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Miracie

WORKER

JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2021

A FAMILY FRIENDLY PLAY PRESENTED OUTDOORS

Written by WILLIAM GIBSON

Directed by LORIE BALDWIN

Produced by VICTORIA SCHULTHEIS

Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatericals.com



RESERVE TICKETS

Donation of \$15 is suggested townandcountryplayers.org

LOCATION

Hansel Park 5069-5165 Hansell Rd, Doylestown, PA

SHOWTIMES

July 31 at 1pm & 5pm, August 1 at 1pm | Rain dates: August 1 at 5pm, August 7, August 8

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Town and Country Players

PRESENTS

THE MIRACLE WORKER

bν William Gibson

with

Sarah Graham Deborah Dirkes James Palmer David Sharper

Sofia Ines Garcia Rita Welch Jennifer Pam Goldberg Mackenzie Moreno Olivia Kozloff Penelope Kushnier

Sam Gugino Logan Ambs Lexi Healy Gabby Arias

Directed by **Lorie Baldwin**

Produced by Victoria Schultheis

Time: The 1880s

Place: In and around the Keller homestead in Tuscumbia, Alabama: also, briefly, the Perkins Institution for the Blind, in Boston

There are three acts and there will be one intermission.

The Miracle Worker is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., a Concord Theatricals Company | 250 West 57th Street, 6th Floor New York. NY 10107-0102

MUSIC CREDITS

The Parting by Kevin MacLeod

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Virtutes Instrumenti by Kevin MacLeod

Link: https://incompetech.filmmusic.io/song/4590-virtutes-

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Sheep May Safely Graze - BWV 208 by Kevin MacLeod

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safely-graze---bwv-208

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The Other Side of the Door by Kevin MacLeod

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side-of-the-door

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Simple Duet by Kevin MacLeod

Link: https://incompetech.filmmusic.io/song/4365-simple-duet

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Egmont Overture Finale by Kevin MacLeod

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overture-finale

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"It was my teacher's genius, her quick sympathy, her loving tact which made the first years of my education so beautiful. It was because she seized the right moment to impart knowledge that made it so pleasant and acceptable to me"

-Helen Keller

"The best teacher in the world is someone who loves what he or she does and just loves it in front of you."

-Fred Rogers

In 1882, at the age of 19 months, Helen Keller contracted "brain fever" (probably scarlet fever or meningitis) that left her blind and deaf. She lived in a soundless, sightless world with little means of communication with any of her family. Existing like this for her first six years in her Alabama home she became frustrated and violent, until her teacher, Anne Sullivan came into her life. Keller says in her biography, THE STORY OF MY LIFE, that the day Anne Sullivan arrived is her "soul's birthday."

Few of us have had the experience of Keller in terms of being blind or deaf. However, all of us can relate to that person, perhaps a teacher, that awakened our own souls to learning something new. Who did it for you? Do you remember life 'before and after' this moment, as Keller describes?

THE MIRACLE WORKER, by William Gibson premiered on Broadway back in 1960, earning several TONY Awards, "best play." among those. While watching the show today and marveling at the tenacity of Anne Sullivan as she struggles with the young Helen, let us all be reminded of our own teachers we've had in this life. Like all good teachers, Sullivan had the ability to see beyond Helen's blindness and deafness and held high expectations for her pupil to learn the gift of language. Through Sullivan's teachings, Keller was able to later master not only English, but Greek, German and French languages. Keller became the first blind/deaf student to graduate cum laude from Radcliffe College and the first blind/deaf student to earn a Bachelors Degree from Harvard. With her teacher, Anne Sullivan at her side for the next 58 years of her life, Keller travelled the world as a gifted speaker and an author of 14 books.

It is my hope that you in the audience today will not only admire the special bond between Sullivan and Keller in play, but that you will also give a thought or two to the teachers you've had in your lifetime and the impact they had on your own lives. May we all strive to be lifetime learners as Helen was and possibly become inspiring teachers to someone as well.

Enjoy the show!

