

PLAYBILL®

Town and Country Players
Doylestown, PA

THE BEST FROM THE BEST

A MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE HISTORY OF
TONY AWARD WINNING AND NOMINATED MUSICALS
FROM ITS BEGINNING TO THE PRESENT!

Written by Sheldon Bruce Zeff

November 19 & 20 @ 8:00 PM

November 20 and 21 @ 2:00

Director: Sheldon Bruce Zeff

Producer: Jenny McNiven

Musical Director: Joe Nappi

Movement Coordinator: Erin Wurtz



RESERVE TICKETS

townandcountryplayers.org

LOCATION:

Town and Country Players
415B York Rd
Buckingham, PA 18912

Town and Country Players

PRESENTS

The History of the American Musical Theatre: The Best from the Best

By
Sheldon Bruce Zeff

Musical Direction by
Joe Nappi

Directed by
Sheldon Bruce Zeff

Produced by
Jenny McNiven

Movement Coordinator
Erin Wurtz

Stage Manager
Matthew Schultheis

Technical Design by
Scott Monsees

This musical theatre revue features history and songs from Tony Award winning or nominated musicals from the early days of Broadway through the present.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Hello and welcome to *The History of the American Musical Theatre: The Best from The Best!*

This show is part of 6 Broadway Revues that I have written or co-wrote for my production company...Zeff Entertainment, LLC. *The Best from The Best* is about the history of the Antoinette "Tony" Perry Award.

It began in 1947 and we journey through time, to hear songs from productions, that were nominated or won Tony Awards. *Kiss Me, Kate* was the first Tony winner for Best Musical, and we finish with songs from *Dear Evan Hanson & Hamilton*. This show is, also, a tutorial! Narration gives the audience information that will set-up each segment and decade.

We have an extraordinarily talented cast. There are T&C veterans, as well as new members that will entertain you thoroughly.

Who are the composers and lyricists that you will hear in tonight's production? Well, the standard bearers are Rodgers and Hammerstein, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter and Lerner & Loewe. The stalwarts are Stephen Sondheim, Stephen Schwartz, Ashman, Rice and Menken and Andrew Lloyd Webber. The young lions are Pasek and Paul, Lin-Manuel Miranda and Aherns & Flaherty.

I hope you enjoy this production today. Please tell your family and friends that Town and Country Players is open for business. We missed you!

THE CAST

In Alphabetical Order

| | | |
|----------|-------|---------------------|
| Narrator | ..... | Anne Hauck |
| Narrator | ..... | Joseph Perignat |
| Narrator | ..... | Harriet Zeff |
| Ensemble | ..... | Jennifer Ahr |
| Ensemble | ..... | Jessica Briggs |
| Ensemble | ..... | Patricia Curley |
| Ensemble | ..... | Steve DiNardo |
| Ensemble | ..... | Sean Downing |
| Ensemble | ..... | Roseann Enright |
| Ensemble | ..... | Miki Fuentes |
| Ensemble | ..... | Susan LaBar |
| Ensemble | ..... | Laura Lindmeier |
| Ensemble | ..... | Julie Massa |
| Ensemble | ..... | James Morris |
| Ensemble | ..... | Heidi New |
| Ensemble | ..... | Victoria Schultheis |
| Ensemble | ..... | Valerie Sharper |
| Ensemble | ..... | Kayla Smull |
| Ensemble | ..... | Meg Waldowski |
| Ensemble | ..... | Patrick Walsh |

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

Director Sheldon Bruce Zeff
Producer Jenny McNiven
Musical Director Joe Nappi
Stage Manager Matthew Schultheis
Movement Co-ordinator Erin Wurtz
Technical Designer/Sound/Microphones Scott Monsees
Light Board Operator David Massa
Set Construction Matthew Schultheis
Set Construction Scott Monsees
Crew Jackie Parzanese
Crew Levi Kanter
Poster Design Jessica Briggs
Program Kim O'Byrne

WHO'S WHO



Anne Hauck

as Narrator

After many years of being behind the musical theater scene, Anne is excited to be in front of the audience again! This is Anne's 40th year in Community Theater and 23rd year with Town and Country Players. She has stage managed, produced, directed, and designed sets, lights, and costumes. "Thank you, Walter, for your loving support! It's a lot of fun having a partner in community theater!"



