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—FOR THE—
arts

Creating Art Experiences

BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS' PRODUCTION

The
Member
of the
Wedding

by **CARSON McCULLERS**
directed by **ERIC SCHMIEDL**

art: Bryan Ritzspikes

Oct 4 – Nov 3, 2019
STUDIO THEATER

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL 


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SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 2, 2019

RED
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Spotlight

BE INSPIRED

 **Beck Center**
-FOR THE arts-



BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2019–2020

Table with 3 columns listing Board of Directors members: Douglas Hoffman (Chair), Lucinda B. Einhouse (President and CEO), Cynthia Brogan (Treasurer), Ellen Z. Todia (Secretary), and various other members.

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Table with 3 columns listing Honorary Directors: Donald G. Bain, Jr., Deborah A. Bridwell, Ruth B. Bertrand, Nancy B. Calcott, David C. Estrop, Terry L. Jones, Andrew Killian, W. James Mayer, Jr., Patricia McNamara, William J. Schmitt, Ronald Waldheger, and Honorary - Ex-Officio members like Marianne Monahan.

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Marjorie Redmond Alice Ripley Martin Savidge

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Table listing Management Team members: Lucinda B. Einhouse (President and Chief Executive Officer), Scott Spence (Artistic Director), Dena Adler (Director of Development), Edward P. Gallagher, MT-BC (Director of Education), Julie Gilliland (Director of Marketing), Larry J. Goodpaster (Director of Finance & Operations).

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Act one begins



Beck Center for the Arts

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Welcome to Beck Center

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

The season may be changing, but our core values of accessibility and inclusion stay the same. We believe in the transforming and transcending power of the arts and are proud to employ some of the best arts educators in the region, including those in our dance department.

On Saturday, November 2--at RedSpace in downtown Cleveland--we will celebrate our dance program, at Spotlight *Be Inspired!* That night we are honoring Lynda Sackett, founder of the dance and outreach programs, faculty member for over 50 years; Melanie Szucs, Associate Director of Dance and faculty member for over 35 years; and Betty Kemper, advocate and champion of our dance program. These committed individuals have made their mark here at Beck Center and we owe so much of our success to these inspiring leaders. Melanie and her team are choreographing a unique dance piece to be performed exclusively that evening. For more details please visit beckcenter.org/events.

Our campus is a hub of creativity all year long. Whatever brings you here, whether it be educational programs, Creative Arts Therapies, professional theater, or our youth theater productions, we love creating art experiences with you.

Best,

Lucinda Einhouse
President and CEO



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING*

I first came into contact with *The Member of the Wedding* as a kid when I accidentally switched onto the ABC televised production starring Pearl Bailey in my parent's kitchen. I could not turn it off. My next contact with the story came from a discussion with Lisa Langford after her brilliant performance in *brownsville song (b-side for tray)*. This led me to read the novel. I couldn't stop thinking about it. Most recently, I have had the honor to work with the cast and company of our production here at Beck Center for the Arts. Each step has brought new insight and connection.

Much of the literary criticism of the novel and the stage adaptation focuses on 12 year old Frances (Frankie) Addams's awkward journey of self-discovery. However, from the first time I saw the piece on the flickering 12-inch tv screen I have been fascinated with the intimate relationship between Berenice, Frankie, and little John Henry. For me, they represent a truly American family - complex, connected, and bound together by circumstance and love more than simple biology.

And a theatre company is a kind of make-shift family, too, as we come together from various parts of Northeast Ohio - rumbling (sometimes crawling) up I-71 or across the Shoreway or down Detroit Avenue - to explore together this fascinating story. And I want you to know this is a special group of artists - supportive, insightful, gifted, determined. We are diverse in age and experience and culture. And we have had to draw on all those things because this is a challenging play - physically, intellectually, and emotionally. It may only have one location but that one location is an intricate springboard for a life-altering journey. And we have faced many challenges and celebrations along the way. However, there is one moment I will continue to cherish. During a break Lisa sat next to Ellie. Lisa was looking at something on her phone and Ellie was doing homework on her Chromebook when Lisa asked, "How'd your test go?" "Which one?" "The Spanish." "I got 100%." "Good job." "Thanks." It was a gentle, quiet moment of joy.

