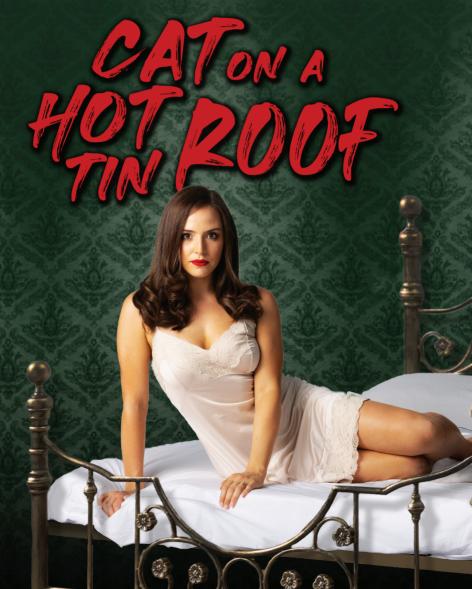
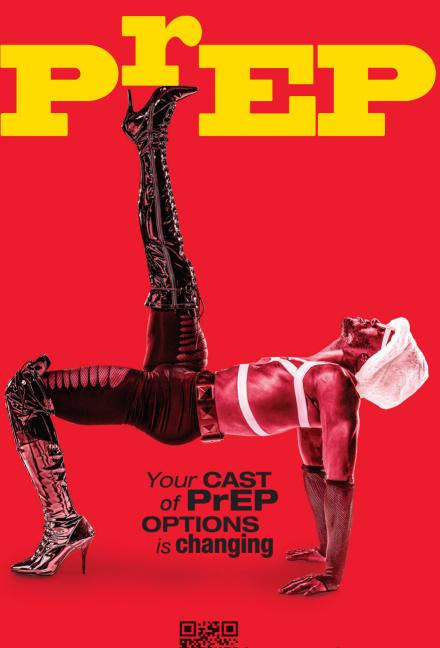
PLAYBILL® WALNUT STREET THEATRE

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS









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REBUSES: I SPY 2

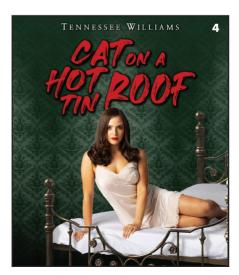
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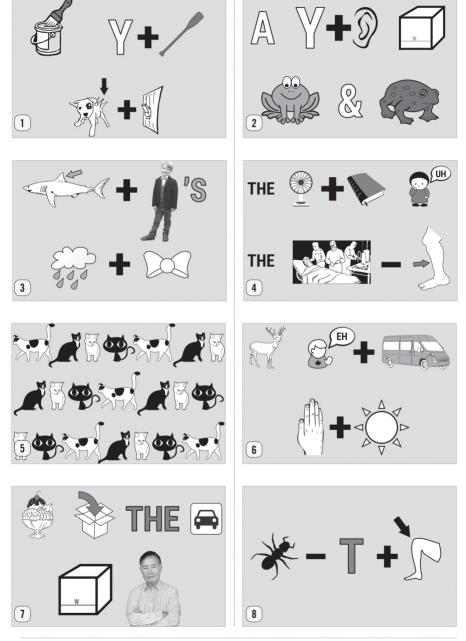
THE PROGRAM

Credits



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6. Dear Evan Hansen 7. Sunday in the Park With Fog and Toad 3. Finian's Rainbow 4. The Phantom of the Opera 5. Cats B. Dear Evan Hansen 7. Sunday in the Park With George 8. Annie



How many of these rebuses can you correctly decipher?



Dear Theatregoer,

Welcome back to the Walnut! Thank you for joining us for Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

Next up on our Mainstage, we'll close out our 214th season by bringing an early summer to Philadelphia with Jimmy Buffett's *Escape to Margaritaville*! This song-filled island adventure features both original songs and well-loved Jimmy Buffett classics, including "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," "Fins," "Cheeseburger in Paradise," and more! I am a proud Jimmy Buffett fan, and I guarantee you will be too after this heart-warming musical comedy!

