODUCTION STAFF

Director ................................................................................................................................. Jason Gerace
Assistant Director .................................................................................................................. Ash Heffernan‡
Stage Manager ...................................................................................................................... Colleen Layton*
Assistant Stage Managers ................................................................................................. Caroline McCance‡, Emma Davis‡
Production Manager ............................................................................................................ Jennifer Aparicio
Technical Director ................................................................................................................ Brian Sprague
Set Design ............................................................................................................................ Jessica Kuehnau Wardell
Costume Design ................................................................................................................... Rachel Sypniewski
Assistant Costume Designer & Wardrobe Supervisor ......................................................... Gary Nocco
Lighting Design ................................................................................................................... Brandon Wardell
Sound Design ....................................................................................................................... George Zahora
Props Design ........................................................................................................................ Mary O’Dowd
Dialect Specialist ................................................................................................................ Jason K. Martin
Violence Design .................................................................................................................. Mark Lancaster†
Sound Operator ................................................................................................................... Katie Klieve‡
Light Operator ...................................................................................................................... Patti Meadors‡
House Management ............................................................................................................. Grace Beyerl‡
Box Office ............................................................................................................................ Ash Heffernan‡, William Armonda‡
Concessions .......................................................................................................................... Miranda Curtis‡, Mitchel Boyle‡, Reed Percefull‡
Photographer ......................................................................................................................... Jhenai Mootz†

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**CAST PROFILES**

**Barbara Zahora**
*†* (Penny Sycamore)
joined the OPFT Artistic Associates in 2017, after directing their critically acclaimed *Macbeth*. As an actor she has appeared as Maggie in *Dancing at Lughnasa* and several benefit performances of Belinda Bremner’s *Mrs. Coney* and *Midwinter’s Tales*. Additional acting credits include *All My Sons* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (American Players Theatre); *Hamlet, Heartbreak House, A Little Night Music, and Misalliance* (Writers’ Theatre); *The Country Girl* (Illinois Theatre Center); *Marionette Macbeth, The Moliere Comedies, The Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It, Richard II, The School for Scandal, and All’s Well That Ends Well* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *Lady Windermere’s Fan* (Northlight Theatre); *A Christmas Carol, Wit* (Goodman Theatre); *Hard Times* (Lookingglass Theatre); *The Devil’s Disciple, Major Barbara, Coward in Two Keys, and What Every Woman Knows* (ShawChicago); and many appearances with the Shakespeare Project of Chicago, where she is the current Associate Artistic Director. Directing credits include *Shrewish* (Artemisia Theatre); *Misalliance, Private Lives* (ShawChicago); and *Something Shaw and Spoon River: Coming Home for the Chicago College of Performing Arts*. Barbara is a visiting assistant professor at Roosevelt University’s Chicago College for the Performing Arts and previously taught at Northwestern University’s Bienen School of Music and North Central College. She is represented by Paonessa Talent and is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association. Love to George, always.

**Charls Sedgwick Hall**
* (Mr. Kirby) is joyful to be making his debut with OPFT. Some of his favorite roles are: David Bliss in *Hay Fever* (ShawChicago), Charlie in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged) Revised, Boyet in *Love’s Labours Lost*, The Recruiting Officer in *Mother Courage and Her Children*, Brutus in *Julius Caesar* and Macduff in *Macbeth* (Shakespeare & Company), Isaac in *Faith and the Good Thing* (Chicago Theatre Company-Jeff Award Nominee), The Nurse in *Romeo & Juliet* (Will & Company), Preacher/O’I’ Mister in *The Color Purple*, The Mirror in *The Next Fairy Tale*, Father in *The Escape Artist’s Children*, and Reverend Jones in *In Follow* (Celebration Theatre), Cal in *The Little Foxes* (A Noise Within), Leonato in *Much Ado About Nothing*, the triumvirate Ghost of Hamlet’s Father, The Player King/Queen and The Gravedigger in *Hamlet* (Southern Cal Shakespeare Festival) Gottlieb Biedermann in *The Firebugs* (Downtown Repertory), Rush Limbaugh in *King Cat Calico Finally Flies Free* (Son of Semele), and Gertie in *Angels of Lemnos* (Powerhouse Theatre- Brisbane, Australia). Charls is a graduate of New York University’s School of the Performing Arts, teaches Movement and Shakespeare Text, and is a faculty member at Shakespeare and Company. Charls is represented by Lori Lins Ltd and dedicates his performance in memory of Ms. DuShon Monique Brown.

**Chase McCurdy**
(DePinna) – recently resettled in Oak Park and is thrilled to make his debut at OPFT. He is a proud University of Oklahoma graduate and recently returned to Chicagoland after
CAST PROFILES CONT.

2 years in the Houston area. Most recently Chase was seen at Stages Repertory Theater in Houston as Karl in Big Fish and Oma in Panto Snow Queen: Unfrozen. Other roles: Chicago: Route 66 (Metropolis PAC); Miracle on 34th Street (Porchlight Music Theater); Urinetown (Circle Theater); The Bible...Abridged, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Ororboros Theater); Goldilocks..., Pinocchio, Mrs. Claus (Chicago Kids Company). Regional: Great Plains Theater (KS): Of Mice and Men, (McLeod Playhouse), Producers (Plains Theater); Hamlet (Oklahoma Summer Shakespeare Chautauqua). Love to Joanna, Benjamin, and my family. A huge thank you to my new/old community of friends and neighbors here in Oak Park.

Debo Balogun (Tony Kirby) is thrilled to be back for his 2nd show with Oak Park Festival Theatre! You may have seen him at Austin Gardens last summer as Goodlack in The Fair Maid of the West. Past Chicago theatre credits include Nothing Without a Company, Definition Theatre Company, and First Folio Theatre. All the love in the world to the wonderful folk at OPFT, his friends, family, and mentors. He is represented by Gray Talent.