On behalf of the *Wedding* team I want to thank Lucinda Einhouse and Scott Spence and the dedicated staff at Beck Center for the Arts and you for the opportunity to celebrate the quiet joy of this important play.

— ERIC SCHMIEDL

House Information

USE OF CAMERAS OR RECORDING DEVICES DURING THE PERFORMANCE IS PROHIBITED.

ACCESSIBILITY – Wheelchair ramps, an elevator, and accessible restrooms make all areas of Beck Center accommodating to all patrons. Theatergoers in wheelchairs should request seats in Row J.

BOX OFFICE HOURS – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday; and open through intermission on performance dates. For ticket information visit beckcenter.org or call 216.521.2540 x10.

CELL PHONES – Please turn off all cell phones and audible devices as the sound and screen light are distracting to the audience and especially the cast. Texting is not permitted during performances. Copyrights strictly prohibit the photographing, audio or video recording of all productions. Cameras and cell phones may be confiscated.

FIRE – Exits indicated by red lights are the shortest route to safety. In case of an emergency, please walk to the nearest exit.

LOST & FOUND – Customer Service maintains a Lost & Found service as a courtesy to our patrons. Please report any misplaced items, lost or found, immediately.

PARKING – Convenient, free, on-site parking.

RECYCLING – Beck Center believes in recycling. If you decide to discard your playbill, bottles or cans, please do so in the designated recycling receptacles.

RESTROOMS – Restrooms are located on the ground floor near the garden court at the west end of the Galleria and on the second floor just outside the elevator.

SMOKING – Beck Center is a non-smoking facility. Smoking is permitted outdoors.

About Beck Center

Beck Center for the Arts is proud to be a part of Northeast Ohio's professional theater landscape. Like our colleagues Playhouse Square, Cleveland Play House, Dobama Theatre, and Great Lakes Theater, Beck Center has a letter of agreement with Actors' Equity Association. We hire professional actors from the Northeast Ohio region, including members of Actors' Equity. Specifically, we are a Small Professional Theater (SPT) based on the number of seats, number of our performances, and the maximum weekly hours of work we provide to actors. We are also a producing theater. We produce every show on our stages. Meaning we choose the play, cast and rehearse it, build the sets, props, and costumes, direct and perform the music, and design lights and sound, utilizing regional resources and talent, all for you, our valued patron of the arts. Thank you for supporting live theater!



2019 - 2020 PROFESSIONAL THEATER SEASON

MACKEY THEATER



**GLENGARRY
GLEN ROSS**
Sept 13 – Oct 6, 2019
Written by David Mamet
Directed by William Roudebush

Featuring venerable character actor Austin Pendleton (*My Cousin Vinny*, *The Muppet Movie*, *Finding Nemo*), Mamet's 1984 Pulitzer Prize winner & 2005 Tony Award® Winner for Revival Play stands strong today: where capitalism is a battle of toxic masculinity you suit up for every day, while imbibing a Red Bull with a side of comic bluster.



SHREK THE MUSICAL
Dec 6, 2019 – Jan 5, 2020
Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire
Music by Jeanine Tesori
Based on the DreamWorks Animation film
and the book by William Steig

ENCORE PRODUCTION

Produced by DreamWorks Theatricals & Neal Street Productions | Written & directed by John Musker & Ron Clements
Directed by Scott Spence | Music Direction by Lamy Goodpaster | Choreographed by Martin Céspedes
Based on the smash-hit film, *Shrek The Musical* is a Tony Award®-winning fairy tale adventure. Shrek is an unlikely hero who ends up on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists rescue. Throw in a short-tempered villain, a cookie with an attitude, and some other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero! *Sponsored by Cox Communications.*



THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS
Feb 7 – Feb 23, 2020
Music & Lyrics by John Kander & Fred Ebb
Book by David Thompson
Directed & Choreographed by Jon Martinéz
In collaboration with
Baldwin Wallace University Music Theatre Program | with
support of FGI Foundation, a supporting foundation of JFC,
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Nominated for 12 Tony Awards®, *The Scottsboro Boys* is the ninth annual Baldwin Wallace University Music Theatre Program Collaboration. Based on the Scottsboro Boys' trial. Set in the framework of a Vaudeville show, and a show within a show, with big musical numbers ranging from flashy and exuberant to mournful and delicate that will feed your soul. Like Cabaret, this musical creates a dynamic social critique.