I am also thrilled to announce the lineup for our 215th season! Next fall, we'll start off with *ELVIS – A MUSICAL REVOLUTION*, a new musical celebrating the cultural icon who changed the history of Rock and Roll. Featuring over 40 iconic songs, Elvis' story will have you "All Shook Up" as you see 'The King' as you've never seen him before.



For the holidays, we invite you to "Be Our Guest" for **DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**. Based on the Academy Award-winning film, this magical adaptation features the beloved characters and timeless songs that inspired a generation. We last staged this enchanting fairytale nearly two decades ago, and I can't wait for a new generation to experience our all-new production of this Disney story.

Then, when two couples meet for a late-night party, their lives will never be the same in Edward Albee's *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF*? Both an explosive comedy and an unusual portrait of two American marriages, this intimate and explosive Tony Award-winning Best Play is Albee's masterpiece.

Next, we'll celebrate the 100th anniversary of The Marx Brothers' historic three-month run at the Walnut with *GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVUE*, directed by and starring Walnut favorite Frank Ferrante with a versatile cast of performers and musicians. I always enjoy Frank's incomparable performance as Groucho, and anyone who loves to laugh will too!

We'll conclude our season with the smash-hit Broadway sensation, **BEAUTIFUL – THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL**. The inspiring true story of King's remarkable career, *Beautiful* takes you on the ride of a lifetime. Featuring hits like "Natural Woman," "I Feel The Earth Move," "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," and more, this celebration of a living legend features the songs you remember – and a story you won't forget.

For now, sit back and enjoy the brilliance of Tennessee Williams and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. We love having you at the theatre and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Sincerely,

Serverd

Bernard Havard, President and Producing Artistic Director





BERNARD HAVARD President and Producing Artistic Director

February 14 – March 12, 2023

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Scenic Design ROMAN TATAROWICZ Costume Design MARY FOLINO

Lighting Design SHON CAUSER

Sound Design CHRISTOPHER COLUCCI

Wig Design CARISSA THORLAKSON

Director of Production SIOBHÁN RUANE Stage Managers ELIZABETH HAROIAN MATTHEW LUPPINO Associate Artistic Director BRIAN KURTAS

Directed by BERNARD HAVARD

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THE CAST

Margaret	ALANNA SMITH*
Brick	MATTHEW AMIRA*
Big Daddy	SCOTT GREER*
	WENDY SCHARFMAN*
Mae	ALICIA ROPER*
Gooper	DAVID BARDEEN*
Sookey	NATASHA S. TRUITT*
Reverend Tooker	JOHNNIE HOBBS, JR.*
Doctor Baugh	MICHAEL TONER*
Dixie	KELSEY NOEL BRIGGS [†] , VIOLET BADEAU [‡]
Buster	JACKSON DEEN GORAL [†] , GAVIN BARDEN [‡]
Sonny	GRANT KNUDSON [†] , RAPHAEL SOMMER [‡]
Trixie	OLIVIA HIEPLER [†] , FAYE STOCKMAL [‡]

UNDERSTUDIES

LORRAINE BARRETT (Big Mama), SAM GUGINO (Big Daddy), JULIA KERSHETSKY (Mae), MAURA MCERLEAN (Maggie), WILLIAM R. MCHATTIE (Dr. Baugh), DAVE POLGAR (Gooper), SYMPHONY THOMPSON (Sookey), BRANDON TYLER (Brick), CHARLES WASHINGTON (Reverend Tooker)

* The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the theatre union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

†Performs weeknights; ‡ Performs weekends

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

Artwork by BWJ Enterprises. Photo of Alanna Smith by Mark Garvin.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

SETTING: A family estate in the Mississippi Delta on an evening in summer. Mid 1950s. The action is continuous.