Eleanor “Eli” Katz (Grand Duchess Olga Katrina/ Gay Wellington) is thrilled to return to OPFT, after being seen in Inherit the Wind in 2012. She is currently playing Desiree (and others) in Cyrano (BoHo Theatre), where she is a proud Company Member. Other Chicago credits include Cat on a Hot Tin Roof and The Trip to Bountiful (Raven, Jeff Nomination – Best Supporting Actress), Born Ready (Factory); Fefu and Her Friends (Halcyon); Brontë (Promethean), The Next Thing and Devil’s Day Off (Signal), The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later (Redtwist); The Last Daughter of Oedipus and Romeo and Juliet (Babes With Blades). Voice over credits include Litehouse Salad Dressings (national), Stacy’s Pita Chips, Microsoft, Hasbro and Abbott Laboratories. Originally from NJ, Eleanor holds an MA in Acting from East 15 Acting School in London, England and a BA in Theatre from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA. She and her husband, Justin, are the proud parents of an extraordinary little boy named Zev. www.eleanorkatz.com

Errol McLendon (u/s Grandpa) was in a production of You Can’t Take It With You at Village Players in Oak Park back in 2009 playing the role of the father, Paul Sycamore. Nine years later, he’s matured into the grandfather role and is ecstatic to share the summer with OPFT and many old friends. As a member and education director for Forks & Hope Ensemble, his acting credits there include Hunting of the Snark, Just So Stories and A Hero’s Journey. Errol has worked on Endgame and Enemy of the People (Red Tape Theatre); The Birds (Citadel Theatre); One Came Home (Lifeline Theatre); In God’s Hat (Profiles Theatre); All Rise (Walkabout Theatre) plus 9 months portraying Gary Busey portraying Pappas in Point Break Live. Recent film credits include Main Street Meats and Rotary Redemption.

Erica Bittner† (Essie Carmichael) returns to OPFT where she’s appeared in A Dickens Carol, Pygmalion and Love’s Labours Lost. Favorite credits include: King Charles III (Cardinal Stage Company);
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CAST PROFILES cont.

Bad Jews (Theatre Wit); The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe (First Folio Theatre); A Christmas Carol (Drury Lane); Richard III: No Beast So Fierce (Oracle Theatre); and work with Piven Theatre, Music Theatre Works, Redmoon, One Year Chekhov, GreatWorks, Chicago Dramatists, Victory Gardens, and Chicago Shakespeare Theater. International: The Two Noble Kinsmen (RADA) and Momentary Opera (Redmoon). Television: Chicago Fire and American Greed. Erica holds a BFA from the Chicago College of Performing Arts and a certificate from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Represented by Gray Talent Group.

Gage Wallace (Ed Carmichael) is thrilled to be working with Oak Park Festival Theatre for the first time! Gage is a proud Founding and Company Member with Red Theater Chicago. Recent Chicago credits include: Pillars of the Community, Cymbeline (Strawdog Theatre); The White Road (Jeff Award Nomination—Ensemble), In a Little World of Our Own (Irish Theatre of Chicago); Ghosts (Mary Arrchie Theatre Co.); Cookie Play (Trap Door Theatre); Taste (Jeff Award – Principal Actor), Year of the Rooster, Dylan, and Red Hamlet (Red Theater Chicago). www.gagewallace.com

Jack Hickey*† (Martin “Grandpa” Vanderhof) is blessed to return to the Festival Stage, and is very happy to be working with Jason Gerace again. Later this season he will return to the stage, playing Stephen Price in The African Company Presents Richard III. Last season Jack was seen as King Duncan and the Porter in Macbeth, and The King of Fez in The Fair

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CAST PROFILES cont.

Maid of the West. With the Festival over the years, Jack has been privileged to play roles such as Col. Pickering in Pygmalion, Gremio in The Taming of the Shrew, Sheriff Heck Tate in To Kill A Mockingbird, King Claudius in Hamlet, Sir Toby Belch in Twelfth Night, Charlie in Seascap. He was nominated for an Equity Jeff Award playing Michael in Someone Who'll Watch Over Me. Additionally, he played Henry Drummond in Inherit the Wind, Falstaff in The History of King Henry the Fourth, Fluellen in Henry V, Teddy in Faith Healer, Friar Lawrence in Romeo and Juliet, Bottom in A Midsummer Night's Dream and the title role in Cyrano de Bergerac. Jack has served as Artistic Director of the Company for the past 15 years, where he has acted in or directed over 25 productions; Jack will now serve as Artistic Director Emeritus of Oak Park Festival Theatre where he hopes to help continue the growth of this extraordinary company. Jack is also a company member of ShawChicago, where he has been seen in Jeeves in Bloom, The Devil's Disciple, Misalliance, Jeeves Intervenes, Heartbreak House, Don Juan in Hell, You Never Can Tell, Geneva, Major Barbara, Pygmalion, Widower's Houses, Mrs. Warren's Profession, Man and Superman, St. Joan, Androcles and the Lion, Candida, The Philanderer, The Doctor's Dilemma, The Apple Cart, and John Bull's Other Island. Jack is a founding member of The Chicago Shakespeare Project now celebrating its 23rd season where he has been seen in Coriolanus, Love's Labour's Lost, The Merry Wives of Windsor, and Julius Caesar. He has also been seen with The Backroom Shakespeare Project playing in The Tempest, Cymbeline, Titus Andronicus. TV credits include Chicago Med and Unsolved Mysteries. He was in two commercials with Michael Jordan and appeared briefly (uncredited) in Continental Divide with John Belushi. Thanks to his wife Torry Hickey for her unfailing support.