SOMETHING ROTTEN!
July 10 - Aug 9, 2020
Book by John O'Farrell & Karey Kirkpatrick
Music & Lyrics by Karey Kirkpatrick
Directed by Scott Spence
Music Direction by Lamy Goodpaster
Choreographed by Martin Céspedes

Set in 1595 the story of two brothers, who just happen to be the nemeses of a little known Mr. William Shakespeare, are desperate to write a hit play. A local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre will involve Singing, Dancing, AND Acting, all at the same time! Gasp! The brothers then decide to write a (wait for it) MUSICAL! The world's very first musical

STUDIO THEATER



THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING
Oct 4 – Nov 3, 2019
Written by Carson McCullers
Directed by Eric Schmiedl

Based on Ms. McCullers' novel and two movie adaptations, this is the story of a young awkward outcast, overly ambitious in all she does, finding her way as her family undergoes deep changes. A feminine and Southern story, akin to *Catcher in the Rye*. We can all relate to that feeling and need to belong-- as the member of something.



METEOR SHOWER
Apr 3 – May 3, 2020

Written by Steve Martin
Directed by Scott Spence

Written by Steve Martin, (yes, that Steve Martin.), this wild and crazy play pulls back the curtain on two married couples and the extreme transformation they can experience when the sky is the limit. You'll have a burning desire to find out what happens next for these four lovers.



DISGRACED
May 29 – June 28, 2020
Written by Ayad Akhtar
Directed by TBA

This 2013 Pulitzer Prize winner illustrates why those brave enough to discuss politics and religion at a dinner party are served their just desserts. The discussion erupts around the crumbling talk of identity politics and prejudices--like the ones that may be baked deep within all of us.

Season Ticket Information

Season Tickets and Flex Passes on sale now!

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beckcenter.org | 216.521.2540 x10



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SHREK THE MUSICAL

DEC 6, 2019 - JAN 5, 2020

Mackey Theater

CREATE A

Legacy

The Legacy Society was created to celebrate and honor donors who have remembered Beck Center for the Arts in their estate plans.

If you have remembered Beck Center in your estate plans, but have not yet been recognized as a member of The Legacy Society, or would like information about including Beck Center, please contact Dena Adler at 216.521.2540 x18 or dadler@beckcenter.org

Together we can ensure the *future of dynamic arts* and *cultural experiences* for our community.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Beck Center was named as one of the “Best Volunteer Opportunities for Art Lovers.” Beck Center for the Arts invites you to experience the arts and make a difference at the same time by being a volunteer! As a nonprofit organization, we rely on civic-minded individuals, such as you, to help provide important volunteer services. The following Beck Center organizations welcome your participation.

USHERS AND HOUSE MANAGERS

Beck Center relies upon volunteers to help as ushers, ticket takers, concession helpers, and coat checkers for the professional theater series. In return, all volunteers see the show for free. Contact Rennie Tisdale to participate at rtisdale@beckcenter.org

BECK CENTER ASSOCIATE BOARD

The Associate Board’s mission is to raise the awareness of Beck Center, increase the involvement of young professionals in the organization and our community, and raise needed funds for the organization. Contact Kayla Lehman to participate at klehman@beckcenter.org

BECK CENTER WOMEN’S BOARD

The Woman’s Board is Beck Center’s longest standing volunteer group, established in 1936. They are a fundraising and social organization dedicated to supporting the mission of the Beck Center. Contact Janice Mastin-Kamps to participate at janmk1978@gmail.com

DANCE ALLIANCE OF BECK CENTER (DABC)

The Dance Alliance was founded to support the programs of the dance department. To join DABC, contact Melanie Szucs at mszucs@beckcenter.org

THEATER ALLIANCE OF BECK CENTER (TABC)

The Theater Alliance was founded to support the programs of the theater department. To join TABC, contact TABC at becktabc@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For more information about volunteer opportunities, including the Board of Directors, contact **Kirsten Bramley** at **216.521.2540 x43** or kgoddard@beckcenter.org



