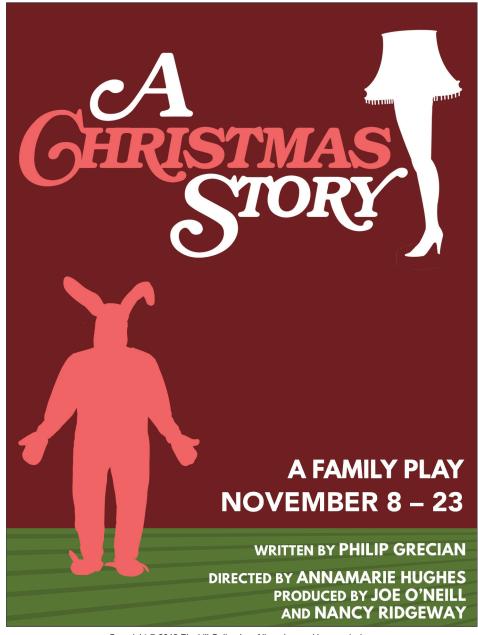
# PLAYBILL®

Town And Country Players
Doylestown, PA



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#### **Town and Country Players**

**PRESENTS** 

# A CHRISTMAS STORY

by

#### Philip Grecian, Jean Shepherd, Leigh Brown and Bob Clark

with

Andy McPhee Will Trymbiski Mason Ambs Philip Schneller Lucie Van Hoof Penelope Stern-Kushnier Kevin Palardy Alyssa Moore Val Sharper Dave Levy Mackenzie Moreno Breanna Flannelly

Logan Ambs Sean Spencer Semanoff Olivia Incudine Lilly Norcross Nora Bella Stern-Kushnier

**Co-Producer** Nancy Ridgeway

Co-Producer
Joe O'Neill

Set Designer/Build

Dave Sharper

Scenic Artist/Designer

Barb Emch

**Properties** 

Karen Abrams

Choreographer

Suzanne Safran

Lighting Designer

Walter Hauck

Costumer

Nancy Ridgeway

Sound Designer
Jim McIntosh

Jim McIntosn

Crew Ken Ambs

Fight Coordinator

Dustin Karrat

Stage Manager

Anne Hauck

Lighting Technician

Fred Conover

Costumer Assistant Rob Rosiello

Sound Technician

Paul Waldowski

Asst Stage Manager
Julia Levy

#### **Directed by Annamarie Hughes**

 $\hbox{Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISIIING COMPANY, INC., of Woodstock, Illinois. } \\$ 

Play by Philip Grecian, based upon A Christmas Story,

© 1983 Turner Entertainment Co., distributed by Warner Bros.,
written by Jean Shepherd, Leigh Brown and Bob Clark,
and In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash
by JEAN SHEPHERD

NOTE: Please be advised that this production includes simulated gunfire, strobe lights, smoke effects and simulated violence.

# CAST -

Ralph as an adult (Narrator)	Andy McPhee
Ralphie Parker	Will Trymbiski
The Old Man	Kevin Palardy
Mother	Alyssa Moore
Randy	Mason Ambs
Flick	Logan Ambs
Schwartz	Sean Spencer Semanoff
Scut Farkas	Phillip Schneller
Miss Shields	Valerie Sharper
Esther Jane Alberry	Olivia Incudine
Helen Weathers	Lucie Van Hoof
Santa / Tree Lot Owner / Delivery Man	Dave Levy
Ensemble	Breanna Flannelly
Ensemble	Mackenzie Moreno
Ensemble	Lilly Norcross
Ensemble	Nora Bella Stern-Kushnier
Ensemble	Penelope Stern-Kushnier

# **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director	Annamarie Hughes
Co-Producer	Joe O'Neill
Co-Producer & Costume Design	Nancy Ridgeway
Set Designer/Build	Dave Sharper
Stage Manager	Anne Hauck
Assistant Stage Manager	Julia Levy
Lighting Designer	Walter Hauck
Lighting Technician	Fred Conover
Scenic Artist/Designer	Barb Emch
Properties Mistress	Karen Abrams
Sound Designer	Jim McIntosh
Sound Technician	Paul Waldowski
Choreographer	Suzanne Safran
Fight Director	Dustin Karrat
Costume Assistant	Rob Rosiello
Crew	Ken Ambs
Program	Jillian Ambs

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

Lois Alterman, Anne Hauck and Lon Emch for their painting assistance during the 2019 Season



## Andy McPhee as Ralph as an adult (Narrator)

Andy has been a reasonably regular T&Cer since 1997. Favorite roles include Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* (three times); Paul, Uncle Billy, and Mr. D'Angelo in *Quilt: A Musical Celebration*; Narrator and Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*; and Vanya in last season's *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, which he also directed. Long story. He has directed numerous shows at T&C, including *Gypsy*, *Pajama Game*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. He dedicates this show to his spectacular wife, whose love of all things Christmas exceeds even his own and who makes this special holiday ever more special every year.



