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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS PRESENTS

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS

HOLIDAY SHOW



DECEMBER 14 - 16

A TOWN AND COUNTRY TRADITION

Town and Country Players

PRESENTS

A THEATER CAROL

Written by
Caity Logan

Director/Choreographer
Melissa Mongi-Copestake

Music Director
Mindy Rubinlicht-Torbin

A Note from the Author

In 1843, at the age of 31, Charles Dickens embarked on the ambitious task of writing a holiday novella complete with illustration in approximately 6 weeks, to be ready for publication the week before Christmas. What resulted was an instant classic, whose first edition sold out in under a week, and whose legacy cannot be overstated. One hundred and seventy-five years later, at the same age, I have endeavored in an even shorter time frame to write an adaptation with musical numbers that will do justice to a timeless and beloved story.

My adaptation of A Christmas Carol as a theater piece is just one in a long line—Dickens himself performed public dramatic readings of the story until the year he died. Setting the story within a performance is also not a new concept—the Bill Murray movie *Scrooged* may have been mentioned in my pitch of this as a holiday show concept. Every person can likely name their favorite movie or stage adaptation. For me, I grew up watching the various movie adaptations, particularly the Muppet Christmas Carol and the Alastair Sim classic, which were the only accepted versions in our house, aside from the Mickey Mouse version, of course. The story is universally known and adaptations continue to appear and likely will in perpetuity.

Why does this particular story have such an enduring legacy? For Dickens, the story was personal—like most of his novels, character inspiration came from his own interaction with the poor, the handicapped, and the lonely, within London, within his own family and likely in this instance, within himself. For me, it has a personal connection. The message of the connective power of theater and the redemptive power of hope, belief, and love we witness in this show comes from my personal experience in ten seasons at Town and Country. What we see in whatever version we choose are the themes that linger from the original—the spirit of giving, the importance of family, our connectedness and duty to our fellow man, and most importantly, the ability of humans to change.

Dickens' preface states, "I have endeavoured in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly." I don't believe we could ask for any better—may you honour the holiday spirit in your heart and try to keep it all the year.

Happy Holidays!

2018 HOLIDAY SHOW NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

All traditions have a start some time, some place.

The tradition of concluding the Town and Country Players' season with a Holiday Show is a relatively new one, considering our storied and celebrated 71 years. The partnership of this annual tradition with the historic Michener Museum is now in its fourth year, but what a way to celebrate the Holiday Season and the conclusion of our 71st Season?! This presentation of music, mixed with a new spin on a classic tale, at its most festive, in an environment of art at its most high could not be more exciting or endearing for children of all ages.

The Holiday Show is also a heart warming way to remember all those who have been a part of the past 71 years, those who have made Town and Country Players what it is today, and what we hope it will be tomorrow. Traditions are passed down by those who came before us, created by those around us every day— this Holiday Show is no exception.

Town and Country Players is honored to have enjoyed such a wonderful year in 2018. We look forward to the treasures that 2019 will bring with the same enthusiasm. Thank you for being part of this annual tradition, and may the holidays be full of light and love for you and yours, from our family at Town and Country Players to you and yours.

SONGS

Setting: Town and Country Theater

Scene One

Silent Night	Ghosts of Theater Past, Present and Future
Where Are You Christmas?	Amelia Scrooge, Sophie Scrooge
You're a Mean One, Mr(s) Grinch	Cast Members
It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year	Jacob Marley and the Snow Angels

Scene Two (the next day)

Journey to the Past*	Ghost of Theater Past
I'm Flying	"Kid" Scrooge and "Kid" Olivia
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	Young Scrooge
Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!'	Nick and the Wingmen
Holiday Road	Nick, Ensemble, Mindy and Audience
Winter Song	Young Scrooge and Evelyn Scrooge
You Were Loved	Ghost of Theater Past

Scene Three (the next day)

God Bless Us Everyone	Ghost of Theater Past and Ensemble
As Long as There's Christmas	Bobbie Cratchett, Mark Cratchett, Ghost of Theater Present
Bless Us All	Olivia Scrooge, Amelia Scrooge and Sophie Scrooge
Holly Jolly Christmas	Nick, Tammy and Ensemble
Believe	Ghost of Theater Present

