THE INDIANA PLAYERS PRESENT

BAD SEED

WRITTEN BY MAXWELL ANDERSON

DIRECTED BY BILL HERRING

OCTOBER
23, 24, 25, 30, 31
& NOVEMBER 1

INDIANA PLAYERS, INC.

2026-2027 MAINSTAGE SEASON

THE PHILADELPHIA STREET PLAYHOUSE
725 PHILADELPHIA STREET ▪ INDIANA, PA 15701
WWW.INDIANAPLAYERS.COM
(724) 464-0725

2026-2027 MAINSTAGE SEASON

A New Death

Written by C.S. Wyatt
Directed by John Henry Steelman
Auditions: August 3 and 4
Performances: September 11, 12, 13 and 18, 19, 20

Bad Seed

Written by Maxwell Anderson
Directed by Bill Herring
Auditions: September 14 and 15
Performances: October 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and November 1

It's a Wonderful Life

Written by James W. Rogers
Directed by Vanessa Arvidson and Sam Sherburne
Auditions: October 26 and 27
Performances: December 11, 12, 13 and 18, 19, 20

Sleuth

Written by Anthony Shaffer
Directed by Dave Tabish
Auditions: December 14 and 15
Performances: February 19, 20, 21 and 26, 27, 28

16th Annual One-Act Festival

Auditions: February 22 and 23
Performances: April 1-4

The Secret Garden (Spring Version)

Written by Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon
Directed by Tracey Iandiorio
Auditions: April 5 and 6
Performance: May 21, 22, 23 and 28, 29, 30

The 2026-2027 Season Schedule is currently tentative and subject to change.

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:

Tony Award	$2,000+
Producer	$1,000 - $1,999
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 our members, contributors, volunteers, and patrons who make what we do possible and our theater an integral part of our community!

The Board of Directors give an extraordinary thank-you to the donors of the past 12 months for their generous support of the Indiana Players, Inc.

Tony Awards
Anonymous

Producers
Vicki & David Smith

Actors
Patricia & John Prushnok

Playwrights
David & Irene Tabish

Stage Managers
Hilton Garden Inn at IUP
Mike & Kim Shaffer
Nick & Jessica Karas
Tom & Sara Crumm

Understudies
In Memory of Jaunita Burdette and Judith Yothers

2026-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sharon Smith, *President*
Bill Herring, *Vice President / Artistic Director*
Jo DeBuyser, *Secretary*
Michael Shaffer, *Treasurer*
Richard Smith, *Theater Manager*
Vacant, *Publicity Director*
Tracey Iandiorio, *Fundraising Director*

Bad Seed

Setting: The apartment of Col. and Mrs. Penmark.

ACT I

Scene One: An early morning in June.
Scene Two: 2:30PM, the same day.
Scene Three: Evening of the same day.
Scene Four: Mid-morning, a few days later.

10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

Scene One: Late afternoon, the next day.
Scene Two: After breakfast, the next morning.
Scene Three: After dinner, the same day.
Scene Four: A few days later.

*Flash photography and video recording are **prohibited**. Please **silence** cell phones, electronics, and other noise-making devices. **Restrooms** are located at the back of the theater. Please follow the long lit hall to the right of the stage, all the way down. The restrooms are the last two doors on the right.*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

**denotes an IPI debut*

RHODA PENMARK……..…...Sloane Knudsen
CHRISTINE PENMARK……..…….Amanda Anne Leight
KENNETH PENMARK……Dave Cavill
MONICA BREEDLOVE……..…Theresa Ireland
EMORY BREEDLOVE…….…….Jacob Breslawski
EMELIO DAIGLE……....Dave Cavill
HORTENSE DAIGLE……Bricelyn (Jinx) Webber
MISS FERN……..……Kathleen Edwards
LEROY JESSUP……...…..Payton Smathers
REGINALD TASKER……..…..…Leia DeMetro
RICHARD BRAVO…….……Richard R. Smith

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR……..Bill Herring
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR……..……..….Dave Cavill
STAGE MANAGER……Kevin Shearer
FIGHT & INTIMACY COORDINATOR…….Vanessa Arvidson
SET DECORATION COORDINATOR……..Sharon Smith
COSTUME COORDINATOR……Amanda Anne Leight
GRAPHIC DESIGN…… Vanessa Arvidson
PROGRAM DESIGN……..… Jo DeBuyser
PUBLICITY…….Jo DeBuyser
SET CONSTRUCTION…….……...Dave Cavill, Bill Herring,
Shawn Mullen, Mike Shaffer, Richard R. Smith
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR……..…..……Michael Shaffer
BOX OFFICE STAFF……..…….. Martha Buckley, Jo DeBuyser,
Tracey Iandiorio, Kathy Martinak, Michael Shaffer,
Arlene Wanatosky, Katelyn Waterhouse

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Renda Broadcasting, Heidi Knudsen,
Katrina Kayden, Amanda Anne Leight

Thank you to Pro-Packet Printing for supporting local theatre and printing this show program!