Jeri Marshall (Mrs. Kirby) is thrilled to be returning the Chicago area, making her Oak Park Festival Theatre debut. Her Chicago credits include Good Person of Szechwan (Cor Theatre). She understudied A Wonder in My Soul (Victory Gardens Theatre) and Short Shakes: Midsummer Night’s Dream (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre). Regional credits include The Tin Woman (Theatre at the Center); A Christmas Carol and To the Promised Land (Children’s Theatre of Madison). TV credits: Chicago Med (NBC). She holds an MFA. in acting from the DePaul Theatre School and is represented by Gray Talent Group.
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(Friday 10AM-9PM,
Saturday 10AM-8PM,
Sunday 12-5PM)

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
December 8th,
11AM-3PM

Events subject to change
Jerry Bloom (Mr. Henderson) is a friend, colleague and patron of OPFT, having appeared in *Cyrano De Bergerac*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Death Trap*, and several holiday programs. A partial list of previous credits includes *Carlisle* (The Goodman); *Puff: Believe It or Not* (Remy Bumppo); *Incident At Vichy* (Red Twist); *Golden Boy* (Griffin); *Ah, Wilderness* (Eclipse); *Death of a Salesman* (Raven); *Henry V* (Promethean); *Peyton Place* (City Lit). Jerry has the honor to have been in the original Chicago cast of *Noises Off*, and the world premieres of *Never the Sinner* and *Hauptmann*. He currently does character voices for commercials and video games. Further info at www.jerrybloomtheactor.com.

Kent Joseph (Boris Kolenkhov) loves playing “big” characters with heart. His favorite roles include Chief Bromden from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (The Gift Theatre) as well as Horton the Elephant from *Seussical the Musical*, (Footlighters Theatre Co.); Santa/Father Christmas (various shows/venues); and even God from *Children of Eden* (Stahl Family Theatre). He is also tickled pink to return to OPFT where he played the robust Captain Carbon in Cyrano and the dimwitted Gravend in *Robin Hood*. Kent would like to dedicate this performance in the memory of his mentor Patrick O’Gara (former Artistic Director of OPFT). For more info: kentjoseph.weebly.com.

Lizzie Bourne (Rheba) makes her debut not only with OPFT, but in Chicago. An immigrant from London, she is using her American citizenship to see how you guys do it over here, because she reckons she CAN take it with her. Theatre credits include: *Dough!* (Creative Scene); *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (White Bear); *The Glorious Damnation of Eddie Small* (Union Theatre/Bedlam); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Blenheim Palace). R&D includes: *everything that rises must dance* (Complicit); *I AM BEAST* (Sparkle and Dark). Radio: *Home Front* (BBC Radio 4). Film: *The Falling* (BBC, Carol Morley), *Ramanujan*. Lizzie trained in Acting at the Oxford School of Drama, holds a BA (Hons) from The University of Nottingham, and an MSc from The University of Edinburgh. She’d like to thank the Wilson/Reynolds and the Muellers, without whom she would not be having this much fun.

Scott Westerman (Paul Sycamore) is a freelance theatre director, actor, teacher, and new works facilitator based in Chicago. Acting credits include work with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ford’s, Everyman, the Warehouse, the Barter, Northlight Theatre, The Artistic Home, Chicago Dramatists, Strawdog, Lifeline, Stage Left, Apple Tree, A Crew of Patches, Mary Arrchie, Oak Park Festival Theatre, and Reverie. Film credits include *Machine Gun Preacher* and *Prison Break*. Scott has an MFA in Classical Acting from The Shakespeare Theatre Company’s Academy for Classical Acting at The George Washington University. Love to Abby and Milo. ScottWesterman.org
CAST PROFILES CONT.

Taylor Cannon (u/s Mrs. Kirby, Gay Wellington, The Grand Duchess) Taylor Cannon is a recent graduate of Northern Illinois University where she received her BFA in acting. Prior to graduation, she spent time studying abroad at The Moscow Art Theater School. Her credits include Pontius Pilate in The Last Days of Judas Iscariot, Helen in A Song for Coretta, and the Stage Manager in Our Town. She also appeared as a costar on NBC’s Chicago Fire. She is excited for the opportunity to work on this production this summer.

Tristien Marcellous Winfree (u/s Tony, Mr. Kirby) Regional theatre stage credits include August Wilson’s Jitney (Congo Square); The Art of Langston Hughes (ShawChicago); Love’s Labour’s Lost (Shakespeare Project of Chicago); Kingdom (Broken Nose Theatre); The Boys Upstairs (Pride Film & Plays); The Elephant Man (Alley Theatre); A Few Good Men (Alley Theatre); Guest Lecture (Landing Theatre Company); A Soldiers Play (Ensemble Theatre); Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Okané Theatre); Aida (Houston Grand Opera); Das Rheingold (Houston Grand Opera); Otello (Houston Grand Opera). Off stage credits include A.D Two Trains Running (Goodman Theatre); A.D Women In The Pit (Ensemble Theatre). Mr. Winfree is a gratefully represented by Lily’s Talent Agency.