There will be one 20-minute intermission between ACTS I & II and a pause between ACTS II & III.

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THE CAST



MATTHEW AMIRA



VIOLET BADEAU



DAVID BARDEEN



GAVIN BARDEN



KELSEY NOEL BRIGGS



JACKSON DEEN GORAL



SCOTT GREER



OLIVIA HIEPLER



JOHNNIE HOBBS, JR.



GRANT KNUDSON



ALICIA ROPER



WENDY SCHARFMAN



ALANNA SMITH



RAPHAEL SOMMER



FAYE STOCKMAL



MICHAEL P. TONER



NATASHA S. TRUITT

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

MATTHEW AMIRA (*Brick*) is thrilled to return to Walnut Street Theatre after a bruising run as the "Italian Stallion" Rocky Balboa in *Rocky, The Musical. Jersey Boys*: Ogunquit Playhouse, Fulton Theatre, MSMT, WPPAC as Nick Massi. Broadway National Tour: *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical* (Donnie, Nick/Low Righteous Brother), *Dirty Dancing* (Robbie Gould). Regional: Goodspeed Opera House, Asolo Rep, MTW, Gloucester Stage, and more. BFA: CCM. IG: @matthewamira. Huge thank you to Bernard, Brian, and Avalon Artists Group. Love to Kat, the fam, and every teacher he's ever had.

VIOLET BADEAU (*Dixie*) Walnut debut! Favorite credits include *Matilda*, *Jr*. (Media Theatre) and aerial silks performances (Grounded Aerial, Salt). Violet loves to dance, act, and sing (thank you, Monica!). Many thanks to family, friends, teachers, and WST!

DAVID BARDEEN (*Gooper*) Thrilled to be back! Regional: Walnut (*Peter and the Starcatcher, Little Voice, Travels With My Aunt, The Heiress, Last Night of Ballyhoo, She Stoops to Conquer*), Arden, Wilma, Lantern, InterAct (2001 Barrymore, Supporting Actor), Azuka, Theatre Horizon (2017 Barrymore, Supporting Actor), 11th Hour, Irish Heritage, IRC, Philadelphia Orchestra, South Coast Rep, Yale Rep. TV: "Weeds," "Medium," "Numb3rs," "Dirty Sexy Money." MFA, Yale School of Drama. Thanks Bernard, Mark, Brian, and Jeff. Next up: Galilee at Azuka Theatre.

GAVIN BARDEN (*Buster*) is thrilled to make his Walnut debut! Favorite credits include Tom in *Camelot* (The Ritz), Wally in *Our Town* (Levoy) and Nigel in *Matilda* (CSP). Many thanks to all his support and to WST!

KELSEY NOEL BRIGGS (*Dixie*) is delighted to make her Walnut debut! Favorite role: *The Road to Galena* (Lisa). Heartfelt thanks to WST, Peter Coe, Mr. Moore, and Mrs. Franciosa! Love to Mom, Dad, and Kailyn.

JACKSON DEEN GORAL (*Buster*) Walnut debut! Favorite credits include Boy Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* (Town and Country Players); Iago in *Aladdin* (Music Mountain Theater). Incredibly grateful for the continued support of family and friends!

SCOTT GREER (*Big Daddy*) Favorites at the Walnut: *Laughter...* ('97 and '17), *Buddy, Of Mice and Men, Brighton Beach Memoirs.* NY: The Pearl Theatre. Regional: Milwaukee Rep.,

Arizona Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, 1812 Productions, Arden, InterAct, Wilma and many others. 6 Barrymore Awards. 2014 "Best of Philly," Philadelphia Magazine. Thanks to Mark and Bernard. Love to Jen and Lily.

OLIVIA HIEPLER (*Trixie*) is excited for her theatre debut. She has a passion for Theatre and Modeling in addition to Cheerleading and being a Girl Scout. She wants to thank WST, her friends and family.