From the Director's Chair

When I had the opportunity to perform the role of Richard Bravo in a *Bad Seed* production, I so thoroughly enjoyed the script that I made a mental note to add it to the list of stage plays that I would like to direct someday.

When that chance came with the Indiana Players, my biggest concern was finding a Rhoda. From my experience working on youth shows, I knew that this community had the talent, but would parents actually let their child play a serial killer in an adult stage show? The answer to that question came in the form of nine auditioners for the Rhoda character, with some coming from pretty far outside of Indiana County. And they were ALL very good. I would have been satisfied working with any one of them, had they been the only option. But I had to make a choice, unfortunately breaking eight young hearts in the process.

So I'd like to dedicate this show to all of the Rhodas out there in the world. The young actors who put in the work and show up at the auditions. For it is they who will eventually carry the mantle for small theatres like ours, fighting to keep this artistic medium alive and accessible for everyone. Thank you all.

Bill Herring (Director, *Bad Seed*, IPI 2026)

MEET THE CAST

JACOB BRESLAWSKI (Emory Breedlove) is an Indiana resident and somewhat stubborn mold that IPI cannot scrub out of the corners of the green room. He has performed across multiple IPI seasons, most recently appearing as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*. As always, he would like to thank his castmates for their hard work and the audience for indulging in the final product.

DAVE CAVILL (Production Coordinator, Col. Kenneth Penmark, Mr. Daigle, Messenger) is a long-time participant with The Players, on stage and behind the scenes.

LEIA DEMETRO (Reginald Tasker) is ecstatic to be back on stage playing the role of Reginald Tasker, otherwise known as Reggie. From assistant stage manager, to set designer, or even acting on stage, Leia loves getting involved with theater any way they can. When Leia was a kid, they watched *The Bad Seed* with their grandpa. Despite such a dark story, it only brings fond memories of their quality time spent together. Because of this, Leia was honored to be given the opportunity to be a part of this production.

KATHLEEN EDWARDS (Miss Fern) has discovered a deep love and appreciation for the craft of acting since first stepping on the stage in 2018 in her late 50s. She has performed roles in such plays as *Almost Maine*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* in various local community theaters. She has also participated in three Pittsburgh 48 Hour Film Projects. Kathleen keeps food on the table working as a Zoom producer for a San Diego-based company. She also works as a freelance writer. *Bad Seed* is Kathleen's second production with The Indiana Players.

MEET THE CAST (cont.)

THERESA IRELAND (Monica Breedlove) is happy to be back on stage in her hometown after performing in theater, film, and TV in California and nationwide the last 25 years. Previous roles at Indiana Players are: Gabriel in *A New Death*, Cassandra in *Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike*, and Cherie in *Bus Stop*. Other memorable theater productions include: *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Tony 'n Tina's Wedding*. Notable TV shows include *Shameless*, *Will & Grace*, *Westworld*, *Hotels Secrets & Legends*, and *Star Trek: Picard*. Theresa is a well-known Marilyn Monroe impressionist as seen in *The Fanatic with John Travolta*, *The Jimmy Kimmel Show*, *How to be a Latin Lover*, *On the Way to Lovetown*, plus many more, including special events and music videos. Other than Acting, she is also a credited Dancer/Choreographer, Vocalist, Writer, Director, and Producer.

SLOANE KNUDSEN (Rhoda Penmark) is beyond thrilled to return to the stage as Rhoda in *Bad Seed*. A passionate young performer at just 12 years old, she discovered her love of theater early and continues to shine with every role she takes on. Audiences may remember Sloane from last year's production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*, where she dazzled as The Nursery Fairy. She made her debut with IPI in 2024's *Miracle on 34th Street*, where she delighted cast and crew alike with her enthusiasm and dedication. When she's not performing, Sloane enjoys reading, playing Roblox, and practicing her dance moves. She would like to thank her family, friends, and IPI for their support and encouragement. She hopes you enjoy the show!

MEET THE CAST (cont.)

AMANDA ANNE LEIGHT (Christine Penmark) is delighted to be

back with the Indiana Players since joining them this past February for their One Act Festival. *Bad Seed* is one of Amanda's all time favourite plays; she fell in love with it when she first saw Patty McCormack in the 1956 film adaptation of the stage play (when she was far too young to be watching such things). Favourite stage credits include: Beulah Davis in *Come From Away* (GCT); Marietta Shingle in *Gentleman's Guide To Love and Murder* (Regional Premier) (Theatre Factory); Dinah in *Sweet Delilah Swim Club* (Danniella DiClaudio Productions); The White Witch in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Heritage Players); Agnes in *I Do! I Do!* (GCT); Kate in *If/Then* (Regional Premier) and Miss Scarlet in *Clue* (Riverfront Theatre); Magenta in *Rocky Horror* (AAFC); Betty Haynes in *White Christmas* (Palisade Playhouse); and Emma Carew in *Jekyll & Hyde* (Comtra Theatre). Amanda would like to thank Bill for this opportunity and her husband Mark for all of his love and support.