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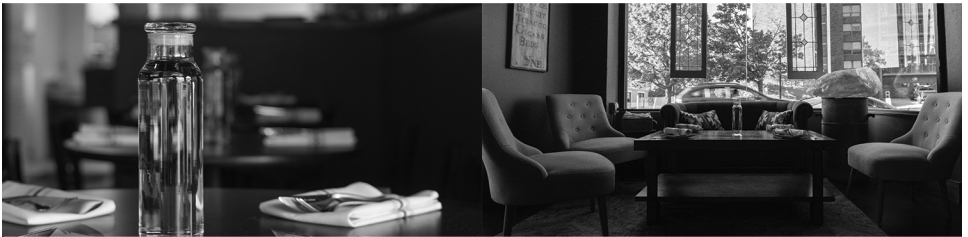
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jgilliland@beckcenter.org
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NOV 1-3, 2019

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MARCH 6-8, 2020

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Hélène Brunet

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Calling all young professionals!



Would you like to get
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Consider joining
- Beck Center's -
Associate Board!



for more information, contact
Kayla at klehman@beckcenter.org
or 216.521.2540 x 19



Beck Center for the Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107

Lucinda B. Einhouse, President & CEO

Scott Spence, Artistic Director

Beck Center for the Arts

production of...

The
Member
of the
Wedding

A play by CARSON McCULLERS

featuring

BAIRD BRACKEN · DAVID C. DOLANSKY · MERRILL EDLEMAN · FRED GLOOR
PETER LAWSON JONES* · LISA LOUISE LANGFORD* · AUDREY McNULTY
AUDREY MORRISON · CHASE OBERHAUS · ELLIE RITTERBUSCH
CORIN B. SELF · KELLY STRAND · MADELYN VOLTZ

Directed by ERIC SCHMIEDL

Light Design
ADAM DITZEL

Stage Manager
DIANA D'ALESSANDRO

Sound design
ANGIE HAYES

Costume Design
SUWATANA PLA ROCKLAND

Scenic design
WALTER BOSWELL

Sponsored by



produced by special arrangement with Samuel French

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

* Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

This play takes place in two acts with one 15 minute intermission

Free talk back after the Sunday, Oct 27 matinee. Talk back will feature select cast members & guest moderator, Dr. Adrienne J. Gosselin.

Setting

A small southern town in the United States. The last Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in August 1945. Late November, 1945.

Cast of Characters

Barney MacKean	Baird Bracken/Merrill Edleman (On Oct 25 - 27)
Jarvis.....	David C. Dolansky
Royal Addams.....	Fred Gloor
T. T. Williams.....	Peter Lawson Jones*
Berenice Sadie Brown	Lisa Louise Langford*
Doris	Audrey McNulty
Helen Fletcher/Frankie Understudy.....	Audrey Morrison
John Henry West.....	Chase Oberhaus
Frankie Addams	Ellie Ritterbusch
Honey Camden Brown	Corin B. Self
Pet West.....	Kelly Strand
Janice.....	Madelyn Voltz

*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

Production Staff

Director	Eric Schmiedl
Artistic Director.....	Scott Spence
Scenic Design	Walter Boswell
Light Design	Adam Ditzel
Costume Design	Suwatana Pla Rockland
Sound Design	Angie Hayes
Stage Manager	Diana D'Alessandro
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Jamie Benetto
Technical Director	Mark DeVol
Wardrobe Manager.....	Betty Pitcher

Special Thanks

Carlton Guc, Juan Ingram, Parker Maas, Kent State University School of Theatre and Dance Costume Shop, Players Guild Theatre, and Stow Jewelers

Who's Who in the Company



SCOTT SPENCE

(Artistic Director) is enjoying his 28th season at Beck Center! Since 1990, he has produced over 200 shows, directing over 75 himself. The list of favorites grows every season, and includes *Parade, A Man of No*