JOHNNIE HOBBS, JR. (*Reverend Tooker*) is an Emeritus Associate Professor at the Ira Brind School of Theatre Arts at The University of the Arts and received the 2015 Barrymore Lifetime Achievement Award and is a four-time Barrymore nominee. Walnut Street Theatre credits: *Oleanna, Driving Miss Daisy* (National Tour), *The Other Place, Thurgood* and *The Best Man*.

GRANT KNUDSON (*Sonny*) Thrilled to make his Walnut debut! Favorite role: Party boy in *Classic Nutcracker* (The Rock School for Dance Education). Love and thanks to big sister Vienna, family, friends, teachers, and WST!

ALICIA ROPER (*Mae*) is happy to be back at the Walnut. Previously at WST: *Blithe Spirit*, *A Woman of No Importance, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Beautiful Boy, Enchanted April, The Constant Wife*, and *The Philadelphia Story*. Also: Broadway, Off-Off-Broadway, Mark Taper Forum, Seattle Children's Theatre, Two River Theatre, George St. Playhouse, Yale Rep, Annex Theatre, & Cleveland Playhouse among others. Teacher at UArts. MFA: Yale School of Drama. Love to Rob, Max, & Josh.

WENDY SCHARFMAN (Big Mama) OFF-BROADWAY: Through Darkest Ohio (Public Theater), Bird House (Mint), Sorrento (McGinn/ Cazale), Betrayal (Image Theatre). REGIONAL: Driving Miss Daisy (National Tour), Glass Menagerie (National Tour), And Then There Were None, An Ideal Husband, Enchanted April, Natural History, Quartet (WST), Other Desert Cities (Fulton) Scotland Road (Hartford TheaterWorks), Misalliance, Hot L Baltimore (Asolo), Marvin's Room (Centenary Stage), Rumors (Colonial Theater). FILM: Going Under (with Roger Rees), Poses, The Perfect Dress. TV: "Law & Order", "Guiding Light". With deepest thanks to the entire Walnut Family.

ALANNA SMITH (*Margaret*) recently starred in TV movie rom-com, *Love Afloat* (Crackle) WAVERLY HEIGHTS LIFE PLAN COMMUNITY EXCEPTIONAL LIFESTYLE, EXTRAORDINARY LIVING



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GLADWYNE, PA







WHO'S WHO

and can be seen in the upcoming film, *Chang Can Dunk* (Disney+). Favorite Walnut Street credits: *Young Frankenstein, Noises Off, The Importance of Being Earnest, A Funny Thing... Forum.* Regional: *Gypsy* (Hangar Theatre), *Smoke and Mirrors* (Florida Studio Theatre), *Grease* (Fireside Theatre), *Beauty and the Beast* (Media Theatre). Television: "FBI: Most Wanted" (CBS), "Power Book II: Ghost" (Starz), "Evil Lives Here" (Discovery+). BFA Ithaca College. Exceptionally grateful. @alannajsmith

RAPHAEL SOMMER (*Sonny*) is thrilled to make his Walnut debut! His prior credits include Michael Banks and Mamilius (The Quintessence Theatre) and films. Much love to his supportive parents and five siblings. Thanks to WST!

FAYE STOCKMAL (*Trixie*) is thrilled to make her Walnut debut! Favorite roles: Willy Wonka, *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*; Sergeant Tibbs, *101 Dalmatians*. Much love to Anthony, Justin, Nerissa, my family, friends and WST!

MICHAEL P. TONER (Doctor Baugh) Walnut credits include It's a Wonderful Life (Clarence the Angel); Moon for the Misbegotten national tour, Phil Hogan); (with 1776 (Andrew McNair): She Stoops to Conquer (Mr. Hardcastle); Conversations with My Father (Finney); Philadelphia, Here I Come! (Con Sweeney); Edwin Forrest (Thomas Ball); The Caretaker (Aston); Someone Who'll Watch Over Me (Edward). Directing credits with WST include Stones in His Pockets. Molly Sweeney (Mr. Rice) with Amaryllis and Irish Heritage Theatres: The Night Alive (Maurice) with Inis Nua Theatre, and Trouble In Mind (Henry) with Philadelphia Artists' Collective. Much love to my Joanne, Bernard & Judy!