Tyler Meredith (Alice Sycamore) is thrilled to be making her Oak Park Festival Theatre debut. Other Chicago credits include: The Tempest, A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); Mystery of Love and Sex (Writers Theatre); Spinning (Irish Theatre of Chicago); Goldfish (Route 66 Theatre Company); Mai Dang Lao (Sideshow Theatre Company); Romeo and Juliet (Teatro Vista); Celebration (A Red Orchid Theatre); Letters Home (Griffin Theatre Company); It’s A Wonderful Life: The Radio Play (American Theatre Company); Twelfth Night, Top Girls, As You Like It (The Arc Theatre) Two Gentlemen of Verona (Muse of Fire Theatre Company); Titus Andronicus, Macbeth, King John, As You Like It, Romeo and Juliet (Backroom Shakespeare Project); and has worked regionally with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks. She is a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy, The School at Steppenwolf, and holds a BFA from the University of Illinois-Chicago. Tyler is an Artistic Associate of Route 66 Theatre Company and is represented by Grossman & Jack Talent.
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Brandon Wardell (Lighting Design) is a Chicago-based Lighting and Scenic Designer. He is an Artistic Associate at Steep Theatre Company and Adventure Stage Chicago. Recent productions include Birdland, Lela & Co., Earthquakes in London, and Wastwater at Steep; In The Next Room with TimeLine; Men On Boats at ATC; Becky Shaw at Windy City Playhouse; Frost/ Nixon at Redtwist; Titanic, Bat Boy, London Wall, and Men Should Weep with Griffin; The Game of Love and Chance at American Players; and Million Dollar Quartet at Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival. Upcoming designs include The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Steppenwolf), Linda (Steep); The Father (Remy Bumppo); and A Number (Writers). Brandon earned his MFA from Northwestern University and is Professor of Lighting Design at Northern Illinois University.

Brian Sprague (Technical Director) is a Chicago-based Freelance Theatre Artist. Having received his MFA in Acting from Northern Illinois University and his BA in Theatre from University of Kentucky, he has performed and studied internationally at the Adana State Theatre in Adana, Turkey and the Moscow Art Theatre School. Technical Directing credits include: Birdland, Invisible Hand and Earthquakes in London (Steep Theatre); A Dickens Carol, Macbeth and Fair Maid of the West (Oak Park Festival Theatre); Akeelah and the Bee (Adventure Stage); JB (City Lit Theatre); Twelfth Night (Notre Dame Shakespeare); The Happiest Place on Earth, Give it All Back and Truth and Reconciliation (Sideshow Theatre); The Source (Route 66); Grace (Interrobang Theatre Project); University of Kentucky’s Summer Children’s Theatre, and multiple shows for Actors Guild of Lexington.

Colleen Layton* (Stage Manager) Colleen Layton is excited to return to Oak Park Festival Theatre, where she previously stage managed The Amish Project. Other recent credits include Mary’s Wedding (First Folio Theatre); She Persisted (The Drama League); and Ideation (Jackalope Theatre Company). She has also had the pleasure to work with companies including Forbidden Broadway, Sideshow Theatre Company, and Eclipse Theatre Company. Colleen is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

Gary Nocco (Assistant Costume Designer & Wardrobe Maintenance) is pleased to return to Oak Park Festival Theatre. He is a Chicago-based freelance stylist, costume designer and make-up artist. Film Credit: Every 21 Seconds (Wardrobe Supervisor and Personal Stylist / Make-up Artist/Assistant to lead–Two 9 Productions). Theatrical Design Credits: L’Imitation of Life (Hell in a Handbag Productions); The Next Big Thing (The Factory Theater); Muthaland (16th Street Theater– Jeff Recommended); The Liar (Promethean Theatre Ensemble– Jeff Recommended); Eurydice (Promethean Theatre Ensemble); Carroll Gardens (16th Street Theater), Dating & Dragons (The Factory Theater); The Taming of the Shrew (Oak Park Festival Theatre). His work has been seen at Improv Olympic Chicago and Victory Gardens Biograph Theater.

George Zahora (Sound Design and Original Music) has been fascinated by sound since a fateful Christmas 40-odd years ago when he received a tape recorder and microphone as a gift. He has done sound design in various professional and non-professional capacities for more than 25 years. OPFT audience members first heard his work in last year's hugely successful production of Macbeth. You may also have heard his sound design and original music at ShawChicago (Hay Fever, Jeeves in Bloom, The Devil’s Disciple, Misalliance, Private Lives) or in roughly 30 theatrical readings by The Shakespeare
20 Oak Park Festival Theatre

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES cont.

Project of Chicago over the last seven years. He hopes you’re able to hear every word of tonight’s performance.

**Jason Gerace (Director)** is a freelance director in Chicago, and is so thrilled to be directing in Oak Park again with OPFT. He was the recipient of the 2014 Non-Equity Jeff Award in Outstanding Direction for *Great Expectations* with Strawdog Theatre Company, which broke box office records, was twice remounted, and led to the adaptation’s first publication. His production of *Last Train to Nibroc* for Haven Theatre was hailed as “an exquisitely acted and generally gorgeous little show” by the Chicago Tribune. Regional directing credits include the World Premiere of Gabe McKinley’s *The Source* (Route 66 Theatre); the Chicago Premiere of Yussef El Guindi’s *Threesome* (Other Theatre); *Wrecks* (with John Judd; Chicago); *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *Opus* (RedTwist Theatre, Chicago). This season you can see Jason’s work at Open Door Rep (*The Pavilion*), Griffin Theatre (*Ghosts of War*), and Raven Theatre (*Suddenly Last Summer*). Jason originally hails from Anchorage, Alaska and holds an MFA in Directing from The University of Oklahoma. When not directing plays, he is happy to be a husband to Amy and a daddy to Ruby and Brooks. He is an associate member of SDC, and has been Artistic Associate of American Theater Company since 2008.

**Jason K. Martin (Dialect Specialist)** is thrilled to work with OPFT for the first time. He last worked with Raven on *Nice Girl*, *The Assembled Parties*, *The Play About My Dad*, *Direct from Death Row the Scottsboro Boys* and *The Playboy of the Western World*. Jason has guided voice and/or dialects recently for Raven, Haven, Lifeline,

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Piccolo, First Folio, and less recently for Red Tape, Shattered Globe, Silk Road, and the Goodman. He directed *Midsummer* at Piccolo in Evanston in 2014. He is an Assistant Professor at UIC’s School of Theatre and Music.