Importance, Sweeney Todd, Hair, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Farnsworth Invention, Reefer Madness, The Fix, Zombie Prom, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Evil Dead The Musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and the box office smash hits *The Producers* and *Altar Boyz*. Recently, Scott added to those favorites with productions of *She Loves Me* and *The New Mel Brooks Musical: Young Frankenstein*. He is very proud of the awards and acclamations Beck Center for the Arts has received over the past decade, and is especially grateful for having won the Northern Ohio Live Award for Achievement in Theatre in 2006. Outside of these walls, Scott's directorial assignments have included a remounting of Beck Center for the Arts' hit production of *Altar Boyz* at Playhouse Square's beautiful Hanna Theatre, *Das Barbecü* at Opera Cleveland, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* at Case Western Reserve University's Eldred Theatre, *Oh Dad Poor Dad...* at Cleveland State University Summer Stages, and *Noises Off* at both Weathervane Playhouse in Akron and Berea Summer Theatre. An adjunct faculty member at Cleveland State University, Scott has also had the privilege to direct Sartre's *No Exit* and Strindberg's *Miss Julie*. Occasionally on the other side of the footlights, Scott has appeared in *Dick Deadeye* (Berea Summer Theatre), *Man of La Mancha* (Jewish Community Center), *The Secret Rapture* (Dobama Theatre), and closer to home at Beck Center for the Arts in *Big River, The Boys Next Door* and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*. He also had the privilege of joining the cast of *Passion*, directed by Victoria Bussert, in his only onstage stint in the Studio Theater. Scott holds an MFA in Directing from Western Illinois University and is a trained stage fight choreographer, having studied extensively with the SAFD. As always, he dedicates all the work he does to his two extraordinarily talented leading ladies, Rachel and Carleigh. You both amaze me every day.



ERIC SCHMIEDL (Director)

is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and a graduate of Kent State University and the University of Hawai'i. As a playwright and director he has worked with theatres around the country

including the Denver Center for Performing Arts, the Cleveland Play House, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Cleveland Public Theatre, the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, the Oregon Children's Theatre, the Honolulu Theatre for Youth, the Lantern Theatre, and Great Lakes Theater. He has had the privilege of directing Beck Center productions including *The Velocity of Autumn, The Young Man From Atlanta, Waiting for Godot*, and *King Lear*. Eric is the recipient of a grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, a Creative Workforce Fellowship, an Aurand Harris Fellowship, and a Sloan Foundation Commission. His work has also received three Edgerton Foundation New American Play Awards. Eric is a theatre artist with the Let It Ride program for youth and a faculty member at Spalding University in Louisville.



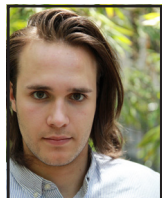
DIANA D'ALESSANDRO (Stage Manager)

Diana can frequently be found backstage performing technical elements required for stage productions at various theaters in North East Ohio. Stage management credits at Beck Center include *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, Gypsy, City of Angels, A Great Wilderness, Billy Elliott, Mothers and Sons, Lend me a Tenor, Forever Plaid, The Pitmen Painters, Annie, Legally Blonde, the Musical, Race, Hairspray, Jerry Springer – The Opera, The Putnam County 25th Annual Spelling Bee, The Farnsworth Invention, Peter Pan, My Favorite Year, Jekyll & Hyde, Porgy & Bess, The Full Monty* and *By Jeeves*. Other favorites at Beck Center include *The Fix, Urinetown, The Musical* and *Miss Saigon*. Love to Patrick, Mom and Dad, whose support makes it all possible!



BAIRD BRACKEN
(Barney MacKean) is delighted to join the company of *The Member of the Wedding*. Previously, Baird was an understudy with Cleveland Play House's *A Christmas Story*, and has

performed with the Curtain Pullers at CPH Theatre Academy, enjoying leading roles in both *Aunt Leaf* and the premiere of *Wild Fire and the Bird Scouts*. Baird is a middle school student at Garfield Middle School in Lakewood where he favors social studies, orchestra and outdoor recess. Previous theatre experiences also include, *Happily Ever After* at Beck Center for the Arts, and numerous industrial videos. When not on stage, Baird enjoys swimming with the Lakewood Rangers, playing travel baseball and watching the Cleveland Browns!



DAVID C. DOLANSKY
(Jarvis) David is a Junior at Case Western Reserve University studying Theatre and Finance. Some notable roles include *The Importance of Being Ernest* (Jack), *War of*

the Worlds (Orson Wells/Pierson), and *Waiting for Godot* (Estragon). David recently returned from a semester abroad in a Shakespeare intensive at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA). He is thrilled to be a part of this production with such a wonderful and professional cast.