Scene Four (the next day)

Breath of Heaven*	Young Scrooge and Evelyn Scrooge
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Scene Five

As Long As There's Christmas (reprise)	Evelyn Scrooge and Bobbie Cratchett
When We're Together	Evelyn Scrooge and Olivia Scrooge
Put a Little Love in Your Heart*	Full Cast

* denotes lyrics adapted by Caity Logan

CAST

Evelyn Scrooge	Melissa Angelo-Schiumo
"Kid" Scrooge	Abby Heine
"Young" Scrooge	Nicole Telesco
Olivia Scrooge	Jenny McNiven
"Kid" Olivia	Sienna Camlin
Amelia Scrooge	Alexandra Storck
Sophie Scrooge	Lucy Spiegel
Bobbie Cratchett	Amber Gordon
Mark Cratchett	Dave Levy
Jacob Marley	Hans Peters
Nick Robertson	Kevin Palardy
Tammy	Camille Foster-Swartley
Ghost of Theater Past	Valerie Sharper
Ghost of Theater Present	Dana Joy Carducci
Ghost of Theater Future	Julia Levy
Ghost of Theater Future	Lucy Levy
Board Members	Chris Serpico
Board Members	David Sharper
Cast Members	Julie Coulton
Cast Members	Elizabeth Aber
Cast Members	Karen Cameron
Featured Ensemble	Mason Hitchon
Featured Ensemble	Elizabeth Aber
Featured Ensemble	Karen Cameron
Featured Ensemble	David Sharper
Featured Ensemble	Julie Coulton
Featured Ensemble	Chris Serpico

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director/Choreographer Melissa Mongi-Copestake
Music Director/Accompanist Mindy Rubinlicht-Torban
Producer Caity Logan
Headshots Photographer Victoria Schultheis
Props graciously loaned by Susan Logan
Program Jillian Ambs
Program Ads Jean Laustsen

WHO'S WHO



Melissa Angelo-Schiumo

as Evelyn Scrooge

Melissa is thrilled to be a part of this production and was last seen in the Hunchback of Notre Dame. Favorite Roles: Amy (COMPANY) Beggar (Sweeney, Marion Kolman Award), Musetta (Boheme), Mayzie (Seussical), Alice/Belle (My Favorite Year), Nedda (Pagliacci) to name a few. Absolute favorite role: Mom to her 5 yr. old triplets. Love always to her Michael & family/friends for support.



Abby Heine

as "Kid" Scrooge

Abby is a 7th grader in the Central Bucks School District, where she is active in instrumental band, select vocal chorus, and the theater program. Abby has been involved with local community theater for 3 years and has been seen on various stages. This is her seventh production with Town and Country Players, with her most recent role as "Young Bonnie" in Bonnie and Clyde. Other notable roles include Susan Walker (Miracle on 34th Street), Oompa Loompa (Willy Wonka), and Enchanted Whisk (Beauty and the Beast). Merry Christmas and enjoy the show!



Nicole Telesco

as "Young" Scrooge

Nicole is thrilled to be involved in her first Holiday Show! She most recently was assistant stage manager for The Hunchback of Notre Dame and Holes at T&C. Her last role on stage was as Draco Malfoy in A Very Potter Musical in 2014. Thanks to Caity, Mongi, and Mindy for producing such a wonderful show!



Jenny McNiven

as Olivia Scrooge

Jenny is so excited to be back at T&C for her second show. She was last seen as Esmeralda in their phenomenal production of The Hunchback of Notre Dame. Other notable roles include Lola in Damn Yankees, Lady of the Lake in Spamalot, Lily in The Secret Garden, Lucy the Slut in Avenue Q, Eve in The Apple Tree, Tuptim in The King & I, Sandy and Frenchy in Grease, Queen Aggravain in Once Upon a Mattress, Luce in The Comedy of Errors, and Lady MacBeth in MacBeth. Many thanks to the wonderful cast and production team, and my favorite holiday gifts, Lee and Ryker.

