

THE INDIANA PLAYERS PRESENT



Miracle
on 34th
Street
the play

*Adapted by Mountain Community Theater
from the novel by Valentine Davies*

Directed by Bill & Sharon Herring

DECEMBER 6, 7, 8 & 13, 14, 15



INDIANA PLAYERS, INC
@ THE PHILADELPHIA STREET PLAYHOUSE
725 PHILADELPHIA STREET • INDIANA, PA 15701
WWW.INDIANAPLAYERS.COM



2024-2025 SEASON

INDIANA PLAYERS, INC.
2024 - 2025
SEASON SCHEDULE



SEPTEMBER

**13, 14, 15 &
20, 21, 22**

OUR TOWN

WRITTEN BY THORNTON WILDER
DIRECTED BY VANESSA ARVIDSON
AUDITION DATES: AUGUST 5TH AND 6TH

LOVE AND INFORMATION

WRITTEN BY CARYL CHURCHILL
DIRECTED BY SAM SHERBURNE
AUDITION DATES: SEPTEMBER 16TH AND 17TH

**OCTOBER
25, 26, 27 &
NOVEMBER
1, 2, 3**

DECEMBER

**6, 7, 8 &
13, 14, 15**

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

ADAPTED BY MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY THEATER
FROM THE NOVEL BY VALENTINE DAVIES
DIRECTED BY BILL & SHARON HERRING
AUDITION DATES: OCTOBER 28TH AND 29TH

CAUGHT IN THE VILLAIN'S WEB

WRITTEN BY HERBERT SWAYNE
DIRECTED BY SHARON E. SMITH
AUDITION DATES: DECEMBER 9TH AND 10TH

**FEBRUARY
7, 8, 9 &
14, 15, 16**

MARCH

**21, 22, 23 &
28, 29, 30**

***VANYA & SONIA
& MASHA & SPIKE***

WRITTEN BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG
DIRECTED BY JOHN HENRY STEELMAN
AUDITION DATES: FEBRUARY 10TH AND 11TH

**THE 14TH ANNUAL
ONE-ACT FESTIVAL**

AUDITION DATES: MARCH 24TH AND 25TH

**APRIL
24TH - 27TH**

**MAY 30, 31
& JUNE 1,
6, 7, 8**

THE DINING ROOM

WRITTEN BY A. R. GURNEY
DIRECTED BY KATHLEEN KERNS
AUDITION DATES: APRIL 14TH AND 15TH

INDIANA PLAYER INC @ THE PHILADELPHIA STREET PLAYHOUSE
725 PHILADELPHIA STREET | INDIANA, PA 15701 | WWW.INDIANAPLAYERS.COM

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER!

You can support live, local community theater by becoming a member! Your membership dues go towards staging year-round shows. The Indiana Players is a non-profit, all volunteer organization, so your help is vital to keeping the Philadelphia Street Playhouse alive and active.

Membership gives you regular newsletters about upcoming shows and special events and allows you to run for and elect the Board of Directors at our annual meeting each May.

To become a member, visit www.indianaplayers.com and click "Become a Member" to join and pay online. Or fill out the form below and submit it with a check by mail or to the box office. Your patronage is greatly appreciated!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

_____ \$25 Individual

_____ \$20 Student

_____ \$20 Senior (65 or above)

_____ \$60 Family

_____ New

_____ Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Checks are payable to: Indiana Players, Inc.
Mail to: P.O. Box 333, Indiana, PA 15701

ANGEL'S CORNER

We are so pleased that you are joining us on our journey to bring high-quality community theater to Indiana! We're looking forward to another four decades of all-volunteer service, but we cannot do it without you!

Like all theaters, ticket sales do not cover the costs of operation and so we ask for your generosity.

Your contributions are invaluable.

We want to recognize those who make charitable gifts. Members of our donor society will receive recognition in this season's programs, and are categorized as follows:

Producer	\$1,000+
Director	\$750 - \$999
Playwright	\$500 - \$749
Actor	\$250 - \$499
Stage Manager	\$100 - \$249
Understudy	\$50 - \$99

To make a gift, visit IndianaPlayers.com and click "donate" or fill out the form below and mail it with your check.