MERRILL EDLEMAN (Barney MacKean - On Oct 25 - 27)

Merrill is thrilled to be part of *The Member of the Wedding*. He has been performing since he was 9 years old. His favorite shows have been *Oliver!* at Beck Center for

the Arts, And recently he had fun playing The Baker in, *Into the Woods* at Strongsville Middle School. Merrill swims competitively and enjoys playing golf. He thanks his family for their love and support.



FRED GLOOR
(Royal Addams) is very excited to be back at Beck Center, having last appeared here in *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* many years ago. Fred is currently the Associate Artistic

Director/Marketing Director at Weathervane Playhouse. He is also member of the Theatre and Dance Faculty at Baldwin Wallace University where he teaches Intro to Theatre, Improv, and Script Analysis. A graduate of Kent State University, Fred's directing credits include Cleveland Public Theatre, Dobama, TitleWave, Charenton, The Second City Cleveland, CVLT, and Tri-C West. As an actor, he has performed at The Cleveland Play House, Great Lakes Theater, Dobama, Cain Park, The Second City Cleveland, The Ensemble Theatre, and as a cast member of Something Dada. A member of SAG-AFTRA, he has appeared in numerous commercials and such films as *The Dream Catcher* and *Pirates* with Leslie Nielsen, Eric Idle, and Rodney Dangerfield.



PETER LAWSON JONES*

(T. T. Williams) is a member of both Actors' Equity and SAG-AFTRA as well as a playwright. He has appeared in over twenty films (*White Boy Rick*, *Alex Cross*, *The Assassin's Code*, *Starve*),

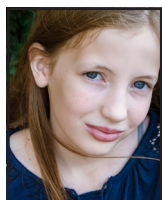
on network television (ABC's *Detroit 1-8-7*) and on stages throughout Northeast Ohio. His play, *The Bloodless Jungle*, received two full productions at Ensemble Theatre (Cleveland Heights) and staged readings at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Dallas Convention Center, National Black Theatre Festival and in Harlem. Land of Cleve, a regional arts and culture blog, ranked the play's 2017 production among the best in Northeast Ohio that year. His earlier drama, *The Family Line*, has been produced at Karamu, Ohio University and Harvard University, where he received his bachelor's and law degrees. Peter received the 2016 Indie Gathering International Film Festival Best Ohio Supporting Actor and the 2012 African American Playwrights Exchange Artist of the Year awards.



LISA LOUISE LANGFORD*
(Berenice Sadie Brown) most recently appeared in *King Lear* (Regan) at Beck Center. Her other credits include *Brownsville Song (b-side for tray)* (Lena) and *Revolt* (ensemble) at Dobama Theatre, *Seven Guitars* (Vera) at Baltimore Center Stage and Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and *Every Good Boy Deserves Favor* (Teacher) at Cleveland Playhouse. Her play, *Rastus and Hattie*, a Eugene O'Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference finalist, is currently playing at Cleveland Public Theatre. She dedicates this performance to her Aunt Lucille, who worked as a domestic and raised a family to be proud of.



AUDREY McNULTY
(Doris) is a 6th grader at Harding Middle School in Lakewood, Ohio. She has most recently been seen in *Law and Order: Nursery Rhyme Unit* (Judge Goose) at Beck Center for the Arts. Audrey has been acting at Beck since she was 6 years old. Some of her favorite shows include *Aargh!* (Plunder Pat) and *Happily Forever After* (Sloppy). When off the stage, Audrey enjoys playing volleyball and softball. She would like to thank her family and friends for bearing her insanity. She would also like to thank Eric, Diana, and the cast and crew for an amazing experience.



AUDREY MORRISON
(Helen Fletcher/Frankie understudy) was most recently seen as a *Bird Girl* in Beck Center of the Arts youth production of *Seussical*. Some of her favorite past credits include *A Christmas Story* (Esther Jane) Cleveland Play House, *Cinder-Ella* (Ella) Beck Center for the Arts and *Annie* (Annie) Olmsted Performing Arts. Audrey was recently cast as a background extra in a NFL commercial. When Audrey is not on stage, she enjoys singing in her middle school's show choir, playing the flute and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank Eric for this amazing opportunity to be apart of this talented cast and her family for always supporting her in her acting adventures. Go Cleveland Browns!