**Jennifer Aparicio (Production Manager)** is happy to be back at OPFT, where she worked on *A Dickens Carol*. For the past few years, she has been working in the Chicago theater scene as a production manager and stage manager. She is the resident production manager for Teatro Vista and has also worked as a production manager with Griffin Theatre Company (*Ghosts of War, Letters Home*); Broken Nose Theatre (*At the Table* summer remount); Sideshow Theatre (*Give It All Back*); Pegasus Players (*Blacula, The Youth Playwright’s Festival*); and 16th Street Theater (*Book Club Play, Living Large in a Mini Kind of Way*). As a stage manager, credits include work with 16th Street Theater (*Carroll Gardens, Book Club Play, Mariposa Nocturna, Graveyard of Empires, The Gun Show, Empanada for a Dream*); Lifeline Theatre (*A Wrinkle in Time, Sparky!, The True Story of the Three Little Pigs, Arnie the Doughnut, Last of the Dragons*); and Teatro Luna (*Machos, S-E-X Oh!*). She is also an Artistic Associate with Teatro Vista and 16th Street Theater.

**Jessica Kuehnau Wardell (Set Design)** is a freelance scenic/costume designer, teacher and artist in Chicago. Jessica is a founding ensemble member of Adventure Stage Chicago and an artistic associate with MPAACT. Her Chicago design credits include Hypocrites, Ruffians, Lifeline Theatre, Griffin Theatre, Rivendell Theatre, A Red Orchid, 16th Street Theatre, Pegasus Players, Circle Theatre and Metropolis Performing Arts Center. Earning her MFA
from Northwestern University, Jessica is Assistant Professor of Theatre, Director of Design and Production at North Park University. Check out her designs at jesskdesign.com.

**Mark Lancaster† (Violence Design)**
Mark became an Artistic Associate at Oak Park Festival Theatre in 2017 where he has been seen in *A Dickens Carol*, *Macbeth* and *The Fair Maid of the West*. Mark moved to Chicago in 2007 from Dallas, TX. He completed an MFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University in 2012, and has since been working as an actor, burlesque emcee/performer, creature effects model, and is currently pursuing a path up the ranks of the Society of American Fight Directors. Favorite credits include performing in Commedia Beauregard’s *A Klingon Christmas Carol* in 2012 (and returning as performer and fight director for the 2013 production), and as hapless Sam Lowell in *Bo Thomas and the Case of the Sky Pirates* with Babes with Blades.

**Mary O’Dowd (Props Design)** is honored to work with OPFT. She has designed props and set dressing for dozens of shows and has received several Jeff nominations. Most recently, Mary created props for *Suddenly Last Summer* (Raven), directed by Jason Gerace. She is a graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY, and enjoyed making the Meccano *Queen Mary*.

**Rachel Sypniewski (Costume Design)** is excited to be returning to OPFT this summer, previously designing *A Dickens Carol*, *Pygmalion*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Other companies she has worked with include Goodman, Windy City Playhouse, Emerald City, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera, Redtwist, Lifeline, Haven, 20% Theatre, 16th Street Theater, Griffin (Non-Equity Jeff Nomination for Best Costume Design for *Ragtime*, *Titanic* and *London Wall*), CityLit, Trap Door (Non-Equity Jeff Award for Best Costume Design, *La Bete* and nomination for *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui*), Chopin, Prometheus, Strawdog, Vitalist, Rasaka, and the Factory. She also has designed at Wheaton College, North Central College, St. Patrick’s High School, Indiana University Northwest, and the Chicago Academy for the Arts. Rachel is a company member with The Factory and an Artistic Associate with 16th Street Theatre. More info at www.rachelsyp.com
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STAFF PROFILES

Jhenai Mootz (Managing Director)  
Jhenai is honored to have been working with OPFT since 2006 as an actor where she has been seen as Kate in *A Dickens Carol*, Lady Macduff/Hecate in *Macbeth*, Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Osric in *Hamlet*, Olivia in *Twelfth Night*, Lady Anne in *Richard III*, Raina in *Arms and the Man*, Chrissie in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Margaret in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Christine in *Murder by the Book* and Madge in *Picnic*. Other credits around town: *Hay Fever*, *Saint Joan*, *Man & Superman*, *Pygmalion*, *The Widowers' Houses*, *The Millionaire*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Arms and the Man* (ShawChicago), *Sparky!*, *Jane Eyre*, *The Moonstone* (Lifeline Theatre); *The Mystery of Edgar Allen Poe* (First Folio Shakespeare Company); *The Women* and *The Philadelphia Story* (Circle Theatre). Jhenai joined the staff in 2016 as OPFT’s Managing Director and holds a B.F.A. from the University of Utah’s Actor Training Program. Also a visual artist, Jhenai’s artwork can currently be found in the lobby of the Lifeline Theater and Andersonville Galleria, O’Hare Airport, Northwestern Hospital gift shops and on her website at JhenaiMootz.com

Robert W. Behr (Finance Manager & Park Operations) Since Jack Hickey brought him aboard in 2003, Bob has stage managed 24 productions for OPFT. He has also performed and stage managed for many Chicago are Theatres as well as in Toledo, Ohio; Muskegon and Saugatuck, Michigan; and with the opera company of Eastman School of Music. He was last seen on stage in OPFT’s *Robin Hood* and has stage managed over 20 productions for OPFT since he joined the board in 2003. He specializes in finance and bookkeeping for Oak Park Festival Theatre and was the Treasurer from 2003-2007. He is also a freelance director.