# Will Trymbiski

as Ralphie Parker

Will Trymbiski is honored to be making his acting debut in *A Christmas Story*, as Ralphie Parker, on the Town and Country Players stage! Getting to play a character in one of his favorite family Christmas classics is a dream come true! Thanks to this production team for their hard work and dedication! Thanks and love to mom and dad for your constant love and support in anything I want to pursue and making it happen! Thanks to Jack and Bubba for your excitement and enthusiasm for this show and supporting me off the field.



# **Kevin Palardy**

as The Old Man

Kevin is excited to be playing the Old Man in this Christmas classic! He recently exhausted himself in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. Some favorite past roles: Garry in *Noises Off!*, Franz Liebkind in *The Producers*, and Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*. Thanks to his family and friends for their love and support! To the cast and crew: Don't shoot your eye out!



#### Alyssa Moore

as Mother

Alyssa is so happy to be returning to Town and Country after 7 years and is trying to cope with the fact that she has aged into mother roles. Favorite theatre credits include *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *Assassins* (Squeaky Fromme), *Bare: a Pop Opera* (Ivy), *Inherit the Wind* (Rachel), *Rocky Horror* (Janet), and *Seussical* (Gertrude). Love to her husband, Matt, and two sweet boys, Jacob and Nicholas.



#### **Mason Ambs**

as Randy

Ensemble (*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Yardley Players), Drosselmeyer's nephew (*Nutcracker*, T&C), Ensemble/Oompa-Loompa/Squirrel (*Willy Wonka*, T&C); Ensemble (*'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, Kelsey theater). Mason is in the 6th grade at Newtown Elementary School and enjoys computers, video games, playing soccer and the viola and roller-blading.



# **Logan Ambs**

as Flick

Edmund (*Lion Witch Wardrobe*, T&C), James (*Willy Wonka*, T&C); Christopher Moore (*'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, Kelsey theater); Ensemble (*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Yardley Players), Caterpillar (*Alice in Wonderland*, Goodnoe Elementary), Ensemble (*A Christmas Story, the Musical*, M&M), Ensemble (*Les Mis* and *Joseph and the Amazing* ..., NMS). Logan is in the 7th grade at Newtown Middle School and is a member of Young Men's Vocal Ensemble, Middle Masters and plays the trumpet.



# **Sean Spencer Semanoff**

as Schwartz

Sean is thrilled to be back at Town and Country Players! He made his theater debut last year in *The Nutcracker* on this very stage. Equally comfortable both in front of the camera and on the stage, Sean's current dream is to someday star in a Broadway musical. When not on the stage, Sean is studying for his pilot's license. Sean would like to thank his Mom, Dad, and sister Sophia for their love and support.



# **Phillip Schneller**

as Scut Farkas

Phillip is very excited to be in Town and Country's production of *A Christmas Story*! He was last seen on the stage in Town and Country's production of *Oklahoma!* His other roles include Bert Healy (*Annie*) and ensemble (*The Little Mermaid*) at Holicong Middle School. He also participates in Holicong's Robe Choir and H-Factor, and was in this summer's Town and Country workshops. He would like to thank his loving family, friends, and teachers who helped him get this far. He wishes good luck to his fellow cast and crew, and hopes you enjoy the show!



# **Valerie Sharper**

as Miss Shields

Val is happy to be a part of the exuberant cast and crew of this favorite show. Thank goodness for all the teachers out there. I don't think I could do it! Favorite roles over the years include Sonia/Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Joanne/Company, Drowsy Chaperone/The Drowsy Chaperone, Mrs. Potts/Beauty and the Beast, Sally/Follies, and Mrs. Lovett/Sweeney Todd. Val is a toxicologist by day and is also very active in the music program at St. John's UMC in Ivyland. Have a good show, everyone!



#### **Olivia Incudine**

as Esther Jane Alberry

Olivia is thrilled to be performing in her first Town and Country show. She has previously performed in Theater Arts Center's *Wizard of Oz* and was a member of TAC's Kids Company. Liv thanks Mom, Dad, Owen, and Oliver and her extended family for their encouragement, support, and patience. Above all, she thanks God. It is through Him and for Him that her talent is able to be shared with others.