CHASE OBERHAUS
(John Henry West) is in fifth grade at Spring Garden Waldorf School. He most recently appeared in *School of Rock* (Billy) at Weathervane Playhouse this past August. Prior stage credits include *Oliver* (orphan/pickpocket boy) at Medina Show Biz Company (2018). His love for theater has been growing for many years! Thanks to the wonderful parent volunteers in his community he has been in two Kids musicals at Sharon Elementary School. Each year his class puts on a play at Spring Garden Waldorf School. Chase enjoys dancing, singing, gymnastics, basketball, and baseball. He loves watching live theater, especially musicals! His dream is to perform on Broadway one day! Thanks and MUCH LOVE to his parents and grandparents for all the rides to Lakewood! HUGS to his three older sisters for being his biggest fans!



ELLIE RITTERBUSCH
(Frankie Addams) appeared this summer in *Matilda* (Hortensia) here at Beck Center. Other favorite past credits include *A Christmas Carol* (Sarah/Polly/Want) at Great Lakes Theater, *Disaster!* (Ben/Lisa) and *James and the Giant Peach* (James) at Spotlights Theater, and *Newsies* (Hannah) at Near West Theatre. Ellie has also performed as a vocal soloist with the Akron Symphony Orchestra. Enjoy the show!



CORIN B. SELF
(Honey Camden Brown) most recent works have included the role of (Errol Philander) in *Statements After An Arrest Under the Immorality Act* at Convergence-Continuum, (Macduff) in *Macbeth* for Cleveland Shakespeare Festival, as well as (Monsignor O'Hara) in *Sister Act: The Musical* at Karamu House. He also shot a short film in 2006, *2nd Shift*, where he played the role of (Rahsaan) which was featured on BET Independent Film Channel. His talents has also taken him to voice over work; he has recorded several commercials for Clear Channel and Radio One in Baltimore, Maryland.



KELLY STRAND

(Pet West) Kelly Strand is happy to return to Beck Center where she was last seen in *A Great Wilderness*. Recent credits include Dawn in *Lobby Hero* at Blank Canvas Theatre and Beauty in *Seat of the Pants'*

production of *Smokefall*. Kelly has performed with the Contemporary American Theatre Company, Ensemble Theatre of Cleveland, and None Too Fragile. When not on stage, Kelly enjoys eating ice cream and running, occasionally at the same time. Kelly is a proud alumna of the Barter Players at Barter Theatre and holds a degree in performing arts from Ashland University.



MADelyn VOLTZ

(Janice) will be making her debut at Beck Center for the Arts with *The Member of the Wedding*. She has also been seen performing around Cleveland in *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn (Avery)* and *Tom at the*

Farm (Sara) at convergence-continuum, *Romeo & Juliet* (Juliet) at French Creek Theatre, and *Tree of Oedipus* (Antigone) at Cleveland State University. Madelyn will be graduating from Cleveland State University this December with a Bachelor of Theatre. She wants to thank Beck Center for being so kind and welcoming to her.

JAMIE BENETTO (Assistant Stage Manager)

returns to Beck Center for the Arts after recently stage managing *My First Time*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Little Mermaid* (both years), *Ruthless!*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Heathers: The Musical*, and *Dogfight*. She also works with Beck Center Youth Theater. Jamie has worked at Cleveland Play House as an Assistant Stage Manager and Production Assistant for *Rabbit Hole*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Dream a Little Dream*, and *Crowns and Good People*. Other area credits include Ntozake Shange's *Why I Had To Dance* at Oberlin College and Playhouse Square, *The Sound of Music* and *Annie* at Carousel Dinner Theatre, *The Secret Garden* at Cain Park, and *Into the Woods* and *The Seagull* at Great Lakes Theater.

WALTER BOSWELL (Scenic Designer)

Walter is returning to Beck Center for the Arts after designing *King Lear* last season. His designs have also been seen at Baldwin Wallace College, Dobama Theatre, Karamu House, Lorain County Community College. Playwrights Local, and Theatre in the Circle. He also spent 18 years as the scenic and lighting designer for Middlebury College's summer program. Walter received the Cleveland Critics Circle Award for Scenic Design of *The Adding Machine* at Lorain County Community College in 1984 and *The Hairy Ape* at Ensemble Theatre in 2017.