Lucy Carr (Casting Director) Lucy has been involved with Oak Park Festival Theatre since 2008. As an actor: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Midwinter’s Tales*, and *The Hound of the Baskervilles* Assistant Director: *Betrayal*, *Faith Healer*, *Richard III* and *Someone Who’ll Watch Over Me* (Jeff Recommended). She has been the Casting Director since 2012. She has cast *Beyond the Fringe*, *Richard III*, *Someone Who’ll Watch Over Me* (Jeff Recommended), *Seascape* (Jeff Recommended), *Amadeus* (Jeff Recommended) and *Twelfth Night*. Lucy has worked with such theatres as ShawChicago, Remy Bumppo, Rasaka, Irish Repertory, Lookingglass, Bailiwick, Glass Onion, Absolute Shakespeare, A Reasonable Facsimile, Strangeloop, Spartan, The Poor Theatre, Abbie Hoffman Festival and Kennedy Center (Washington, DC) as well as PR Casting, Simon Casting, Grossman Jack Talent and Stewart Talent. She also teaches at Piven Theatre.

Barbara Zahora (Artistic Director) Please see cast profiles

Matty Robinson (Intern Coordinator) As an actor he appeared in in BoHo’s recent production of *Cyrano* as Raguneau, OPFT’s productions of *A Dickens Carol* as Chapman, and *The Taming of the Shrew* as Grumio, and he worked on *The Fair Maid of the West* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Matty is also an Artistic Associate of OPFT. He is a proud Illinois State University alumnus holding a Bachelor of Science degree in theatre. Want more Matty? Check him out Friday nights at Pimprov as Prince Mida$, doing improv with The Moonsharks, writing and performing sketches with The Martin Luther Kings of Comedy, and performing stand-up around the city. Follow his adventures on instagram: @ mattydor11
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Workshop and The Viola Project. Lucy holds a BFA from University of the Arts (Philadelphia), where she was nominated for the Kennedy Center ACTF Best Ensemble award twice, and Gaiety School of Acting (Dublin, Ireland).

Rio Ragazzone (House Manager & Master Electrician) Rio is happy to be working with Oak Park Festival Theatre again, after serving as an intern in the summer of 2016. Having received his BA in Theatre Arts from New Mexico State University in May of 2017, he permanently relocated to Chicago to pursue a career in acting. Since moving he has worked with Steppenwolf Theatre Company as a Multicultural Fellow in their electrics department while freelancing all over the city.

Mary Liming (Box Office Manager) Mary began her career with Oak Park Festival Theatre in 1990 as Administrative Assistant to then-Managing Director, Sue Levine-Kelly, and as Box Office Manager for the 1990 production of Falstaff. She returned as Box Office Manager in 1992 for Dr. Faustus and has been here ever since. Because of her longevity in this position, she has become an archivist/historian for the company.

Jake Cowart (Concessions Manager) is happy to return to Oak Park Festival Theatre again this year. He has a long history with the company, having made his stage debut at 2 months old with us during a family day performance in the summer of 1998. He worked for years as a Box Office assistant under Mary Liming before moving to Concessions. This is his 6th year as Concessions Manager. A current student at the College of DuPage, he will graduate in the Fall 2018. Starting in Fall 2019 Jake plans to attend Northern Illinois University to study to be an English teacher.

Actors’ Equity Association (AEA or Equity), founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 48,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society.
Ash Heffernan (General Internship; Assistant Director)
Ash is a rising senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is studying to earn her Bachelor’s degrees in Dramatic Arts and Communications (emphasizing Performance Studies) with a minor in Social and Economic Justice. She attended a semester at The Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland. This is her first project with OPFT. Her credits include producing the world premiere of Orange Light by Howard Craft, and performing as Rhonda and Deena in Almost, Maine, among producing, directing, and performing other projects.

Caroline McCance (General Internship; Assistant Stage Manager; u/s Alice Sycamore) is thrilled to be interning at Oak Park Festival Theatre this summer. A rising senior in the University of Oklahoma Helmerich School of Drama, her credits include Ophelia/Imogen/Anne Boleyn in Shakespeare’s Other Women and Courtney in Vote. Next year she will make her directing debut with a production of The Mystery of Love and Sex by Bathsheba Doran.

Emma Davis (General Internship; Assistant Stage Manager; u/s Rheba) This is Emma Davis’ first summer working at OPFT and she is thrilled to share all of the hard work everyone has contributed thus far. Emma is a Sophomore at Emerson College majoring in Theatre and Performance. Her previous credits include G-d of Vengeance (Rifkele), This Is Our Youth (Jessica), A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Titania).

Grace Beyerl (General Internship; u/s Essie Carmichael) is thrilled to be joining the OPFT team this summer. She is a recent graduate of St. Ignatius College Prep, and she looks forward to beginning her acting training at Syracuse University in the fall. At St. Ignatius, she has appeared in Mary Poppins, The Great Gatsby, The Matchmaker, Crazy for You, and Peter and the Starcatcher. Locally, she has worked with Theatre Above the Law, Galaxy Theatre, Odd’s Bodkins Theatricals, and Saltbox Theatre Collective.

Jen Jackowski (Costume Design Internship) graduated from Illinois State University with a BA in Theatre Studies in 2013. She has performed as a character in the Bristol Renaissance Faire’s Kidd’s Kingdom, where she helped guests get immersed in the historical setting. Jen has also volunteered as a costume consultant for the original comedy musical, Sheeps on the Lamb (Annoyance Theater). All of the show’s profits benefited Heifer International. She is excited to be involved in the theatre community in Oak Park this summer.