CAST

The Cast in order of appearance

The Doctor	James Palmer
Kate Keller	Sarah Graham
Captain Keller	Sam Gugino
Helen Keller	Sofia Garcia
Martha/Blind Girl # 1	Mackenzie Moreno
Percy/Alice (Blind Girl # 3)	Lexi Healy
Aunt Ev	Deborah Dirkes
James Keller	Logan Ambs
Anagnos	David Sharper
Annie Sullivan	Rita Welch
Viney	Jennifer Pam Goldberg
Blind Girl # 2, Servant Child	Olivia Kozloff
Blind Girl # 4, Servant Child	Gabby Arias
Smallest Blind Girl/Servant Child	Penelope Kushnier



Crew Members

Director	Lorie Baldwin
Producer	Victoria Schultheis
Stage Manager	Tobiann Corbin-Reinhard
Assistant Stage Manager	Julia Levy
Stage Crew	Tabitha Shaw
Properties	Victoria Schultheis
Set Design	David Sharper
Costume Design	Suzanne Ardite
Wardrobe	Karen Cameron
Sound Design/Sound Engineer	Scott Monsees
Technical Director	Matthew Schultheis
Fight Choreographer	Dustin Karrat



James Palmer

as The Doctor

James has been a 25-year + member of T&C, appearing as Oberon (A Midsummmer Night's Dream), Leonato (Much Ado About Nothing), and Senator Fipp (Urinetown). Elsewhere, Jim flew a helicopter in a Tom Cruise movie, sang lead for the Persuasions and once appeared on Broadway before an audience of eight million people.



Sarah Graham

as Kate Keller

Sarah is excited to return to the stage and make her Town and Country debut in The Miracle Worker. Her past credits include University of Pittsburgh Stages' production of Rhinoceros (Housewife) and The Bay at Nice (Sophia), and Walnut Street Theater's A Christmas Carol (Ensemble). Locally, she was seen in The Village Players of Hatboro's 66th season production of Leading Ladies as Audrey. Sarah graduated from Temple University Klein College of Media and Communications in 2019, where she was highly active in the Theater Department.



Sam Gugino

as Captain Keller

Sam has spent three decades as an award-winning food and wine writer and author. Sam studied at Philadelphia's Lantern Theater School under Charlie Delmarcelle and KC Macmillan. Since then he has appeared in Barefoot in the Park (Victor Velasco); Shakespeare in Hollywood (Max Reinhardt); The Diary of Anne Frank (Otto Frank); Inherit the Wind (Mathew Harrison Brady); The Taming of the Shrew (Minola Baptista); Freud's Last Session (Sigmund Freud); The Grapes of Wrath (Jim Casy); Two things You Don't Talk About at Dinner (Jack); and Titus Andronicus (Titus).



Sofia Garcia

as Helen Keller

Sofia is extremely grateful for the opportunity to be in her first T&C production! In school, she performed in *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly), *Dracula* (Renfield), *Les Miserables* (Gavroche), and *Mary Poppins jr*. (Jane Banks). She played Harper in The Elite Theatre Company's production of *Float*. Thank you to the brilliant cast and crew who poured their hearts into this beautiful production. Special thanks to her family, friends, and her voice teacher, Jennine Babo, for their endless support.



Mackenzie Moreno as Martha/Blind Girl # 1

Mackenzie is an 11-year-old and has been dancing and acting since she was 4. She is thrilled to be back on stage with Town and Country Players. She made her debut a couple years back in A Christmas Story as part of the Ensemble and as a Leg Lamp Dancer. Mackenzie's resume includes The Little Mermaid, Annie, Wizard of OZ, Beauty and the Beast, and Junie B Jones. This past year she performed on stage in Atlantic City with Coalesce Center for Dance Artistry at Artist Human Simply (ASH) dance convention. When Mackenzie is not acting, dancing, or singing, she enjoys, roller skating, kayaking, swimming, reading and spending time with her family and friends.



Lexi Healy

as Percy/Alice (Blind Girl # 3)

Lexi is ecstatic to be making her debut with T&C in The Miracle Worker. She is a rising 8th grader at NHS MS. Some of Lexi's favorite productions include: A Christmas Story at MMT (Kids Ensemble), Seussical (Jojo) at Rising Stars, and Brothers Grimm Cinderella (Stepsister) at Newtown Arts. Lexi is a student at Mill Ballet and performs with Roxey Ballet. Lexi would like to thank Lorie, Vicky, and everyone at T&C for this wonderful opportunity!



Deborah Dirkes

as Aunt Ev

Deborah is delighted to be making her debut with Town and Country Players in "The Miracle Worker". Deborah past favorite roles include Molly in "Molly Sweeney", Rheana in "Les Belles Soures", and Cecie in "A Place Where Love Is". Deborah would like to thank our director Lori for casting her as Aunt Ev and would like to thank Manny, her children Sean and Alex, granddaughter Mckayla, family and friends for all their love and support.