Joseph Perignat

as Narrator

Joe is delighted to be part of this show. The music is fabulous, the voices amazing. A few favorites include (Village Players) *Proof*, (Town and Country Players) *Young Frankenstein*, *Oklahoma!*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *A Reunion of Sorts*, (The Kelsey Theater) *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *The Mousetrap*, and over 40 years with State Street Players. As always, eternal gratitude for the never-ending support of my wonderful wife.



Harriet Zeff

as Narrator

Harriet is thrilled to be back on the T&C stage. Over the years she has appeared in *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Working*, *Gypsy* (Rose). Favorite roles include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Golda), *Annie* (Miss Hannigan), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Mrs T). So proud of her husband, Sheldon, the director of this show. Her forever Tevye!



Jennifer Ahr

as Ensemble

Jennifer is absolutely overjoyed to be on stage again, especially with such a lovely, talented cast. Previously at T&C in *Oklahoma!*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and several Holiday Shows. Elsewhere *Evita*, *The Sound of Music*, *Cabaret*. Much love and thanks to Paul, Madeleine, & Emilie.

WHO'S WHO



Jessica Briggs

as Ensemble

Jessica last performed with T&C in 2018 in the ensemble of *Bonnie & Clyde*. She has been the official photographer for T&C for the past two seasons, and recently finished directing the musical *Young Frankenstein* for T&C this past October. Thank you to her husband Lee, for all of his unending support and being her cheerleader in this and all things.



Patricia Curley

as Ensemble

Patricia is thrilled to be returning to Town & Country Players! She previously appeared in T&C's *Young Frankenstein* (Inga) and *Oklahoma!* (Laurey). She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love & support on & offstage!



Steve DiNardo

as Ensemble

This is Steve's T&C debut! Notable credits: *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad), *Damn Yankees* (Joe Hardy), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion) and *Terranova* (John Palmieri) at NYC Fringe. He's won the BroadwayWorld Award (Best Actor in a Musical) and the Next Comic Standing Competition. On life's stage, Steve plays the rewarding roles of Husband to Taryn and Daddy to Luca, Stevie and Duke.



Sean Downing

as Ensemble

Sean is excited to be making his debut at T&C. Memorable appearances include *Titanic* (Barrett and Andrews), *1776* (Adams), *Jekyll & Hyde* (Jekyll), *Chess* (Freddie), *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Dentist), *Fun Home* (Bruce), and *Spamalot* (Galahad). He would like to thank the whole team for giving him a chance despite their better judgement. He also wants to thank his ever-patient wife Dana, and his ever-supportive daughters Emily and Kayla, for putting up with all his nonsense.

WHO'S WHO



Roseann Enright

as Ensemble

Roseann is excited to be back on T&C's stage. Previous roles include Magenta in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Marguerite St. Just in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, Sheila in *Hair*, and Maureen Johnson in *Rent*. Currently Roseann sits on T&C's board as the Vice President of Fundraising. She teaches 7th grade English and is mama to Isla (6) and Vayda (4). Much love to the cast and crew and thank you to Jenny and Sheldon for a great time!



Miki Fuentes

as Ensemble

Miki Fuentes is thrilled to be back on stage with T&C! Past credits include: *Puffs* (Hannah), *Oliver!* (Nancy) and *Les Miserables* (Jean Valjean). She'd like to thank the production team, cast, and crew for all their hard work on this amazing show. You all truly are the best of the best.



Susan LaBar

as Ensemble

Susan is thrilled to be back on stage at T&C! She has performed in community theater for 25 years. Favorite roles include Rosie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Tess in *Crazy For you* and Sonia in *Godspell*. Susan has choreographed many of the T&C musicals. She lives in Yardley with her husband Rob, and two sons, Zack and Matt. Thanks to her family and friends for their support in pursuing her passion and especially her own "Mama Rose" for being such a great stage Mom.



Laura Lindmeier

as Ensemble

Laura is delighted to be returning to T&C where she was last seen as Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* (2015). Other credits at T&C include Tessie (*Annie*) and Pradyn (*Arthur's Stone*, *Merlin's Fire*). Playing Alice in *Bright Star* (Immaculata U) remains near and dear to her heart. Laura teaches theology and drama at Martin Saints Classical H.S. Many thanks to the entire cast and crew. Endless love to her family, friends, and fur babies who make life that much sweeter!