#### **Lucie Van Hoof**

as Helen Weathers

Lucie is beyond excited to perform in her first show with the Town and Country Players. She is a 6th grader at OLMC and loves every opportunity to do what she loves most. Her favorite roles to date are Marta in *The Sound of Music* (CB West), and Middle Elsa in *Frozen Jr* (TAC). Lucie is grateful for all the support from her family and friends and hopes you enjoy the show.



# Dave Levy

as Santa / Tree Lot Owner / Delivery
Man

Dave is a local educator, actor, and comedic improviser. He triple dog dares you to enjoy this show. He is the Director of the Summer Youth Workshops here at T&C. Since this is Dave's 10th T&C show, he anticipates receiving a red velvet jacket or something equally classy to signify his new membership in the coveted Double Digits Club. Il souhaite un joyeux anniversaire à sa femme bien-aimée.



# **Breanna Flannelly**

as Ensemble

Breanna is thrilled to join the members of Town and Country Players. She has been taking acting lessons locally since she was 4 years old. Breanna loves acting, singing, horseback riding, and playing the viola. She also loves visiting NYC and hopes to someday be on Broadway. Special thanks to her family who has always supported her acting career and encouraged her natural ability to be on stage. She would like to especially thank her mom, her dad, and her Mom Mom.



## **Mackenzie Moreno**

as Ensemble

Mackenzie is making her debut with Town and Country Players, and is thrilled to be part of the ensemble. Mackenzie's resume includes: *The Little Mermaid, Annie, Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast, & Junie B Jones*. She is also part of the Performance Dance Group with Coalesce Center for Dance Artistry. When Mackenzie is not acting, dancing, or singing she enjoys reading, swimming, and spending time with friends and family, especially down the shore.



# **Lilly Norcross**

as Ensemble

Lilly is thrilled to make her community theater debut at Town & Country Players. Previously, she assumed the role of Shenzi for Warwick Elementary's production of *The Lion King*, and assorted roles for the Warminster Y's summer productions of *Once on this Island*, *Seussical*, *Aladdin*, and *Jungle Book*. She also thinks that Red Ryder BB guns are way overrated, and would like to thank everyone for coming.



#### Nora Bella Stern-Kushnier as Ensemble

Nora Bella Stern-Kushnier is in 5th grade and making her Town and Country debut! Nora is a student at Lights, Camera, Acting! where she has played Moana in *Moana*, Peter Pan in *Peter Pan*, and Little Red Riding Hood in *Once Upon a Time Redesigned*. Nora performs with her mother and sister in their original show *Together Wherever We Go*. She played Brigitta from *The Sound of Music* in a promotional video for the Oscar Hammerstein Estate. Nora is an accomplished Girl Scout, being one of the top earners in Cookie Sales last year and this year is going for her Bronze Star Journey. In her spare time, she likes to bake, cook, ride her bike, and hang with family and friends. When she grows up, she hopes to be a Broadway star! She dedicates her performance to her Mom and grandmother, Mimi, for "always being there."



# Penelope Stern-Kushnier as Ensemble

Penelope Stern-Kushnier is a 3rd grader and is so excited to be making her Town and Country debut! She played Marta from *The Sound of Music* in a promotional video for the Oscar Hammerstein Estate. Patsy is trained in ballroom dance and was named "Top Junior" at the Fred Astaire Cherry Blossom Showcase. She locally performs with her mother and sister their original show *Together Wherever We Go*. Patsy loves to ride horses and in her spare time enjoys watching make-up tutorials on YouTube. Patsy is passionate about the environment and when she grows up hopes to work in cleaning up and saving the oceans. She dedicates her performance to her Great-Grandmother, Mom Mom.



# **Annamarie Hughes**

Director

Anna is thrilled to be working with her pal from La Salle, producer Joe O'Neill, to bring one of her holiday favorites to the stage. It has been an amazing journey working with such a talented cast and crew. Anna originally became involved at T&C back in 2000 and has loved being part of many memorable productions. Anna previously directed *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* in 2007, *Arthur's Stone, Merlin's Fire* in 2009, and *It's a Wonderful Life* in 2011. Past producer roles include *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Pajama Game, Charlotte's Web, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Proof, and Gypsy.* Onstage, Anna was seen in *Honk!, Peter Pan, Cinderella, Follies, Clue,* and *Fiddler on the Roof.* Much love to her amazing family Bob, Rob, Dave and Rae, Meg, Chris, Sarah and John, and to her newly born granddaughter Adelyn! Nana loves you to the moon! Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season. Enjoy the show!