Julia Skeggs (Casting Internship) After interning at Shirley Hamilton and Remy Bumppo Theatre Company, Julia joined the OPFT team as the
Katie Kleve (General Internship) is absolutely thrilled to be a part of the Oak Part Team this summer. Katie will be a junior at Augustana College and plans on finishing her degrees in English Writing and Musical Theater Arts Performance. Her most recent credits include Kitty (The Drowsy Chaperone) and Mademoiselle Gabrielle (The Madwoman of Chaillot). This is Katie’s official debut in Chicago’s regional theater scene, and this fall will be her first debut as Dramaturg for Augustana College’s production of The Crucible.

Miranda Curtis (General Internship) is a recent graduate of Knox College where she earned her BA in theatre. Favorite performance credits at Knox College include The Nether, The Secret in The Wings, Crumble: Lay Me Down Justin Timberlake, Torvald: The Musical, and Richard III. She has also appeared in many productions in her hometown of Raleigh, North Carolina. These include Bat Boy: The Musical, Urinetown, and Once Upon A Mattress (North Raleigh Arts and Creative Theatre); Much Ado About Nothing and Comedy of Errors (Bare Theatre); and Rainbow Round the Moon (Carrboro Arts Center). She has previously trained at The Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland and participated in a Summer intensive course at University of North Carolina School of The Arts.

Patti Meadors (General Internship) is ecstatic to be joining the OPFT team! She is a rising sophomore at Southeast Missouri State University and is a Bachelor of Fine Arts candidate for musical theatre at the Holland Conservatory. Previous credits include Mary Poppins (SEMO & Oak Park River Forest High School), Little Shop of Horrors, Radium Girls and Into the Woods (OPRF). Film: Chicago Fire and Teenage Ghost Punk. Other experience includes Chicago Children’s Choir, University of Cincinnati & Oklahoma City University musical theatre intensives.

Reed Percefull (General Internship; u/s Mr. Henderson) will be a sophomore BFA Acting Major at Chicago College of Performing Arts and has previously attended UNCSA as a senior (Class of 2017) in their high school drama program. This is Reed’s debut into the Chicago theatre scene as an intern at OPFT.
Wallace Craig (General Internship) is a recent graduate from The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where she earned a BFA in Stage Management. Wallace is excited to work at OPFT and join the Chicago theatre community. Later this summer she will be Assistant Stage Managing OPFT’s The African Company Presents Richard III. Previous productions include The Magic Flute (Cincinnati Opera); Peter Pan, Seussical The Musical, Love & Information, and Il Signor Bruschino (CCM); Mary Poppins JR (CCM Prep); and Les Mamelles de Tirésias and Suor Angelica (CCM Opera Bootcamp).

William Armonda (Administration Internship) is a graduate of Monmouth College with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and a minor in Theater Arts. Previously, William had worked with Chicago Children’s Theatre as the Access and Inclusion Apprentice. Some of his favorite performances from college were Cadmus from The Bacchae and Mouse Soldier from The Nutcracker. William had also acted as a Dramaturgical Assistant for A Christmas Carol and Twelfth Night, Assistant Stage Manager for Christmas Carol, Sound Designer for The Good Doctor, and props designer for Awesome 80’s Prom.
2018 INTERNS

Ash Heffernan ...........................................University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Class of 2019
Caroline McCance ......................................................University of Oklahoma. Class of 2019
Emma Davis ...............................................................Emerson College. Class of 2021
Grace Beyerl ...............................................................Syracuse University. Class of 2022
Jen Jackowski .............................................................Illinois State University, BA. Class of 2013
Katie Kleve .................................................................Augustana College. Class of 2020
Miranda Curtis ............................................................Knox College. Class of 2018
Patti Meadors .............................................................Southeast Missouri State University. Class of 2021
Reed Percefull ...............................................................CCPA at Roosevelt. Class of 2021
Wallace Craig ............................................................The University of Cincinnati CCM. Class of 2018
William Armonda ......................................................Monmouth College, BA. Class of 2016

OAK PARK FESTIVAL THEATRE STAFF

Managing Director ......................................................Jhenai Mootz
Artistic Director ..........................................................Barbara Zahora*
Intern Coordinator .....................................................Matty Robinson
Park Operations & Finance Manager ..............................Robert W. Behr*
Casting Director ........................................................Lucy Carr
Box Office Manager ....................................................Mary Liming
House Manager ..........................................................Rio Ragazzone
Concessions Manager ...................................................Jake Cowart
Master Electrician ......................................................Rio Ragazzone

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Park District Liaison ..................................................Paul Aeschleman
Aaron Christensen recently wrapped a successful run of *The Woman in Black* at Artists’ Ensemble in Rockford, and will be appearing down the road at 16th Street Theatre in this summer’s world premiere of *The Hero’s Wife*. You can also catch him onscreen in the scary clown movie *Gags*.

Amanda Forman is an actor, playwright, and very proud teacher. They could recently be seen as an understudy in the premiere of *Girl Found* by Barbara Lhota with Idle Muse Theatre. Up next you can catch Amanda in *The Lady Demands Satisfaction* with Babes with Blades (Luitger) followed by *Les Innocents* (Jacques) with (re)discover theatre. Their plays have premiered throughout Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota and California.

Belinda Bremner has been concentrating on writing. She created the Anne Hathaway and William Shakespeare dialogue/frame story for *Love Spats* in which she played Anne. She is currently adapting Agatha Christie’s *Black Coffee* for this year’s 1940’s radio play (October 19th and 21st) and will be appearing in upcoming Play and a Pint performances.

Bryan Wakefield* is an actor, director, and educator of the Chicagoland area. He last directed the Midwest premiere of Lauren Gunderson’s *The Revolutionists* at the Organic Theater Company and was last seen on stage in OPFT’s 2017 summer season in *Fair Maid of the West* and as Banquo in *Macbeth*.