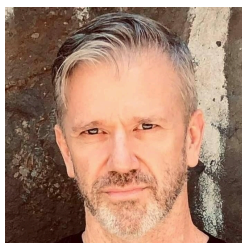
WHO'S WHO



Julie Massa

as Ensemble

Julie has been a member of T&C since 2018 and has been seen onstage in productions such as *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Puffs*, as well as serving backstage for several productions. She is excited to be bringing to the stage some of the best of Broadway along with the best performers and cast mates. Love to David, Graham, & Buddy.



James Morris

as Ensemble

James most recently appeared as Sidney Bruhl in *Deathtrap* for Town and Country Players. He has also appeared at the Kelsey Theater in *Tartuffe* (Orgon), *Spring Awakening* (Adult Man), *Cabaret* (Ernst), *Calendar Girls* (John), and *The Tempest* (Caliban).



Heidi New

as Ensemble

Heidi is thrilled to be a cast member of *BftB*. Past roles at T&C include *Antigone* (*Antigone*), *Oklahoma!* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Most of the time, Heidi can be found teaching music and theatre at an all-boys private school. Thank you to the production team, my Dames for being the most supportive friends a girl could ask for, and my family for putting up with all my crazy endeavors. Enjoy the show!



Victoria Schultheis

as Ensemble

Vicky is thrilled to be doing live theater again! For the first time in forever, Vicky is ON the stage and not lurking in the shadows. She has produced numerous shows over the years, most recently *Young Frankenstein*. She also serves as VP of Productions for T&C and is a member of IWFS and Bucks County Curling Club. Much love to Alexander and Matt, and shout out to Mary, Caity, Scott, and the Awesomeness Ladies. This is all because of community theater.

WHO'S WHO



Valerie Sharper

as Ensemble

Valerie is happy to finally get out of the house and back to the theater! Favorite roles over the years include Joanne/*Company*, Drowsy Chaperone/*The Drowsy Chaperone*, Mrs Potts/*Beauty and the Beast*, Sally/*Follies*, Kate Keller/*All My Sons*, Mrs Lovett/*Sweeney Todd*, and Marilla Cuthbert/*Anne of Green Gables*. Val will be seen next in the holiday show, *There's Snow Place Like Home for the Holidays*.



Kayla Smull

as Ensemble

This is Kayla's 2nd production with T&C, following her debut in *Young Frankenstein*. She has been singing and dancing most of her life and has performed with several theatres in the area, including Methacton Comm Theatre, Playcrafters, & The Barn Playhouse. She would like to thank everyone involved as well as her family and friends for their love and support, especially her husband Matt.



Meg Waldowski

as Ensemble

Meg is so happy to be back performing on the T&C stage once again and thankful to Sheldon and Jenny for giving her this wonderful opportunity. Favorite roles include *Other Desert Cities* (*Polly Wyeth*), *Mame* (*Mame*), *BATB* (*Mrs. Potts*), *Steel Magnolias* (*M'Lynn*), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (*Drowsy Chaperone*). To my biggest supporters Paul, my 4 children, their spouses and my 12 beautiful grandchildren, thank you!



Patrick Walsh

as Ensemble

Pat has played in over 43 shows including many musicals with his wife, actress and choreographer Peg, including *Pippin*, *Camelot*, *Barnum*, *A Little Night Music*, and *The Little Shop of Horrors*. In 2016 they played aging actors in *Moon Over Buffalo* and currently teach dancing at Theater Arts Center. I'm deeply grateful to my personal angel, who always supports the best in me.

WHO'S WHO

Sheldon Bruce Zeff

Director

Sheldon is thrilled to be directing again at T&C. We are incredibly happy to bring live theatre back to the barn. Directing Credits: *The Complete Works of Wm. Shakespeare* [Abridged], *Willy Wonka*, *Dunelawn*, *Blind Date, Inc.* (Town and Country Players) *Boeing Boeing* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. (M&M Stage, Kelsey Theatre, NJ) Shout outs: Thanks to Jenny, Joe, Erin, Matt, Scott, Lynne Anne & Barb. To the Cast and Crew, Break some bones! To my Golde, *Do you Love Me? I Love You!* www.zeffentertainment.weebly.com

Jenny McNiven

Producer

Jenny is grateful for the opportunity to produce her first show with T&C. Last year she directed the *Holiday Show* and performed in it the previous two years. She has also been seen as Esmeralda in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Emma in *Emma Abridged* (One Acts), Eliza in *Pygmalion* (virtual), and Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* (virtual). Love to my little man, and many thanks to Sheldon for including me in this adventure.