Checks are Payable to: Indiana Players, Inc.

Mail to: P.O. Box 333, Indiana, PA 15701

DONOR FORM

GIFT AMOUNT _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please recognize me as _____

I would prefer my gift to remain anonymous (*check here*) _____

DONORS

The Indiana Players Board of Directors thanks all of our members, contributors, volunteers and patrons who make what we do possible and our theater an integral part of the Indiana community!

Tony Award

The Board of Directors presents the highest recognition and their profound gratitude to **Diane Duntley** for her generous support of and bequest to the Indiana Players

Producers

Anonymous
Anonymous

Directors

Anonymous

Playwrights

Anonymous
Kayden & Vaporis, LLC
Richard Stewart

Actors

Donald & Susan McClure
Patricia & John Prushnok
In Honor of Edgar & Lois Miller

Stage Manager

Anonymous
Faye Bradwick
Judy Cessna
Alex & Susan Juhasz
Donald Lancaster
Mike & Kim Shaffer
Sandra Whitson

Understudies

Memory of John Bellas
Kate Cowden
Bruce & Carol Hamilton
Gemma Para Gomez

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sharon Smith, *President*
Sam Sherburne, *Vice President / Artistic Director*
Meghan Cronin, *Secretary*
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Richard Smith, *Theater Manager*
Vanessa Arvidson, *Publicity Director*
Liz Silvis, *Fundraising Director*

Miracle on 34th Street

the play

Adapted by Mountain Community Theater from the novel by Valentine Davies
Directed by Bill & Sharon Herring

PLACE: New York City | TIME: 1995

SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene 1: Central Park, NYC. Thanksgiving Day.

Scene 2: Macy's Toy Department, Santa's dais. The next morning.

Scene 3: Santa's dais. The following Tuesday.

Scene 4: Santa's dais. The next morning.

Scene 5: Living Room, Doris' apartment. That evening.

Scene 6: Santa's dais. One week later.

Scene 7: Macy's Employee Meeting Room. That evening.

10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Scene 1: Bellevue State Hospital. The following morning.

Scene 2: New York State Court Building, Judge Harper's chambers. One week later.

Scene 3: Judge Harper's chambers. The following Thursday.

Scene 4: Judge Harper's courtroom. December 22nd.

Scene 5: A Nice Restaurant. That evening.

Scene 6: Judge Harper's courtroom. The following day.

Scene 7: Judge Harper's chambers. A few moments later.

Scene 8: Judge Harper's courtroom. An hour later.

Scene 9: New York City Post Office, mail room. The next day.

Scene 10: Judge Harper's chambers. A few moments later.

Scene 11: Judge Harper's courtroom. The same day.

Scene 12: A Suburban Street. The following day.

*Flash photography and video recording are **prohibited**. As a courtesy to the actors and audience members, please **silence** all cell phones and electronic devices. **Restrooms** are located at the back of the theater, down the long lit hall to your right, last two doors on the right.*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

*indicates an IPI debut

KRIS KRINGLE.....John Henry Steelman
DORIS WALKER.....Maddie Jones*
SUSAN WALKER..... Lillian Fairman*
FRED GAYLEY..... Alexander Silvestre*

DOCTOR PIERCE..... Chauna Craig*
BAG LADY.....Brandon landiorio
RICH PERSON..... Amanda landiorio
SHELLHAMMER..... Bridget Waterhouse
DRUNKEN SANTA..... Jeff Adair
MACY..... Brandon landiorio
SAWYER.....Briceilyn Webber
BLOOMINGDALE..... Amanda landiorio
JUDGE HARPER..... Ann Marie Schweitzer
FINLEY..... Bridget Waterhouse
MARA..... Nancy Boring*
HALLORAN..... Sara Steelman
DUNCAN..... Jeff Adair
MARA JR..... Nate Boring
AL..... Amanda landiorio
LOU..... Brandon landiorio