Erica Bittner – Please see cast profile

Luke Daigle recently finished working on *Red Velvet* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre and *Natural Affection* with Eclipse Theatre. This summer he will join Silk Road Rising to begin filming *Obstacle Course: a video play* and is looking forward to the premiere of two short films hoping to play the film festival circuit.
ARTISTIC ASSOCIATES UPDATE cont.

Matt Gall appeared at OPFT in 2017 in *Macbeth* and *A Dickens Carol*. In 2018, he has appeared as Robert in *Boeing Boeing* at Metropolis Performing Arts Center and as Simon in *Hay Fever* at ShawChicago.

Matty Robinson please see staff profile

Savanna Rae Savanna Rae is a Chicago based actor and playwright. She is thrilled to bring her award-winning solo show, *Daughters of Ire*, to OPFT this July.

Tony Dobrowolski recently appeared in *Sleuth*, as part of the Play and a Pint series. He continues to work on *Whistler & Wilde: A Thesis With Music*, after receiving generous (and most helpful) comments and suggestions from a wide range of friends and associates.
Oak Park Festival Theatre is partially funded by the Oak Park Area Arts Council, in partnership with the Villages of Oak Park, Forest Park and River Forest, and the Illinois Arts Council agency.

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Susan Huizinga
Skyler Schrempp
Tara Schaafsm
Theresa Somrak
Thomas Underwood and Donna Drinan
Thomas Van Ermen
Wendy Greenhouse

Becca Moran
Belinda Bremner
Brad Bartels
Broken Nose Theatre
Cindy Barnard & Len Grossman
Cory Anderson
Chicago Bears
Chicago Children’s Theatre
Chicago Composer’s Orchestra
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Chicago White Sox
Dima Ali and Turquoise and Gold LLC
Dominican University Performing Arts Center
Doug Kelner
Emerald City Theatre Apollo
Erica Bittner
First Folio Theatre
Jack Hickey
Jhenai Mootz
Joffery Ballet
Kevin Theis
Kinslahger Brewing Company
LifeLine Theatre
Little Gem Café
Lydia Berger Grey
Lyric Opera
Mark Lancaster
Mark Richard
Mary Michell
Matty Robinson
Michigan Shakespeare Festival
Northlight Theatre
Organic Theater Company
Patricia McCanna
Peninsula Players
Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
Rivendell Theater
Sandy Lentz
Savanna Rae
ShawChicago Theater Company
Silk Road Rising
Spilt Milk Pastry
Storytown at Stage 773
Strawdog Theatre Company
Timeline Theatre
Theatre of Western Springs
The Artistic Home
The Factory Theatre
The Irish Shop
The Shedd Aquarium
The Viola Project
Tony Dobrowalski
Writers Theatre

Oak Park Festival Theatre makes every effort to accurately acknowledge all of our amazing donors. If we have made any errors or omissions, please let us know by contacting us at info@oakparkfestival.com so that we may make the correction for future programs.
SPECIAL THANKS

The Saints for ushering services
Roosevelt University
Nancy Clark
Northern Illinois University
North Park University
Chris Lindgren and the Park District of Oak Park
The Leadership and staff of Visit Oak Park
The Leadership and Staff of Downtown Oak Park
Paul Meier Dialect Services and the International Dialects of English Archive

WISH LIST

New or gently used iPads
New or gently used computers, particularly Mac products

Oak Park Festival Theatre is a registered 501(c)3 not-for-profit arts organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. OPFT gratefully accepts donations of all sizes and kinds. If your employer has a matching gift program, please send the necessary paperwork with your gift. Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 4114, Oak Park, IL 60303 or go online at OakParkFestival.com.
A classic American Bistro setting makes us the perfect destination before or after the performance. Share appetizers with friends, enjoy a relaxed dinner for two, just a glass of wine or late night dessert and cappucino.
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Oak Park Festival Theatre
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Directed by Benny Sato Ambush
Featuring Johnny Lee Davenport
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by Elaine Murphy
**AUGUST 12, 2018 2pm**
RUNNING TIME 2 hours

**ART**
by Yasmina Reza
**SEPT 9, 2018 2pm**
RUNNING TIME 2 hours

**ANGEL STREET**
by Patrick Hamilton
**OCT 14, 2018 2pm**
RUNNING TIME 2 hours

**SAME TIME NEXT YEAR**
by Bernard Slade
**NOV 11, 2018 2pm**
RUNNING TIME 2 hours

**A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES**
by Dylan Thomas
**Dec 9, 2018 2pm**
RUNNING TIME 2 hours
ANNOUNCING OAK PARK FESTIVAL THEATRE'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

SEASON 2019

ELIZABETH REX
BY TIMOTHY FINDLEY  DIRECTED BY BARBARA ZAHORA

&

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THE GALEN GOCKEL INTERNSHIP FUND

At Oak Park Festival Theatre, our summer interns are the very lifeblood of our company. Every year, 10-15 young people are accepted into the Internship Program and come to us from across the nation. These Theatre Arts majors and recent college graduates join us to learn first-hand about working for a professional outdoor theater company. They participate in professional development workshops, perform in their own Shakespeare scene study showcase, understudy our main productions, and work on everything from set construction to box office management.

In the spring of 2018, former OPFT Board member and long-time community leader and educator Galen Gockel assisted our company in launching the GALEN GOCKEL INTERNSHIP FUND. All donations made to the Galen Gockel Internship Fund are specifically earmarked for stipends for our summer interns.

We thank Galen for this generous investment in Oak Park Festival Theatre and its summer interns.

To make a donation to the GALEN GOCKEL INTERNSHIP FUND please visit oakparkfestival.com/donate-2/ or call our Managing Director, Jhenai Mootz, at 708-300-9396.

Thank you to Galen, and all our donors who are investing in the future of our company, and the talented young professionals who are OPFT current and future interns!