

THE INDIANA PLAYERS PRESENT



**CAUGHT
- IN THE -
VILLAIN'S WEB**

WRITTEN BY HERBERT SWAYNE

DIRECTED BY SHARON E. SMITH

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



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



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| SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15 & 20, 21, 22 | OUR TOWN WRITTEN BY THORNTON WILDER DIRECTED BY VANESSA ARVIDSON AUDITION DATES: AUGUST 5TH AND 6TH |
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| 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 |
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| 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 |
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| 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 |
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| 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 |
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| THE 14TH ANNUAL ONE-ACT FESTIVAL AUDITION DATES: MARCH 24TH AND 25TH | APRIL 24TH - 27TH |
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| 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 |
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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

For her support of and bequest to the Indiana Players, the Board of Directors presents highest recognition to **Diane Duntley**

Producers

Anonymous
Anonymous

Directors

Anonymous

Playwrights

Anonymous
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
In Memory of John Sinclair
Sandra Whitson

Understudies

In 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*
Kathy Kerns, *Treasurer*
Richard Smith, *Theater Manager*
Vanessa Arvidson, *Publicity Director*
Liz Silvis, *Fundraising Director*

CAUGHT IN THE VILLAIN'S WEB

WRITTEN BY HERBERT SWAYNE

DIRECTED BY SHARON E. SMITH

SCENE SYNOPSIS

ACT I

10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

ACT III

CAST OF CHARACTERS

*indicates an IPI debut

FELICITY FAIR..... Vada Walbeck
MALVERN LARKFIELD..... Dalton Bright
MRS. REGINA LARKFIELD..... Kim Shaffer
LONA LARKFIELD..... Jesse Chovanec
BROCKTON..... Mark Marquez*
DENISE..... Meghan Cronin
CYRIL BOTHINGWELL..... Jacob Breslawski
NELLA HARGRAVE..... Caroline Wieczorek*
MRS. GERALDINE HARGRAVE..... Martha Buckley
DR. HUGO BELCH..... Eric Witmer
AUDIENCE PROMPTER..... Bridget Waterhouse

*Flash photography and video recording are **prohibited**.
As a courtesy to the actors and other audience members,
please **silence** all cell phones and electronics.*

***Restrooms** are located at the back of the theater down
The long lit hallway to the right of the stage. The
restrooms are the last two doors on the right.*

PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

DIRECTOR.....Sharon E. Smith
STAGE MANAGER.....Bridget Waterhouse
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....Ann Marie Schweitzer
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....Richard Smith
SET DESIGN.....Richard Smith and
Sharon E. Smith
SET CONSTRUCTION.....Mike Shaffer, Sam Sherburne,
Richard Smith, and
John Henry Steelman
SET PAINTING.....Mike Shaffer and Richard Smith
SET STENCILING.....Lily Smith and Sharon Smith
SET DECORATION.....Sharon Smith
LIGHTING DESIGN.....Richard Smith
MUSIC DESIGN.....Liz Silvis
TECH BOOTH.....Bill Herring
SOUND/SPECIAL EFFECTS.....Richard Smith
PROPERTIES.....Sharon Smith,
Bridget Waterhouse and Cast
COSTUMES.....Liz Silvis, Sharon Smith and Cast
STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR.....Vanessa Arvidson
PHOTOGRAPHY.....Nicole Lorelei Photography
and Liz Silvis
GRAPHIC DESIGN / PUBLICITY.....Vanessa Arvidson
BOX OFFICE MANAGER.....Kathleen Kerns
BOX OFFICE STAFF.....Sharon Herring, Kathleen Kerns,
Laura McLaine, Mike Schwartz,
Mike Shaffer, and Katelyn Waterhouse

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Erin Wilson
The Indiana Gazette
Todd Marino and Renda Broadcasting

CAST BIOS

JACOB BRESLAWSKI (Cyril Bothingwell) is slinking into the Playhouse once again with a wicked grin. An Indiana local, he has appeared in several IPI productions, most recently as George Gibbs in *Our Town* and a variety of characters in *Love and Information*. As the barrier breaks down between audience and performer in this melodrama, Jacob invites everyone to boo with a venom that would make a snake blush – provided they don't fall for Cyril's devilish charms first.

DALTON BRIGHT (Malvern Larkfield) is a born and raised Indiana native. He graduated from IUP with a bachelor's in Theatre. This will be his third show with the Indiana Players. You may have seen him previously in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *A Dash of Dickens*. He is excited to give back to the community that has taken care of him and his family!

MARTHA BUCKLEY (Geraldine Hargrave) is starting her 15th year with the Indiana Players. She served on the Board of Directors for about half that time and has appeared in many roles, from the sweetly innocent in *You Can't Take It With You* to the seductive in *The Seven Year Itch* to the flat-out murderous in *Murdered to Death* and *Clue*. She enjoys being annoying in this production and hopes that you enjoy it, too.

JESSE CHOVANEC (Lona Larkfield) earned a BFA in Theatre Arts with a self-directed concentration focused on Directing, Playwriting, Movement, Cinematography, and Technical Theatre Design at Point Park University. As a multifaceted theatre and film artist, she prioritizes mental safety first with a Chekhovian approach through Devised Theatre elements. You may have recently seen her on Carnegie Stage in Elsewhere's production of *Angels in America* as The Company Manager, as teaching artist for Footlight Players over the summer at IUP, or perhaps teaching at Sue Hewitt's Dance Studio. Jesse is thrilled to be back on this stage collaborating with so many talented artists and is grateful for Sharon and this opportunity.