NATASHA S. TRUITT (Sookey) is thrilled and honored to return on the WST Mainstage after her Understudy Debut in Rocky, The Musical! Philadelphia native, Proud graduate of CAPA & Temple University. Favorite credits: Cindy Lou, The Marvelous Wonderettes (Ritz Theatre), Beehive: The '60s Musical (u/s, Media Theatre). Special thanks to my #1 Fan/Parents, beloved family, twirling Godmother, & Aunt Joi. #ToGodBeTheGlory Instagram: @natasha.truitt

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS (*Playwright*) (1911-1983) was born in 1911 in Columbus, Mississippi. One of America's greatest playwrights, he drew heavily on his own family experiences in his writings. His prodigious output included *Not About Nightingales, The*

Glass Menagerie (NY Drama Critics Award), A Streetcar Named Desire (NY Drama Critics Award, Pulitzer Prize), Summer and Smoke, The Rose Tattoo, Camino Real, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (NY Drama Critics Award, Pulitzer Prize), Orpheus Descending, Garden District, Sweet Bird of Youth, Night of the Iguana, The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore, Out Cry, Vieux Carre, A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur, and Something Cloudy Something Clear.

BERNARD HAVARD (*Director*) It's a great privilege to direct Tennessee Williams' favorite play, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.* This play is passionate, complex, and filled with rich characterizations. It is a story in which no one tells the truth, leaving only "Mendacity." It addresses universal human conditions that draw on Tennessee's relationship with his father. I am blessed with a magnificent cast and designers with whom I am privileged to collaborate. Love to Judy and Brandon. For information about Bernard's background, directing credits, and bio, kindly refer to the WST website. Walnutstreettheatre.org

ROMAN TATAROWICZ (Scenic Design) Walnut: Rocky, the Musical, Blithe Spirit, The Best Man, A Woman of No Importance, The Curious Incident..., The Humans, Thurgood, Oleanna, Meteor Shower, Souvenir, Jerry's Girls. The Other Place. Red. I Love a Piano. Selected Off-B'way: The Banana Monologues (Acorn Theatre); Honky, The Sweepers (Urban Stages); Mother Courage, The Importance of Being Earnest, Dames at Sea, The Threepenny Opera (Jean Cocteau Rep.). Many Off-Off-B'way including Bee-Luther-Hatchee (Audelco Award nom). Regional credits: Capital Rep., Merrimack Rep., Queens Theatre in the Park, Florida Studio Theatre, Azuka Theatre, Act II, InterAct, Bristol Riverside, People's Light, Pa. Shakespeare Festival, Delaware Theatre Company and ETC (Santa Barbara). Member United Scenic Artists Local 829, tatarowicz.com

MARY FOLINO (*Costume Design*) is currently Arcadia University's Costume Shop Manager, having previously worked as the Walnut's Costume Shop Manager, and as the Costume Director of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. Favorite WST designs include *Holiday Inn, A Comedy of Tenors, Young Frankenstein, Shrek, A Woman of No Importance, The Little Mermaid, Rocky, the Musical*, and *Cinderella*. Many thanks to Bernard and the WST family,

WHO'S WHO

all of my collaborators on this piece, and the amazing costume and wardrobe staff!