WHO'S WHO



Sienna Camlin

as "Kid" Olivia

Sienna is very excited to be performing in her first show with Town and Country Players. She is in 6th grade at Pennridge South Middle School. Some of her favorite past roles include, Gladys Herdman in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* at DCP, Lamb in *The Beanstalk* at Montgomery Theater and the Wicked Witch of the West at Keystone Academy. She would like to thank the cast and crew for this opportunity.



Alexandra Storck

as Amelia Scrooge

Alex is 11 years old and in the sixth grade at Bridge Valley Elementary School. She lives in Furlong with her parents and her younger brother Reed. She has been acting since she was four years old when she was the Little Red Hen in *Fairy Tale Adventures* at Lights, Camera, Acting! Some of her past roles have included Veruca Salt in *Willy Wonka*, the Black Raven in *The Loathsome Lady*, Jana in *Miss Nelson is Missing* and Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*. Her favorite role was Annie in *Annie of Oz* when she was just six years old. She is also presently a member of the Bridge Valley Elementary School choir. Alex is thrilled to be a part of A Theater Carol with Town & Country Players!



Lucy Spiegel

as Sophie Scrooge

Lucy is thrilled to be back with Town & Country friends! She recently performed as Nancy in *A Christmas Story: The Musical* and in the ensemble cast for *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (both at Music Mountain Theatre). Previous roles include: Molly (Annie Jr./Bristol Riverside Theatre); Duffy (Annie Jr./MMT); Sue/Marionette (My Son Pinocchio Jr./BRT); Rabbit/Aslan Follower (The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe/T&CPlayers); & more! Love & thanks to Mom, Dad, and Evan!

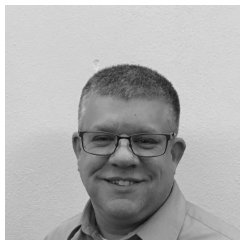
WHO'S WHO



Amber Gordon

as Bobbie Cratchett

Amber is excited to join the cast of A Theater Carol for her second show with T&C. Amber has participated in productions with Playcrafters, Laymen Playmen & Dutch Country. To date her favorite role was Glinda in CHC's The Wizard of OZ. She found a home at T&C after being cast as a choir member in the recent production of TheHunchback of Notre Dame. She dedicates her performances to her family.



Dave Levy

as Mark Cratchett

Dave is a local school teacher. He has performed improv comedy for many years. T&C credits include The Children's Hour (Crew), Peter and the Starcatcher (Mrs. Bumbrake & more), The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (Fenris Ulf), A Few Good Men (Lt. J.G. Sam Weinberg), Holes (Mr. Pendanski), Tales for Nightmares (Reader), and Red Herring (Andrei Borchevsky). Dave also performs in New Feathers Productions. Happybirthday, Mom!



Hans Peters

as Jacob Marley

Hans is delighted to be back at T&C. Last seen in Holes (April 2016), my favorite roles elsewhere have been Father in Eurydice, Dr. Chumley in Harvey, Officer Klein in Arsenic and Old Lace, Dillwyn Knox in Breaking the Code, Guiseppi Martini in A Wonderful Life and Morris Lacey in The Dark at the Top of the Stairs. He loves working with dedicated, talented and energetic people, old and young, who give of themselves in thoughtful harmony to create theater at its best.

WHO'S WHO



Kevin Palardy

as Nick Robertson

Kevin is happy to return to T&C for its annual Holiday show after a 2+ year hiatus! By day Kevin is a copy inspection editor at Reed Technology, and in his spare time (when not rehearsing for a show) works on his podcast Intelligence Check with his friends and does the occasional voice over job. Thanks to his loving family and true friends who are there through thick and thin. Happy Holidays!



Camille Foster-Swartley

as Tammy

Camille is an 8th grader from Tohickon Middle School who enjoys playing viola, lacrosse & reading. She first appeared on stage in Enemy of The People & was proud to be featured in Orange is The New Black, Difficult People & Kevin Can Wait. She wants to thank her creative cast, crew, & directors for helping put on such an amazing show!