Logan Ambs

as James Keller

Logan has been a performer for several years, his roles include: Peter Pan (Peter Pan – T&C virtual production), Michael (Billy Elliot – NMS), Flick (A Christmas Story – T&C), Edmond (Lion Witch Wardrobe - T&C), James (Willy Wonka – T&C); Christopher Moore (T 'was 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), Young Shrek / Baby Bear (Shrek the Musical - MTC), Ensemble Les Mis and Joseph and the Amazing ... - NMS). Logan is in the 9th grade @ Council Rock North and thrilled that live theater has returned!



David Sharper

as Anagnos

David has been involved in over a hundred shows at T&C since 1984. He designed sets for A Christmas Story, Bonnie and Clyde, The Hunchback of Notre and more. Favorite roles: Mitch/A Streetcar Named Desire, Brian/Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Professor Plum/Clue the Play, Krojack/Don't Drink the Water and George/Don't Dress for Dinner. He also serves as Treasurer for T&C.



Rita Welch

as Annie Sullivan

Rita is making her debut at Town and Country Players! She is a lover of this story and of the history behind it! Past shows she's worked on include The Tempest (Asst. Director), Ajax (Athena), and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time (Mrs. Shears/Mrs. Gascoyne). She gives her thanks to the cast and crew who helped make this possible.



Jennifer Pam Goldberg

as Viney

Jennifer Pam is thrilled to be here for her first acting debut with Town & Country, and back on stage! You can see her performing roles with Willow Manor Players in Abington, Everybody's Theatre Co. in Upper Dublin, and Pulleyandbuttonhole Theatre in Jenkintown. She is grateful for her three daughters and multitude of friends and family who help support her love of music and Theatre.



Olivia Kozloff as Blind Girl # 2, Servant Child

Olivia has been acting in plays and musicals since she was a little girl. She has done many school and camp shows, including *Legally Blonde Jr.* and *The Sound of Music*, with leads in *The Lion King Jr.* (Timon), *Suessical The Musical Jr.* (Jojo) and *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Belle). She is very excited to take part in this production with T&C and join a wonderful community theater group! Many thanks to her family for always supporting her, and much love to her friends and dog.



Gabby Arias as Blind Girl # 4, Servant Child

Gaby is 11 years old and recently moved to New Hope From NYC. Gabby is very passionate about musical theatre and opera. Her favorite roles have been "The Stepmother" In ATNY's production of Cinderella Jr. and "Young Anna" in A Class Act NY's production of Frozen Jr. Gabby is very excited to do her first show with T&C Players. She would like to thank Lorie and Vicky for this opportunity, her parents for their love and support and Alexis Bronkovic for her guidance.



Penelope Kushnier

as Smallest Blind Girl/Servant Child

Penelope is thrilled to be back on stage at T&C! She was last seen in A CHRISTMAS STORY & THE HOLIDAY SHOW (2019). Virtually she performed in HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS and IF ONLY IN OUR SCREENS. Penelope is in 4th grade and loves dancing, fashion, and makeup. She dedicates her performance to her grandmother Mimi, a speech and hearing teacher and recipient of the "Annie Sullivan Award"

Lorie Baldwin Director

Lorie is excited to be back at Town and Country Players, this time as a director, for the Theater in the Park Series. Lorie was last on stage at Town and Country as the Wicked Witch in THE WIZARD OF OZ. She also appeared at Town and Country Theater in THE HAUNTING OF HILL HOUSE as Mrs. Montague. More recent roles include Marie in CALENDAR GIRLS at DCP Theater, the Nurse in ROMEO AND JULIET at Actors Net, and the First Witch in MACBETH at Kelsey Theater. Lorie has a Masters in Theater from Villanova University and currently works a theater teacher and director at Lawrence High School in Lawrenceville NJ. She lives in Richboro with her patient husband Chris and their three little dogs. She is absolutely thrilled to work with this talented cast and hopes you enjoy the show today!

Victoria Schultheis

Producer

Victoria has been an active member of T&C since 2009 and has produced many shows. She is proud of the work we do here and is thrilled to be a part of Theater in the Park. Vicky also serves as VP of Productions for Town and Country Players. All my love to Matthew and Alexander, and so many thanks to Scott, Caity, Mary, and the rest of the Awesomeness group. #becauseofcommunitytheater

Tobiann Corbin-Reinhard

Stage Manager

Tobiann is thrilled to be working with this wonderfully talented cast and production team under the Town & Country banner. Being a part of bringing in-person theater back to Bucks County has been incredible!!

Julia Levy

Assistant Stage Manager

Julia is a rising 9th grader and a regular at the Summer Theatre Youth Workshops at T&C. She has been involved in theater since she was five. T&C credits include If Only in Our Screens (Narrator), Peter Pan (Narrator/Tiger Lily), A Christmas Story (Asst. Stage Manager), 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 was a member of the ensemble in her school's production of Rock of Ages.