SHON CAUSER (Lighting Design) Walnut credits: Last of the Red Hot Lovers, Blithe Spirit, Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of The Speckled Band, A Woman of No Importance, A Comedy of Tenors, The Humans, Kate, Arsenic and Old Lace, God of Carnage, Good People, Driving Miss Daisy, Elf, Love Story, Jerry's Girls, It's a Wonderful Life, Plaid Tidings, Glass Menagerie, Vivian, Greater Tuna, The Mystery of Irma Vep. Regional credits: Lantern Theater, Fulton Theater, 1812 Productions, Inis Nua, Theatre Horizon, Delaware Theater Company, Maples Rep, Boise Contemporary Theater, Penobscot Theater. M.F.A., Lighting Design, Temple. Thanks: Bernard, Mark, Siobhan, and the whole Walnut family. For Lori.

CHRISTOPHER COLUCCI (Sound Design) is a Sound Designer, Composer, Guitarist, Photographer and Video person for Philadelphia theater and beyond. Recent work: The Last Parade (InterAct Theatre Company); Charlotte's Web (Arden); Tom Stoppard's Travesties (Lantern Theater); Wolf Play (Theatre Exile). Upcoming: Twelfth Night (Lantern); Morning After Grace (Gulfshore Playhouse); and the Prague Quadrennial in June. 2016 Pew Fellowship in the Arts; 8 Barrymore Awards/ Outstanding Original Music and Sound Design; Independence Fellowship in the Arts (2012, 2019); MA, Philosophy from Western Kentucky University. BA, Philosophy/Theology from Eastern University. Thanks always to Adam Orseck. Soundcloud (https://soundcloud.com/ cmsound): YouTube (https://tinyurl.com/ yd89tm64); Instagram @cmcolucci_photo

CARISSA THORLAKSON (*Wig Design*) is a New Jersey-based freelance wig and makeup designer. You may have seen her recent work in *Cinderella* and *Rocky* here at Walnut Street. She has also designed for New York City Center, The Old Globe, A.R.T., McCarter Theatre Center, Hartford Stage, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Two River Theatre, Bay Street Theater, Delaware Theatre Company, Olney Theatre Center, and The Princeton Festival. She has served as a wig and makeup artist across the country. Carissa also creates custom medical wigs, cosplay wigs, and teaches classes in wigs and makeup. You can find her at CThorwigs.com and @wigician.

ELIZABETH HAROIAN (*Stage Manager*) Thrilled to be back with WST this season after joining the stage management team last February. Stage management credits: Always... Patsy Cline, R&J's Cinderella, and Rocky: The Musical (WST), Further Than the Furthest Thing (NYU Tisch), Symphonie Fantastique (Basil Twist), The Pirate La Dee Da (ATC), The Secret Garden and Sister Act (NYU Steinhardt), Grease (New London Barn Playhouse), and Richard III (Juilliard). Last fall, Liz was in Saudi Arabia managing a truly magical show with five international illusionists. She's worked with many academic programs including NYU Tisch, The Juilliard School, NYU Steinhardt, Atlantic, and ART/Harvard. Amid all of the chaos remember to have fun!

MATTHEW LUPPINO (*Stage Manager*) Matthew is thrilled to be back at the Walnut this season! WST credits: *Last of the Red Hot Lovers, Rocky, Blithe Spirit.* Broadway: *Bandstand, The Illusionists: Turn of the Century.* Select Credits: The Public Theatre, People's Light, Montana Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre Center, Hangar Theatre, Barrington Stage Company, and 4 seasons with Shakespeare & Company. Matthew is an alum of The College of New Jersey and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. Love to my incredible crew back home :)

SIOBHÁN RUANE (*Director of Production*) This is Siobhán's tenth season at the Walnut. With over 20 years in the business, Siobhán has worked internationally as a Production Manager and Stage Manager. Previously, Siobhán held the faculty position of Stage Management Advisor at Florida State University's School of Theatre. Additional credits include Cirque du Soleil, Norwegian Cruise Line, Cirque Productions, and various regional theatres. Siobhán holds an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University, an MFA from the University of Delaware, and is (proudly!) originally from the Jersey Shore.