#### Joe O'Neill

Co-Producer

Joe O'Neill is a first-time theatrical producer with *A Christmas Story*. He's either a retired Corporate Communications Director or proprietor of SisBoomBah Creative, but in any instance, he's out of the house. He's been T&C's VP of Marketing this year. His award-winning talents in corporate filmmaking, web, and social media have kept him behind-the-scenes in his career. He graduated from La Salle University back when it was "college" with friend and director Annamarie Hughes. Joe and his husband Tom live in Newtown. So glad to work with a great cast and crew! Love to Tom and my family for their support!



# Nancy Ridgeway

Co-Producer & Costume
Design

I have had the pleasure of working with Anna many times over the years and it's always been a great experience. As the saying goes, like minds.... As co-producer, I helped Joe learn the process of producing a show and he has been a joy to work with, not to mention an amazing quick learner. Hope you all enjoy the show!



#### **Anne Hauck**

Stage Manager

Anne is thrilled to be working with the production company for *A Christmas Story*. She started at Town and Country Players as a stage manager for the main stage shows and moved into directing and design with children's theater at T&C Players. Working with children has its own special rewards; children don't hold back, they have big hearts, and the louder the applause, the happier they are and the more they give. Enjoy the show! They have put heart and soul into their work that you are about to see.

# **Dave Sharper**

Set Designer/Build

David has been involved in over a hundred shows at Town and Country since 1984. He designed the set for *Murder on the Nile*, designed and built the sets for this year's *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, and last season's *Bonnie and Clyde*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *The Nutcracker*. Last seen on stage in the 2018 Town and Country Holiday Show and as Agent Frank in *Unnecessary Farce* at Village Players of Hatboro. Some of his favorite roles: Mitch in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Brian in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, Professor Plum in *Clue the Play*, Krojack in *Don't Drink the Water*, and George in *Don't Dress for Dinner*.

# **Julia Levy**

Assistant Stage Manager

Julia is a regular at the Summer Camp Workshops at T&C. She has taken acting classes since the age of five. T&C credits include *One Act Festival* (Asst. Stage Manager), *T&C Holiday Show* (Ghost of Theatre Future), *The Children's Hour* (Rosalie Wells), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Asst. Stage Manager), *The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe* (Susan), and *Holes* (Pig, Young Warden). She is a 7th grader and will be in her school's production of *Rock of Ages* this March.

#### **Walter Hauck**

**Lighting Designer** 

Walter began working the technical side of theater at Paramus (NJ) High School. After college he worked with Winnetka (IL) Community Theater, Appletree Theater Company (Highland Park, IL), and as lighting tech, lighting designer, stage manager, and board member with Peninsula Musical Theater (Belmont, CA). Walter has been with T&C since 1994 as lighting tech and now lighting designer, and VP of Technical Operations.

#### **Fred Conover**

Lighting Technician

Fred's excited to be back at the barn! The elderly are one of his passions, and he's often directing free shows for them at local senior centers. He is grateful for another opportunity to work backstage, especially with such a talented cast! All my love to Kirsten, to Freddy (and his lovely wife, Allyson), and Gabe. To the cast and crew: "Break legs!"

#### **Barb Emch**

Scenic Artist/Designer

Barb has been a member of the T&C family for many years, having done set decorations and artistic canvases for most of the shows that bring our audiences joy during our season. She is highly creative, having majored in the arts, and finds that the creativity she produces for each individual play fulfils the artist within. She wishes the cast and crew of *A Christmas Story* the best.

#### **Karen Abrams**

**Properties Mistress** 

It is always a great time hanging with Anna, Joe, and Anne. Thank you for having me as part of the crew. I have enjoyed all of the Llama laughs and props additions along the way. This show has been a delight. A special thanks to Leo for supporting my love of theater.

#### Jim McIntosh

Sound Designer

Jim has been involved in the entertainment industry for over 30 years. After earning a B.A. in Theater from Rutgers University, he has worked as a performer, stage manager, light and sound technician, and scenic carpenter. He has been an active member of Town & Country Players for the last 5 years, taking on roles onstage, behind the scenes, and as a former Treasurer on the board for T&C. Earlier this season, Jim was the stage manager for T&C's production of Next To Normal, and he designed the lights and sound and was the Minstrel in The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged). The more you do, the more you learn, the more you grow.