ELF J..... Eva Knapp*
ELF Q..... Kaylee Higgins
ELF R..... Maeve Merrow
ELF W..... Ava Wissinger
ELF Z..... Benjamin Knudsen*

CHILD 1..... Emma Hildebrand
CHILD 2..... Cora Merrow*
DUTCH GIRL.....Allison Nichol
JAYNA..... Jayna Bruno
MEGAN..... Sloane Knudsen*
SHARON..... Maisie Pauch*
PARENTS..... Nancy Boring*
Chauna Craig*
Ann Marie Schweitzer

PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

DIRECTOR.....	Bill Herring & Sharon Herring
STAGE MANAGER.....	Sharon Herring
CHOREOGRAPHY	
I.1 - Opening Number.....	Sharon Herring
I.6 - Elf Theater.....	Tracey Iandiorio
II.9 - Post Office Percussion.....	Amanda Iandiorio and Brandon Iandiorio
SET DESIGN.....	Bill Herring & Sharon Herring
SET CONSTRUCTION.....	Bill Herring, Sharon Herring, and Richard Smith
SET PAINTING / DECOR.....	Nancy Boring, Nate Boring, Bill Herring, Sharon Herring, Allison Nichol, Andrew Nichol, Jeanine Nichol, and Owen Nichol
MUSIC COMPOSITION	
I.1 - Opening Number.....	Jane Herring
II.9 - Post Office Percussion.....	Amanda Iandiorio and Brandon Iandiorio
SOUND DESIGN.....	Bill Herring
LIGHTING DESIGN.....	Bill Herring
PROJECTION DESIGN.....	Bastian Webber
TECH BOOTH.....	Vanessa Arvidson & Bill Herring
COSTUMES.....	Emma Buterbaugh, Meghan Cronin Sharon Herring and Cast
INTIMACY & SAFETY DIRECTOR.....	Vanessa Arvidson
REHEARSAL ASSISTANT.....	Tracey Iandiorio
GRAPHIC DESIGN / PUBLICITY.....	Vanessa Arvidson
PHOTOGRAPHY.....	Nicole Lorelei Photography & Liz Silvis
BOX OFFICE MANAGER.....	Kathleen Kerns
BOX OFFICE STAFF.....	Vanessa Arvidson, Kate Cowden, Kathleen Kerns, Alyssa McLaine, Laura McLaine, Nicole Schwartz, Mike Shaffer, Rich Smith, and Katelyn McKeon Waterhouse

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

Thank you for coming to see *Miracle on 34th Street, the Play*. Sharon and I had an absolute blast working together to bring this show to life. We decided early on that we wanted to be heavily involved with every aspect of our creation. So if you see our names a lot in this program, just know it was a choice. We feel incredibly lucky to have a community theatre just blocks away from our house that has allowed us to do this. So thank you so much, Indiana Players, for giving our family almost fifteen years of creative outlets. Thank you to all of the talented and friendly people who joined us on this adventure. And thank you to all of the patrons who have once again entrusted Sharon and I to bring to them quality art and entertainment. Support the arts in your community!

*Bill Herring
Sharon Herring*

SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Indiana Gazette
Todd Marino and Renda Broadcasting

CAST BIOS

JEFF ADAIR (Drunken Santa / Duncan) lives here in Indiana and enjoys exploring his neighborhood playing Pokemon Go. *Miracle on 34th Street* is his 3rd play. He is excited to learn more and more with each new opportunity. He would like to take the opportunity to thank his family and friends for all their help and support. He wishes everyone a Merry Christmas!

NANCY BORING (Mara / Parent) is excited to be in her first theatre production ever. She's been a theatre mom for Nate for several shows now and, encouraged by Bill's journey from theatre dad to actor and director, decided to see what it feels like on stage. She's enjoying sharing the stage with Nate, and thanks Bill & Sharon & the Players for giving her this opportunity!