BRIAN KURTAS (*Associate Artistic Director*) has been associated with the Walnut Street Theatre since 2007. He began his career here as a performer and in the professional apprenticeship program, and has since dedicated himself to bringing artists together. He now serves our artists and audiences in the various capacities of casting, directing, programming, and literary management, as his function is to identify the highest quality of artists for our historic theatre. His vision behind unforgettable live experiences and storytelling has become a creative solution from the stage to the screen - He spent 4 seasons as the Executive Producer of Gretna Theatre, has worked on television networks and films including

WHO'S WHO

TLC and HGTV, and helped create events and entertainment for brands such as T-Mobile and Walmart while at Live Nation. Originally from Lancaster, Brian is a proud Temple alum and a member of the Casting Society of America.

MARK D. SYLVESTER (Managing Director) Mark is proud to be celebrating his 29th season at the Walnut. His extensive career has spanned Summer Stock to Broadway as an actor, stage manager, box office treasurer, theatre manager, marketing and public relations director and general manager. After several years working with commercial theatre, he has devoted his career to non-profit theatre companies since 1987. To date, Mark has been associated with more than 500 stage productions. An avid collector of musical theatre recordings, his collection contains over 3,500 cast albums from around the world. Widely regarded as a theatrical marketing expert, Mark lectures and consults with organizations internationally. He has served on several boards including seven years with the National Alliance for Musical Theatre where he now holds the honorary position of Board Emeritus and the Advisory Committee of Samuel French, the international play publisher and licensing company. With Bernard Havard he co-authored the book Walnut Street Theatre. Since he joined the Walnut in 1994, it became the most subscribed theatre company in the world.

BERNARD HAVARD (President and Executive Producing/Artistic Director) Vox Populi (The Voice of the People) was written on the Walnut Playbills in the 1800s. Whenever the Walnut has strayed from a populist program, the theatre has gone bankrupt. When I came here 40 years ago, we had no programs and no audience. Today we enjoy the largest subscription of any theatre in the world. So, my thanks to our loyal audience and a warm welcome to newcomers who enjoy and believe in what we do. I have tremendous admiration for the artists who have dedicated their lives to the theatre and the Walnut, in particular. Our theatre is a non-profit 501-C3 institution, and we rely on contributed income to extend our reach into the community. Last season we reached more than 150,000 students in our city schools. We have 20 trustees who give their time, wisdom, and contributions to help guide this historical treasure. I came to the Walnut in 1982, and I am as excited now about our future as I was in the beginning. My heartfelt thanks to all who enter this theatre. For my biography, go to About Us on our website at WalnutStreetTheatre.org.

COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THIS THEATRE!

MAINSTAGE

Our 2022-23 Season includes

• Jimmy Buffett's *Escape to Margaritaville* (starts Mar. 28, 2023)

Our 2023-24 Season includes

- Elvis A Musical Revolution
- Disney's Beauty and the Beast
- Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf
- Groucho: A Life in Revue
- Beautiful The Carole King Musical

WST FOR KIDS

• Disney's FROZEN JR. (April 15–May 7, 2023)

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Associate Director of Education Amanda	a Pasquini
Education Programs Manager Maya C	hester Ziv
Education ApprenticeSeraina S	
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Lindsay Marcus, Moniqu	
Teaching Artists Dave Allison, Julianna Babb, Hal	
Jared Calhoun, Andrea Rose Cardoni, Hannah (
Dylan Collie, Marques DeLeon, Dev	
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Production Load-in Mana	agerMatt DeMascolo
Stage ManagersEli	zabeth Haroian, Matthew Luppino
	enticesEmma Battle,
Technical Director	Sophie Klokinis Brian Froonjian
Assistant Technical Direct	torEli Marsh
Technical Direction/Shop	Mgmt. ApprenticeTyler Bogie
	Ciara Monroe, Marquise West
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	Lauren Sellers
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Assistant Costume Shop	ManagerAnya Loverdi
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Stitchers G	retchen Ellis, Francesca Schnaike,
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