#### Paul Waldowski

Sound Technician

Paul has worked in several capacities both on the stage and behind the scenes with numerous theater groups, onstage work including leads in *Oklahoma!*, *Anything Goes, How to Succeed, The Drowsy Chaperone, Jekyll and Hyde,* and others. He has done backstage work, including mics for various productions, including the most recent One Acts presented by Town and Country this season. He has directed the One Acts twice and is looking forward to other opportunities, both on and off the stage.

#### Suzanne Safran

Choreographer

Suzanne Safran (choreographer) loves working with kids/adults playing kids, as she did as choreographer for the *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at T&C, or this year with the kids of the *Christmas Story* cast! Suzanne is a former NBA dancer and was a collegiate dance team dancer and choreographer. She has created dance fitness choreography for the past 10 years. Guests may recognize her as one of T&C's house managers, too! Her plan is to have no dancers shoot their eyes out during this production!

**Dustin Karrat** Fight Director

Dustin has choreographed fights and movement for *Company, Holes, August: Osage County, Peter & The Starcatcher, Hunchback* and *Oklahoma* at T&C. He has also worked with Azuka Theater, Curio Theatre, Porch Room Productions, Hedgerow Theater, Village Players of Hatboro, and Philadelphia Young Playwrights, among others. Stay safe!

# **Rob Rosiello**

Costume Assistant

Shakespeare Abridged, A Few Good Men, Willy Wonka, August: Osage County, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, and Rumor. Masters in Theatre from Villanova University, Barrymore Award for Best Ensemble (Angels in America), and is a published author in RuPaul's Drag Race and the Shifting Visibility of Drag Culture. Rob is a nationally produced playwright. www.RobRosiello.com

Ken Ambs Crew

Ken Ambs is proud to see sons Logan and Mason onstage together. A performer since high school, he was seen in *Willy Wonka* as Mr. Bucket and in T&C's productions of *The Nutcracker*. Previous T&C performances include T&C Holiday Shows, *City of Angels*, and *Sweeney Todd*. Ken has also appeared in productions of: 1776, 42nd Street, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Music Man.



# **PHOTOS**



#### Raffle

Our raffle helps to support the Building Fund.
We offer custom raffle options for each show.
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 who volunteer to usher, direct parking or sell raffle tickets for our shows will receive a FREE SEAT for any show in our 2020 season. If you are interested in volunteering, you may sign up on our website or fill out "Volunteer Form" in the Clubroom.

#### Become a Member

We would love to have you as a Member of our Town and Country Players family! Members participate in all meetings, parties, events, and vote for the slate of plays for our 2021 season, as well as vote for our Executive Board for the next year. Please feel free to pick up a Membership Application in our Clubroom.

Annual membership dues are:
\$30.00 (Individual)
\$50.00 (Household)

Any two Adults from one household
\$75.00 (Family - 2 Adults and up to 4 Youth)
\$20.00 (Youth - Grades 7 to 12)

# **Special Thanks to Our 2019 Gold Patrons**

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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:

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

# Congratulations to our 2018 Season Award Winners!

#### 2018 Member Award Winners:

Service Award: Lisa Soren
Lifetime Achievement Award: Jillian Ambs
Rafters Award: Karen Abrams
Jr. Rafters Award: Mason McClintic
Marion Kolman Award (Female Acting): Roseann Enwright

#### **2018 Towny Award Winners:**

#### Best Actor in a Lead Role

Brady Love as Quasimodo in The Hunchback of Notre Dame

#### Best Actress in a Lead Role

Jenny McNiven as Esmerelda in The Hunchback of Notre Dame

#### Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Caitlin Davies as Blanche in Bonnie and Clyde

#### Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Lee Damon as Phoebus in The Hunchback of Notre Dame

#### **Future Star Award**

Makayla McClintic as Mary Tilford in The Children's Hour

#### **Excellence in Design Awards**

LIGHTING: Scott Monsees for The Hunchback of Notre Dame
SET: David Sharper & Barb Emch for The Hunchback of Notre Dame
COSTUME/MAKEUP/HAIR/WIGS: Ann Rasmussen Cole for The Hunchback of Notre Dame
SOUND/SPECIAL EFFECTS: Scott Monsees for The Hunchback of Notre Dame

# Winner of the Town and Country Cup for the Best Production of the 2018 Season

The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Directed by John Neuman Produced by Victoria Schultheis



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