MEGHAN CRONIN (Denise) is a Literature and Criticism PhD candidate at IUP and proud to serve on the Indiana Players Board of Directors as Secretary. This is her fifth production as an actor with the Players. Meghan would like to thank her six years of high school French for her ability to pull off the proper accent. In her (little) spare time, she likes to read, sew historical clothing, and help spread her passion of Shakespeare through assisting the Indiana Players Shakespeare Team.

MARK MARQUEZ (Brockton) is originally from Louisiana but has become accustomed to western Pennsylvania (except for snow). This is Mark's first attempt at theatre! He enjoys spending time with his family and listening to music, making his family sigh after a dad joke and blurting out song lyrics

KIM SHAFFER (Regina Larkfield) is excited to be playing Regina Larkfield in this production and wants to thank the Players for letting her come back to portray another eccentric old lady! This is her third year with the Players and she has appeared in *Murdered to Death*, *The Seven Year Itch*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and *The Sweet Delilah Swim Club*, as well as the past three annual one-act festivals. And of course, she sends a special thanks to Mike, for all his help, support and multi-colored highlighters, as well as his coaching to bring out her best crazy!

VADA WALBECK (Felicity Fair) is delighted to participate in her second play with the Indiana Players. She previously appeared in *Murdered to Death* as Dorothy. Vada is a senior at IUP, graduating with a degree in Early Childhood/Special Education. Vada would like to thank everyone involved on-stage, off-stage, and behind the scenes.

BRIDGET WATERHOUSE (Audience Prompter) is excited to be in her sixth production with the Indiana Players. This was her first time helping with stage management while having a small role. Some of her favorite roles have been Anne in *Anne of Green Gables* and Robin Goodfellow (Puck) in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She'd like to say a quick "thank you" to her mom for endless support and encouragement along with her dad and grandmother for helping her get to and from practice.

CAST BIOS (cont'd)

CAROLINE WIECZOREK (Nella Hargrave) is a recent transplant to Indiana County and enthused to be back on stage for the first time since 2012. Born and raised primarily in Eastern Kentucky, she discovered a love for acting during her freshman year at Culver Academy, as Mrs. Candor in *A School for Scandal*. A few of her other most memorable roles from high school include Captain Gardiner in *Moby Dick! The Musical* and Maudie Atkinson in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. While completing her B.A. in English Literature at Centre College she got into the technical side of things in addition to appearing in front of the curtain, most enjoyably as Mrs. Baines in *Major Barbara* and Grace Hoylard in *Bus Stop*. Outside of daily obligations, Caroline is an avid crocheter, and enjoys exploring the local trails with her husband, Mike, and their dog, Pippin.

ERIC WITMER (Dr. Hugo Belch) is excited to be working with Sharon Smith again! (that is my thesis statement) Previous stage and screen appearances this season include *Our Town* and *Love and Information* with the Indiana Players, "Harvest Hospital" as part of the Pittsburgh 48-Hour Film Festival, and an appearance on the Maury Show (just kidding).

THE 14TH ANNUAL ONE-ACT FESTIVAL

We are still looking for original one-act scripts and directors for **The 14th Annual One-Act Festival!** This is a great opportunity for new and first-time writers and directors to gain experience!

WRITERS: If you are interested in submitting an original one-act, please email the script to Sam Sherburne, at the email below. We are looking for pieces roughly between 5-25 minutes in length.

DIRECTORS: If you are interested in directing your own original one-act, working with a writer to direct their original one-act, or if you have a royalty-free one-act that you would like to propose to direct, please send an email to Sam Sherburne that includes your interest as well as any past theatre experience, if any.

The deadline for writers and directors is: **February 15th, 2025.**

Please email your interest, submissions, or questions to:
Sam Sherburne, One-Act Festival Coordinator
artisticdirector@indianaplayers.com

LOOKING AHEAD: Auditions will be held Monday, March 24th, and Tuesday, March 25th, from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Philadelphia Street Playhouse. Performances will be Thursday, April 24th thru Sunday, April 27th.

UPCOMING MAINSTAGE AUDITIONS



WRITTEN BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG ■ DIRECTED BY JOHN HENRY STEELMAN

Come audition for our upcoming mainstage comedy, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*! No experience or preparation is required to audition! Must be 18 or older.

OPEN AUDITIONS

February 10th & 11th ■ 6:00pm-8:00pm
Philadelphia Street Playhouse

CAST & CHARACTERS:

2 Men / 4 Women ■ Approximate ages: 20s-50s.
Fund a full list of characters and descriptions on our website.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia share a home in Bucks County, PA, where they bicker and complain about the circumstances of their lives. Suddenly, their movie-star sister, Masha, swoops in with her new boy toy, Spike. Old resentments flare up, eventually leading to threats to sell the house. Also on the scene are sassy maid Cassandra, who can predict the future, and a lovely young aspiring actress named Nina, whose prettiness somewhat worries the imperious Masha. **Content Warning: Show contains some Crude Language and Adult Themes**

SHOW DATES: March 21, 22, 23 and 28, 29, 30

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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Phone: (724) 464-0725

Web: www.indianaplayers.com

Email: info@indianaplayers.com



@indianaplayers



@theindianaplayers