PAYTON SMATHERS (Leroy Jessup) is excited for his second ever stage performance! You may remember seeing him in *A New Death* as the tailor, thug one, bingo winner, and applicant. He has had so much fun learning from everyone, and would like to extend a special thank you to his family and fiancée for supporting him!

RICHARD R. SMITH (Richard Bravo) has been a member of the players since the 90's. He generally works behind the scenes building sets and helps in other ways. He has been on stage within the past few years performing in *Deer Camp: The Musical* and *Anne of Green Gables*.

MEET THE CAST (cont.)

BRICELYN (JINX) WEBBER (Hortense Daigle) is excited to return to the stage after almost a year to play the multi-faceted Mrs. Daigle in *Bad Seed*. She last performed as Germaine in 2025's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, but you may also know her from other works with IPI, such as her roles as the Stage Manager in *Our Town*, or Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is extremely thankful to be able to spend time with such a kind cast and crew, and thankful to her family and friends for always being so supportive.

MEET THE CREW

VANESSA ARVIDSON (Fight & Intimacy Coordinator) has lived and breathed theatre for almost all her life. She has a B.A. in Theatre from Lehigh University where she concentrated on Stage/Production Management and Lighting. She has been a part of the Indiana Players' family since 2021 and has produced, acted, directed, stage managed, designed, mentored others, and served as Publicity Director.

BILL HERRING (Director) has directed a number of shows over the years with the Indiana Players, including *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *Fuddy Meers*, *Clown Bar*, and *Harvey*. He is proud to add *Bad Seed* to his credits, a show which he performed in with Dannielle DiClaudio Productions in Charleroi.

KEVIN SHEARER (Stage Manager) is excited to be involved in his 6th play overall with the Players, with this being his 4th one working more behind the scenes, having been ASM for *The Dining Room* and *Once Upon A Mattress*, SM for *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Assistant to the Director for *High School Musical Jr.*, as well as having been in the tech booth for *The Dining Room* and *Much Ado*, with acting appearances in the last two One Act Festivals. He was also named the 2025-2026 Players MVP. He hopes everyone enjoys this play, as it's unlike anything he's ever helped or been in. No TRICKS involved here, this will be a TREAT.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE PLAYERS!

VOLUNTEER!

We survive and thrive through the support of our dedicated family of IPI volunteers. There are many opportunities to get involved – no experience required! Scan the QR code to fill out our **Volunteer Interest Form** on our website!

JOIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The role of Publicity Director is currently **vacant**! The IPI Publicity Director oversees our social media, website, newsletters, and more! If you are interested in serving on the Indiana Players Board of Directors as Publicity Director or want more information on the position and any requirement, please reach out to info@indianaplayers.com.

HOLD AN AUXILIARY BOARD POSITION

Auxiliary Positions are at-will positions that are designed to support the Board of Directors, under their supervision. These positions are incredibly important to the organization!

In order to hold an auxiliary position, a person must be a member of the Indiana Players. If you are interested in holding any open auxiliary positions or want more information, please reach out to info@indianaplayers.com

Open Auxiliary Board Positions:

Volunteer Coordinator
Box Office Manager
Digital Communication Specialist
Hard Tech Coordinator

NEXT UP ON THE MAINSTAGE

It's a Wonderful Life

Written by James W. Rogers
Directed by Vanessa Arvidson & Sam Sherburne

Show Dates

December 11, 12, 13, and 18, 19, 20

Open Auditions

October 26th and 27th ▪ 6:00pm-8:00pm
at the Philadelphia Street Playhouse
725 Philadelphia Street, Indiana PA

No preparation or experience needed!
Just come on in either day!

We are looking for the following performers:
12 men, 10 women, 2-4 young boys, and 2 young girls.

For more information including character descriptions, please visit
https://www.indianaplayers.com/auditions/wonderfullife

ABOUT THE SHOW: *It's A Wonderful Life* is a classic American tale about what it means to live a good life in a small town. Based on Frank Capra's 1946 film starring Indiana, PA's own Jimmy Stewart, *It's A Wonderful Life* tells the story of George Bailey and his life in Bedford Falls, where he devotes himself to helping others. When George starts to doubt himself and question his purpose one Christmas Eve, he is visited by a guardian angel who shows him just how much he has touched the lives of the people of Bedford Falls.

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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