NATE BORING (Mara Jr.) lives in Brush Valley and loves performing on stage and playing the euphonium. He is 10 years old and has been in many shows. At United Elementary, he was Francis Hobbs in *Holly the Elf* and Lou Boo in *The Grouch*. With the Indiana Players, he was Tom Brady in *Press Start!*, Tootles the elf in *A Christmas Peter Pan*, and a number of characters in *The Wizard of Oz*. He is excited to be in another Indiana Players production and looks forward to future ones. He thanks his family and friends for supporting him.

JAYNA BRUNO (Jayna) has fallen in love with the theater since she played the Crocodile in *A Christmas Peter Pan* last year. She is a third grade student at Seeds of Faith Christian Academy where she is a member of the dance team. Jayna is very honored and excited to be participating in *Miracle on 34th Street* and is looking forward to future productions with the Indiana Players.

CHAUNA CRAIG (Doctor Pierce / Parent) returns to the stage forty years after her debut as a wicked stepsister in her junior high's musical version of Cinderella. When she moved to Indiana in 2000, wondering where all the artsy types were, a therapist suggested she "hang out with theater people." She is grateful to have finally taken that advice and thanks the inspiring cast and crew for creating such a delightful show. She especially thanks Sam Sherburne who planted this idea in her head, whether he realizes it or not.

LILLIAN FAIRMAN (Susan Walker) is a creative and energetic fifth grader at Indiana School District. She is thrilled to step into the spotlight for her first-ever stage performance. A member of the school chorus, she has a growing passion for music and the arts. When she's not on stage, Lillian enjoys horseback riding and ice skating. Her imagination and creativity shine in everything she does. She's excited to share her love of performing with everyone!

KAYLEE HIGGINS (Elf Q) is in eighth grade and this is her 9th show. She would like to thank her fellow castmate, Maddie Jones, along with her friends, Choral Director, Dr. Rummel, and everyone she's acted with in the past year.

EMMA HILDEBRAND (Child 1) is a fifth grader at Penns Manor. Emma has taken dance and musical theater classes at Sue Hewitt Dance Studio and enjoys being part of her school band and chorus. This is her first show with the Indiana Players and she is excited to make her theater debut!

AMANDA IANDIORIO (Rich Person / Bloomingdale / Al) is an upcoming Master's in Music Performance student at IUP. Her most recent role at IUP was Edith in the Fall 2023 production, *The Pirates of Penzance*. Amanda has been a part of the Indiana Players since 2010 with her first role being Molly in *Annie Jr.* Her favorite role she portrayed at IPI was the Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* in 2014. This summer she music directed the IPI youth musical, *The Wizard of Oz*. When not on stage she teaches voice lessons at the IUPCMS. Amanda is excited to perform on the players' stage after many years.

BRANDON IANDIORIO (Bag Lady / Macy / Lou) is excited to perform in his 13th show with the Indiana Players, having most recently portrayed the Cowardly Lion in the 2024 youth production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Brandon is in his third year as a member of the IPI Shakespeare Team. He was awarded Honorable Mention in 2023 and 2024 at the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest. He loves music and takes voice lessons at the IUP Community Music School. Brandon is a junior at IHS, where he participates in A Capella Choir, Bass Choir, and Symphonic Band. He would like to thank his family for their love and support.

CAST BIOS (cont'd)

MADDIE JONES (Doris Walker) is a local theater maker and filmmaker with a Bachelors in Theater/Masters in Directing Film. She directs, art manages, teaches theater for ages 11-17, makes short films with her 'Beyond Us Film Team', and writes. Recent work: Directing *A Christmas Carol*, *Newsies*, and *Little Women* with Indiana Junior High; Teaching Artist/Director with Footlight Players & Arts Camp; Dramaturg for *Crave* and *Angels in America Pt. 1* with Elsewhere Theatre PGH. Maddie believes the creative community is powerful when we believe in ourselves, so she feels good jumping back into acting with the Indiana Players! Follow her at www.maddiedeejones.com

EVA KNAPP (Elf J) is a fifth grade student at Penns Manor Elementary where she participates in chorus and band. She has really enjoyed being a part of this production!