Valerie Sharper

as Ghost of Theater Past

Val was seen this past season in The Children's Hour and Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike while also working backstage for Bonnie and Clyde and The Hunchback of Notre Dame, like the modern renaissance woman she is. Other T&C performances you may have enjoyed include Mrs Lovett (Sweeney Todd), Mrs. Peterson (ByeBye Birdie) and Mrs. Potts (Beauty and the Beast), among dozens of others (consult the website). If she isn't busy being a T&C institution she is probably traveling the world, loving her cats or doing science. She sends all her love to Dave, and her thanks to Caity for writing this bio.

WHO'S WHO



Dana Joy Carducci

as Ghost of Theater Present

Dana was last seen in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, which also served as her debut as choreographer. Other favorite roles include Olive (25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee), Chava (*Fiddler on the Roof*), and the Movement Counselor for the T&C Youth Workshops, thanks to the fun she has with Mongi and Jeremy. In everyday life, she is a special education teacher, while also keeping up to date on all things Broadway, especially the career of her Marcy Park—Caitlin Davies. She sends her love to Dad and Jamie, along with her *Hunchback* people and those who have been there this past year and her thanks to Caity for writing this bio. As always, for Mor.



Julia Levy

as Ghost of Theater Future

Julia is a 6th grader and a regular at the Summer Camp Workshops at T&C. She has taken acting classes since the age of five. T&C credits include *The Children's Hour* (Rosalie Wells), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Asst. Stage Manager), *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Susan), and *Holes* (Pig, Young Warden). She played the Chihuahua Narrator in her school's performance of *101 Dalmatians Jr.* HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRANDMA!



Lucy Levy

as Ghost of Theater Future

Lucy is in 3rd grade. She began acting classes when she was four years old. Lucy recently played Maui in her studio's production of *Moana*. She attends T&C's Summer Camp Workshops. Lucy's T&C credits include *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Flying Cat, Yellow Bird), *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Squirrel), and *Holes* (Pig). She is also an artist and takes classes here at the Michener. HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRANDMA!

WHO'S WHO



Chris Serpico

as Board Members

Chris has been a member of T&C for over 15 years. Chri has appeared in T&C production of Cinderella, Follies, Urinetown, Carousel, It's a Wonderful Life, and most recently, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, as well as the past two Holiday Shows. A former president of the Bucks County Bar Association, Chris also "acts" each day as a trial lawyer. His law office is located at 76 East State Street in Doylestown. Thanks as always to his beautiful wife Maureen for all her support.



David Sharper

as Board Members

David wants to thank Melissa, Caity and Mindy for casting him in this show with such a talented cast. He designed and built the sets for this seasons' "Bonnie and Clyde", "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "The Nutcracker". He recently appeared as Agent Frank in "Unnecessary Farce" at Village Players of Hatboro. Love you Val!



Julie Coulton

as Cast Members

Julie is very excited to spend this holiday season singing carols in the ensemble with this fantastic cast! You may have seen her last on the T&C stage in The Hunchback of Notre Dame or in Bonnie & Clyde. When not performing, she enjoys eating Christmas cookies, watching Hallmark Christmas Movies, and listening to Christmas music. She also enjoys doing all of this immediately after Halloween. Happy Holidays!



Elizabeth Aber

as Cast Members

Elizabeth has been in several school productions at Quakertown, including Our Town and The Curious Savage. She loves being on the stage and has recently started auditioning for community shows (thanks to her dad/agent). She wants to say "break a leg!" to everyone in the show.

WHO'S WHO



Karen Cameron

as Cast Members

Karen is thrilled to be working with the entire team at the Town & Country Players! She has studied her craft on both coasts—in New York at the American Academy of the Dramatic Arts and in San Francisco at the American Conservatory Theater. She has appeared in many productions which include “Astride the Grave”; “RememberWhen”; “Vanities”; “Evita”, “Jesus Christ Superstar”; and “Godspell.” She is a founding member of the electronic music group “Dubtribe Sound System” and continues to perform and DJ across the country. She would like to thank Caity, Mindy and Melissa for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing production. She also wants to thank her wonderful son, Forrest, and her family for their unwavering love and support.