ADAM DITZEL (Lighting Designer)

Recent local theatre credits include: THE ADDAMS FAMILY, CHESS, and SPRING AWAKENING (Near West Theatre) WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? and SUSSICAL (Beck Center), CHARLOTTE'S WEB (Magical Theatre), DEATH AND THE MAIDEN (LatinUS Theatre), A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC and MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG (Lakeland Civic Theatre), THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME (Heidelberg University). Recent dance credits include designs for Verb Ballets, Cleveland Ballet and Inlet Dance Theatre. Adam holds a degree in Lighting Design & Technology from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and is currently based in Lakewood, Ohio.

SUWATANA PLA ROCKLAND

(Costume Designer) recently graduated with a Master of Fine Art in Theatre Studies, with a concentration in Costume Design and Technology from Kent State University. Most recently she designed the musical *Rock of Ages* at Players Guild Theatre. This is her first-time designing costumes for Beck Center for the Art's production of *The Member of the Wedding*. A former professional dancer, actress, director, choreographer, and designer, Suwatana has worked on Industrials, Commercials, Television Shows and Stage Productions in the United State and Thailand. During her time completing her MFA at Kent State, she received several awards for her costume designs for dance and theatre productions and completed a two-month residency as guest artist and lecturer for two universities in Thailand. In addition to designing costumes for Beck Center for the Arts, Rockland's costume work will be seen at Porthouse Theatre and Players Guild Theatre,

this year.

ANGIE HAYES (Sound Designer) has designed sound for many productions at Beck Center for the Arts, including *King Lear*, *Lady Day*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Gypsy*, *Bent*, and *Waiting for Godot*. Other design credits include productions at Magnificat High School, Hathaway Brown High School, Cleveland Public Theatre, and CSU Spring Dance Concerts. Angie has mixed sound for numerous productions at Beck Center, Cleveland Musical Theatre, Cleveland State University, Cain Park, and Cleveland Public Theatre. She has also recorded and sound designed for several podcasts, including *Sidewalk* and *Munchen, MN*. She has a Bachelor Degree in Music from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, with an emphasis in Recording Technology and Music Business.

MARK DeVOL (Technical Director) is thrilled to be back in NE Ohio after a too-many year absence. A graduate of Kent State University, Mark returns after almost a decade long stint at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, as well as teaching gigs in both Arkansas and most recently at Texas State University. He's thrilled to be back home with so many family members but is still missing his daughter Cassidy who he hopes visits again soon!

BETTY PITCHER (Wardrobe Manager) has recently joined the Beck Center staff as the Wardrobe Manager/Costume Rental Coordinator. She has been designing costumes for local Ohio theatres for more than 12 years. Her Beck Center credits include: *Shrek The Musical*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Cinder-Ella*, *The Laramie Project*, *All Greek to Me*, *Snow White's Adventures*, and *School House Rock Live*. She has also created custom costume pieces for Player's Guild, Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and North Canton Playhouse. Betty would like to thank her son, Jeremy Clarke for "volunteering" her to "help" all those years ago. Betty's Costume Creations & Rentals @ www.bettypitcher.com

* Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Member of the Wedding

- *The Member of the Wedding* was originally a novel by Carson McCullers.
- Carson McCullers' writing style is associated with Southern Gothic, which focuses on themes such as isolation and confusion.
- McCullers' friend, Tennessee Williams, encouraged her to adapt the novel into a play, which opened on Broadway in 1950.
- A film adaptation was released in 1952, and received a 1953 Academy Award for Best Actress.
- The town is loosely based on McCullers' hometown of Columbus, Georgia.
- Context places the story after the end of World War II.
- The three acts in the play follow the three main sections in the novel that detail Frankie's growth.
- The play questions the notions of race and gender roles, and challenges their role in society today.

-Article by Charles Battaglia



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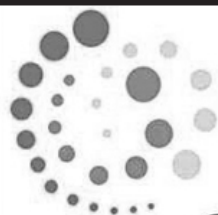
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