Tabitha Shaw

Stage Crew

Tabitha is thrilled to be back working behind the scenes for Theater in the Park. She was last not seen making magic in Theater in the Park's performance of Puffs. She's assisted in many shows and looks forward to transitioning back to the stage. She's a great person and a cool kid to know and has a bright future ahead.

David Sharper

Set Design

David has been involved in over a hundred shows at T&C since 1984. He designed sets for A Christmas Story, Bonnie and Clyde, The Hunchback of Notre and more. Favorite roles: Mitch/A Streetcar Named Desire, Brian/Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Professor Plum/Clue the Play, Krojack/Don't Drink the Water and George/Don't Dress for Dinner. He also serves as Treasurer for T&C.

Suzanne Ardite

Costume Design

Suzanne is honored to be involved in The Miracle Worker. She has worked behind the scenes on such T&C productions as "Cold Stun", "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "Bonnie & Clyde". Equally comfortable on stage, Suzanne was last seen as Chris in "Calendar Girls" (Kelsey Theater) and as Aunt Eller in the T&C production of "Oklahoma!". Thanks to Vicky for giving her the opportunity to spend time in the sauna while looking for period costumes. Also a special shout out to Lorie, Tobi, and Karen for sweating along with her.

Karen Cameron

Wardrobe

Karen is very excited to be a part of the production team of The Miracle Worker. It is her first time assisting with costumes and she is grateful for the experience. Having performed in The One Act's and the Holiday Show, being behind-the-scenes with the very talented and dedicated production staff at T&C has been an inspiring and memorable experience. Enjoy the show!!

Scott Monsees

Sound Design/Sound Engineer

Scott is excited to have an opportunity to work on Miracle Worker. Scott is a founding board member of Forté Dramatic Production. Scott was last seen as the Lighting and Sound Designer for Sylvia, The Boy from OZ, Willy Wonka, Company, and The Music Man. He's thrilled to be a part of Theater in the Park. He is also on the board at T&C as VP of Tech Ops. "I would like to thank my Friends and Family (especially Vicky) for all their help and support." Congratulations to the cast and crew

Matthew Schultheis

Technical Director

Matthew is elated to be back working at T&C. Previous work at T&C has included the lighting design for *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Holes*, *Good People*, and *Anne of Green Gables*. Matthew has been involved in theater since his high school days and has worked professionally for numerous shows in the Philadelphia area. His experience includes stage management, lighting design, master electrician, rigging, scenic construction and design. When not at the theater or working, Matthew likes to throw heavy rocks across ice at the Bucks County Curling Club. He serves as the President of Town and Country Players. Love to Vicky and Alexander.

Dustin Karrat

Fight Choreographer

Dustin has choreographed fights and movement at T&C for Company, Holes, August: Osage County, Peter & The Starcatcher, Hunchback, Oklahoma, and A Christmas Story. He has also worked with Azuka Theater, Curio Theatre, Porch Room Productions, S&N Films, Hedgerow Theater, Village Players of Hatboro, Philadelphia Young Playwrights, and various local school theater programs. Stay safe!

A NOTE FROM T&C'S PRESIDENT

Welcome to Town and Country Players' Theater in the Park Series. In cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Department of Buckingham Township, we are pleased to be able to present live theater to the Central Bucks County community once again.

Producing outdoor theater presents many new challenges for us, and I am thankful for the hard work of the production teams, casts, crews, and especially the many volunteers taking care of the myriad of other tasks required for our Theater in the Park Series to be a success.

I became president of Town and Country Players in January of 2020. While the challenges of leading a community theater during the past 18 months have been vastly different that 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.

We have also commenced preparations for our 75th Anniversary Season in 2022. 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 events.

Additionally, it is my pleasure to announce our return to our stage at the barn. We will open our indoor season with *Deathtrap* opening on September 17th, *Young Frankenstein*, opening on October 22nd, a Cabaret event in November, and our annual Holiday Show in December.

Check our website at http://townandcountryplayers.org and/or follow us on social media for more information. We hope to see you there.

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

Make a Donation

Thank you for attending our 2021 Theater in the Park series. This past year has had a major effect on the theatre community across the country. Town and Country Players have had to rely on donations to keep our lights on even though our stage has been dark. We suggest a \$15 donation per person to attend this event. This is not a requirement but can help us continue to deliver quality theater to our community. Thank you to everyone who makes a donation! We could not do this without you!





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The parents of our cast

The Board of Directors at T&C

Meg and Paul Waldowski for the use of their truck