Mason Hitchon

as Featured Ensemble

Mason Hitchon is in seventh grade, in Central Bucks. He is appearing in his second Town and Country production. Previous acting includes: T&C’s The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe in which he played Dwarf. Mason has also been in productions of Beauty & The Beast, Peter Pan, and Alice in Wonderland.

CREW WHO'S WHO

Melissa Mongi-Copestake

Director/Choreographer

Melissa is thrilled to be directing this year's Holiday Show alongside the brilliant writer, Caity Logan, and music-Queen, Mindy Rubinlicht. Melissa recently performed in Town and Country's "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" as Clopin and is the Acting Director of T&C's Summer Workshops. Melissa would like to thank her family and friends for all their support. She would also like to thank Gary for being her ever amazing husband.

Mindy Rubinlicht-Torban

Music Director/Accompanist

Mindy is excited to be joining the family once again for the Holiday show. She is a music teacher/choir director in Montgomery County, and professional musician in the Philly region. Credits include: Hunchback (MD), Guys and Dolls (MD), Shrek (Fiona), Hairspray (Tracey), Urinetown (MD), and Rocky Horror (MD). Many thanks to Caity and Mongi for allowing me to join in this special endeavor. Shout out to my husband, Jason and daughter, Julia.

Caity Logan

Producer

Caity is proud, thrilled, and terrified to be producing and writing this year's Holiday Show. This would not be possible without the tremendous efforts of two amazing women—Melissa Mongi Copestake and Mindy Rubinlicht Torban—who make this show an absolute joy. After ten seasons, she has too many people to thank for getting to this place, but mostly Rob, for convincing her she could and should write a play. Her love goes out to Rob's Harlem, all the Ladies of Caity, and her family, especially her two nephews, Alexander and Emmett, who empower her to do anything. This show is dedicated to her Grandpa Ray, who truly was as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man, as the good old city ever knew.

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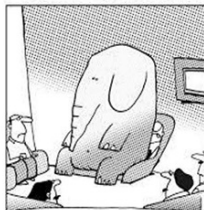
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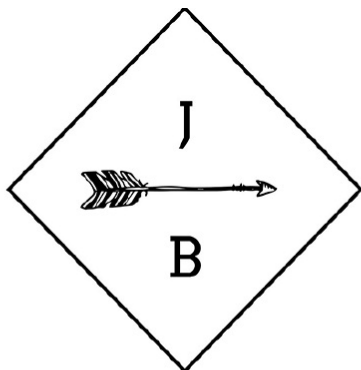
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Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00. Each raffle ticket is also eligible for our end of year prizes which include a trip to a Broadway show of your choice as well as other prizes (see the list in the Clubroom). We appreciate your support. Thank you!

Volunteer to Earn a Free Ticket

Members and Non-Members may volunteer to usher, direct parking or sell raffle tickets for our shows and will receive a FREE SEAT for any show in our 2019 season. If you are interested in volunteering, you may sign up on our website or fill out "Volunteer Form" in the Clubroom.

Become a T&C Member

We would love to have you as Member of our T&C family! Members have the right to participate in all meetings, parties and events, and vote for the slate of plays for our 72nd season in 2019, as well as vote for our Executive Board for the next year. Please feel free to pickup a Membership Application in our Clubroom.

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Become a Friend of Town and Country Players

Town and Country Players is celebrating its 72nd in 2019.

Our theatre is run by volunteers and we rely on your generous, tax deductible financial support to help defray the cost of our lovely, new modern facility. Please add your name to our "Circle of Friends" so that we can continue to provide you with high quality productions and theatre workshops for many years to come.

Your donation will be acknowledged on our "Circle of Friends" page this season.

We are deeply grateful for your generous support.