Joe Nappi

Musical Director

Joe is happy to be back at T&C after having last been seen, well heard, in *Next to Normal*, *Oklahoma!* and the Christmas Show. He is the music director for the T&C summer workshops and is an assistant at OLMC Church. He thanks Sheldon for the opportunity, his patience and vision.

Matthew Schultheis

Stage Manager

Matthew is pleased to be back to stage management with *The Best from the Best*. Previous stage management experience at T&C includes *Oklahoma!* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. He has also designed the lighting for many T&C show including *Holes*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Good People*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, and *Deathtrap*. Matthew has also had the privilege of serving as the President of Town and Country Players since 2020 and is excited to welcome our patrons back. Love to Vicky and Alexander.

WHO'S WHO

Scott Monsees

Technical Designer/Sound/Microphones

Scott is excited to be back in the theater after covid. Scott is an award winning Light and Sound Designer. Scott was last seen as the Lighting and Sound Designer for *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Oklahoma!*, *Sylvia*, *The Boy from OZ*, *Willy Wonka*, *Company*, and *The Music Man*. "I would like to thank my Friends and Family for all their help and support." Congratulations to the cast and crew.

David Massa

Light Board Operator

David is thrilled to be running lights for his second time at T&C. His first was the 2019 production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, where he also performed the starring role of "Bob" the Lightboard Operator. Thanks to the wonderful cast and crew for bringing this show to life, and extra love to Julie, Buddy, and Graham.

Jackie Parzanese

Crew

Jackie is happy to be involved in this fun cabaret! Recent T&C tech credits include *Young Frankenstein* (Stage Manager) and *Puffs* (Assistant Stage Manager). Jackie is thrilled to be a part of this show and she hopes you enjoy *The Best from the Best!*

Erin Wurtz

Erin is thrilled at the opportunity to work alongside such a creative team as *The Best from the Best* cast & crew! She has been choreographing in the local area for almost a decade, as well as appearing on stage in productions in the PA/NJ area since she was a little girl. In shows such as *42nd Street*, *A Chorus Line*, and a Perry Nomination for *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*. She thanks the entire board for the hard work, and hopes you all enjoy the show, and can see and appreciate all the work and loving care that's gone into it!

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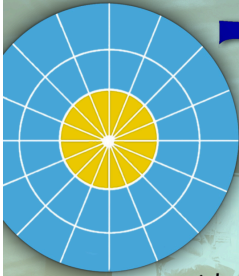
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T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW.....

A NOTE FROM T&C'S PRESIDENT

Welcome to Town and Country Players' 74th season. So far this year, we have presented four online productions, three outdoor productions: *12 Angry Jurors*, *PUFFS, Or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*, and *The Miracle Worker* and two indoor productions: *Deathtrap* and *Young Frankenstein*.

As we close out the year, we are happy to present you with two special events: *The Best from the Best* and our traditional holiday show, this year titled *There's Snow Place Like Home for the Holidays*.

Preparations for our landmark 75th season continue as well. The 75th Anniversary Season will feature productions of *Guys and Dolls*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Sound of Music*, *Clue*, and *A Christmas Carol*, alongside several special productions. We will also have events to recognize all those who have played their part in our long history, whether on-stage, backstage, running the front of house operations, donor, and/or as our valued patrons.

I became president of Town and Country Players in January of 2020. While the challenges of leading a community theater during the past 20 months have been vastly different than what I expected at that time, I am proud of what Town and Country Players has been able to accomplish. While our stage was dark during these months, it was far from a year and a half without any activity. With generous donations from our patrons, and hard work by our membership, we were able to produce eleven different Zoom productions, participate in food drives, hold youth workshops, and sing to and send cards to senior citizens and other home bound individuals in the Central Bucks area.

I would like to close by thanking our patrons and membership for their donations to, and support of, Town and Country Players this past year and am pleased to be able see everyone in person again.

Matthew Schultheis

President

Town and Country Players

T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW.....

Become a Friend of Town and Country Players

Town and Country Players is celebrating its 74th Season in 2021. 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.

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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS

There's Snow Place Like Home

For the Holidays

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JUSTIN GIACETTI

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY HEIDI NEW

CHOREOGRAPHY BY MAGGIE BRENNAN

PRODUCED BY SARAH LECLAIR



DECEMBER 10, 11, 12

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