BENJAMIN KNUDSEN (Elf Z) is 12 years old and in 7th grade at Indiana Junior High. This is Benjamin's first venture into acting, and he is very excited to be doing it as a member of Indiana Players. Along with acting, Benjamin is a gifted musician and is a member of his school's band and choral programs. Ben was honored this past November to be selected to perform in the All County band with his tuba.

SLOANE KNUDSEN (Megan) is 10 years old and a 4th grader attending Horace Mann Elementary. Sloane is beyond excited to participate in her first production with Indiana Players. Sloane was also a first time participant for Footlight Players this past summer performing in their production of *Matilda Jr*. When Sloane is not acting, she has a passion for dance and playing with her friends.

CORA MERROW (Child 2) has truly been inspired by her big sister, Maeve, to join the Indiana Players production of *Miracle on 34th Street* for her very first role at just 6 years old. She is a self-proclaimed "self taught" dancer and gymnast, and spends her free time twirling, cart-wheeling, and choreographing at home. She would like to thank Maeve for showing her the ropes of theater. She hopes you enjoy the show, and have a very Merry Christmas!

MAEVE MERROW (Elf R) is delighted to be a part of one of her favorite stories, *Miracle on 34th Street*, with the Indiana Players! She discovered her love for theater through her previous roles in *The Jungle Book* and her favorite, Minnie May, in *Anne of Green Gables*. When she's not on stage, she enjoys singing with the Indiana Youth Crimson Choir, playing piano, and being creative. She'd like to thank her family and friends for their support and encouragement. She hopes the show makes a believer out of you!

ALLISON NICHOL (Dutch Girl) is a 5th grade student at Horace Mann Elementary. She's excited to perform in her fourth show with the Indiana Players having previously appeared in *Our Town* as Rebecca, *A Christmas Peter Pan* as Michael, and "A Monster Mash Mystery" Children's Mystery Dinner as Bones. In addition, Allison starred as Matilda in *Matilda Jr.* with the Footlight Players. Outside theatre she plays viola, sings in chorus, and plays lacrosse. Allison is excited to be working with such an amazing cast & crew and is looking forward to the show.

MASIE PAUCH (Sharon) is from the Indiana area. She is excited to be in her first play at the Indiana Players and share her joy and enthusiasm with all the members of the audience.

ANN MARIE SCHWEITZER (Judge Harper / Parent) is so excited to once again join a cast of a Christmas performance at Indiana Players. She was previously Ralphie's mother (Mrs. Parker) in *A Christmas Story* and Violet in *It's A Wonderful Life*. This makes her 12th production in the Playhouse, having been seen in this year's productions of *Our Town* (Mrs. Soames) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Egeus). She wishes to thank her family for all of the love and support. "I like this seat and hope to keep it awhile."

ALEXANDER SILVESTRE (Fred Gailey), an Irene Ryan nominee aspiring actor, was born in West Chester, Pennsylvania and raised in Toluca, Mexico. This has fueled his curiosity for new places and experiences. Recently, he participated in a Summer Intensive with Sandglass Theater in Putney, Vermont. His theater credits include nearly surviving the Westward Migration as Cletus Jones in *The Trail to Oregon*, transforming into an ostrich in *Wild Symphony of Dance*, and giving voice to the letters in *From Me to You*. He is excited to bring the Christmas experience to life on stage with the Indiana Players.

CAST BIOS (cont'd)

JOHN HENRY STEELMAN (Kris Kringle) has been active with the Indiana Players for more than 30 years. Perhaps you saw him earlier this year in *The Seven Year Itch*, *Murdered to Death*, and *Our Town*. Elsewhere this year he portrayed Dr. Von Sochocky in *Radium Girls* and Duncan in *Macbeth* with the Heritage Players and Jaques in *As You Like It* with Poor Yorick's Players. He and his wife, Sara, also coach the IPI Shakespeare Team. Later this season he will be directing *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* here.