Please enclose the form below with your check or money order and mail to:

Town and Country Players
PO Box 323
Doylestown, PA 18901

Contributions can also be made through PayPal on our website at:

www.townandcountryplayers.org

Producer's Circle:	\$1,000 and up
Director's Chair:	\$500 - \$9999
Leading Role:	\$100 - \$499
Supporting Cast:	Up to \$99

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Town and Country Players is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit organization
Your gift is tax deductible

T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW...

Congratulations to our 2017 Season Award Winners!

2017 Member Award Winners:

Service Award: Jean Laustsen

Lifetime Achievement Award: Ken Ambs

Rafters Award: Anna Doyle

Jr. Rafters Award: Noemi Nieves-Hoblin

Marion Kolman Award (Female Acting): Stephanie Smith

2017 Towny Award Winners:

Best Actor in a Lead Role

Paul Frank for Lenny Ganz in Rumors

Best Actress in a Lead Role

Danielle Malat for Jo Galloway in A Few Good Men

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Jerome Neville as Col. Nathan Jessup in A Few Good Men

Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Mary Saile as Cassie Cooper in Rumors

Future Star Award

Matthew Ballow as William Barfee in

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Excellence in Design Award

Susan Galli for Props Design for Willy Wonka

**Winner of the Town and Country Cup
for the Best Production of the 2017 Season:**

A Few Good Men

Directed by Nancy Ridgeway

Produced by Jillian Ambs

T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW...

Town and Country Players would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all of our donors. We greatly appreciate your financial support!

Producer's Circle (\$1,000 and up)

Sharon Holloway
Central Bucks Sertoma Club
Greg & Carol Landis

Director's Chair (\$500 - \$999)

Ken and Jillian Ambs
Bill and Jean Brenner
Jim McIntosh (Merck Foundation)
Valerie and David Sharper

Leading Role (\$100 - \$499)

The Doylestown Dancing Divas (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
Janyce Fadden (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
Walter Hauck
Alan Hoberman
Ken and Suzanne Kaminski
Greg and Danielle Malat
Mike McClintic and Family
Jim and Suzanne Palmer
The Perignat Family (In Memory of John Auerbach)
Jim and Pat Stabilito
Nancy Staich
Ed Ritvo and Marie von Elten
The Women's Club of Heritage Creek
Jack & Paula Young

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Supporting Cast (up to \$99)

Anna Doyle
Mary Gemmill
Miriam & Reese Ewing
Jack & Linda Barr
Marian Disken
The Dolceamores
JoAnn Formeller
Mark & Jacquelyn Grande
David H. Keller
Roberta Keck
The McClintic Family (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
Bruce McMahon
Russ Naylor (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
Karen Poli
Chris Serpico
The 2017 Holiday Show Ensemble
Susan Webha (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
James and Deborah Wodock (In Memory of Doris Donchez)

Gifts in Kind

Lynne-Anne Donchez



ANNOUNCING OUR 2019 SEASON!

NEXT TO NORMAL - A Musical

Book & Lyrics by Brian Yorkey, Music by Tom Kitt
April 26, 27, 28 (M), May 3, 4 (M/E), 5(M)
10, 11(M/E)

COLD STUN - A Signature Series Production

A World Premiere by Rob Rosiello
May 31, June 1, 2(M) 6, 7, 8, 9(M) 13, 14, 15

T&C ONE ACTS - A Signature Series Production

New Talent/Qualifying Directors
June 28, 29, 30 (M)

OKLAHOMA! - A Classic Musical

Book & Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Music by Richard Rodgers
July 19, 20, 21(M), 26, 27(M/E), 28(M),
Aug. 2, 3(M/E), 4(M), 9, 10(M/E)

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (Abridged) - A Comedy

By Alan Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield
August 30, 31, Sept. 1(M), 5, 6, 7, 8(M), 12, 13, 14

MURDER ON THE NILE - A Mystery Drama

By Agatha Christie
October 4, 5, 6(M), 10, 11, 12, 13(M), 17, 18, 19

A CHRISTMAS STORY - A Family Show

By Jean Shepherd
Nov. 8, 9 (M/E), 10(M), 15, 16 (M/E), 17(M),
22, 23 (M/E)

TOWN AND COUNTRY
HOLIDAY SHOW TBA