SARA STEELMAN (Hallowan) is happy to be in another Indiana Players show with John Henry, their first since *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*. She has been active in the Players since 1996, beginning with *The Secret Garden* (Dreamer) and including performing in productions ranging from *The Women* to *A Very Mayan Tricksmas*; directing (*A Point of Order*, *Night Song*); stage managing (*The Children's Hour*); running lights and sound; and volunteering for jobs including box office sales, props organizer, set painter, and plant wrangler. She and John Henry also enjoy coaching the Players' Shakespeare Team and she is delighted to be on stage with two of this year's members.

BRIDGET WATERHOUSE (Shellhammer / Finley) is delighted to be in her sixth production with the Indiana Players. You may have seen her previously in *Anne of Green Gables*, *Press Start*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to name a few. Bridget loves theater, writing, and painting. She'd like to thank her parents and family, especially those who have been helping her get to and from practice. Enjoy the show!

BRICELYN "JINX" WEBBER (Sawyer) is enthusiastic to be able to play the antagonist, Sawyer, in *Miracle on 34th Street*. You may have also seen her earlier this year as Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the Stage Manager in *Our Town*. These roles along with Sawyer have opened up a broad range of acting opportunities for her, and she's excited to share those skills once again. Jinx has been with the players for nearly 10 years, and is extremely elated to be back for yet another show!!

AVA WISSINGER (Elf W) is in her second production with the Indiana Players. She is an Indiana native and enjoys the stage as well as playing the viola, being a Girl Scout, and is a red belt in karate. Ava was an extra in the Indiana Junior High production of *Newsies* in spring 2023 and played Wally Webb in the Players' production of *Our Town* this past fall. She participated in the Footlight Players program this past summer at IUP and played the roles of the Cheshire Cat, Dutchess, Five of Hearts, and a part of the narrator role in *Adventures of Alice in Wonderland*.

COMING UP NEXT: OPEN AUDITIONS FOR

CAUGHT IN THE VILLAIN'S WEB

WRITTEN BY HERBERT SWAYNE

DIRECTED BY SHARON E. SMITH

SHOW DATES: FEBRUARY 7, 8, 9 & 14, 15, 16

Audition for our next mainstage production, *Caught in the Villain's Web*, a comedic old-time melodrama complete with a beautiful heroine with amnesia, stout-hearted hero, and despicable villain!

OPEN AUDITIONS:

December 9th and 10th | 6:00pm - 8:00pm

No preparation or prior acting experience necessary! Come by the Philadelphia Street Playhouse during one of our two open audition times, fill out an audition form, and read short selections from the script alongside fellow auditioners. Open to ages 18+. For more information visit: www.indianaplayers.com/auditions/villainsweb

ABOUT THE SHOW: Felicity Fair, downtrodden heroine, is a nurse sent to the Larkfield Mansion to attend a hardhearted society matron hoping to force her son into marrying the scheming Nella Hargrave.

Naturally he falls in love with our heroine instead. Our villain, Cyril Bothingwell, attempts to foil their love affair but his nefarious schemes are thwarted to the delight of all!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE!

INDIANA PLAYERS, INC. is a nonprofit community theater group located in Indiana, Pennsylvania. Since their first show in 1977, the Indiana Players has continued to offer western Pennsylvania audiences the very best of dramas, mysteries, comedies, and musicals. With a strong focus on community involvement, the Indiana Players encourages anyone with an interest to join or get involved with a show.

Community theater is more than acting and directing! We are always looking for talented people with broad interests and backgrounds. From builders and painters and electricians to media specialists or grant writers, a donation of your time and skill is highly appreciated. If you have an interest, but lack the know-how, The Indiana Players prides itself on training beginners in all things theater. If you're not already a member, sign up today!

CONTACT, LIKE, AND FOLLOW THE INDIANA PLAYERS!

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