

PLAYBILL®



WALNUT STREET THEATRE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Gifts *of the* Magi *A Holiday Musical*

NEXT UP IN STUDIO 3

January 7 – February 9, 2020

THURGOOD

By George Stevens, Jr.

Meet Thurgood Marshall: Lawyer. Civil Rights Activist. The first African American Supreme Court Justice. In the acclaimed Broadway play *Thurgood*, you have a seat at a fictional lecture on his life given by Marshall at his alma mater, and experience his transformation from a young and spirited dissenter to a pensive Justice full of wisdom. From his early days as the civil rights lawyer to his appointment to the highest court in the land, Thurgood Marshall stood for justice while lifting the standing of his race, and all Americans.

February 25 – March 29, 2020

POPCORN FALLS

By James Hindman

A nasty neighboring town has shut off Popcorn Falls' namesake waterfall and targeted them as a sewage treatment site. But the enterprising Popcorn Falls townsfolk ("kernels") discover a loophole when they find they can secure a town-saving grant if they can produce a play – in just one week! The only problems: no playhouse, no players, and no play! Two actors frantically transform into over twenty roles in this over-the-top comedy that proves one play can save the world (or at least one town)!

April 14 – May 17, 2020

Edward Albee's A DELICATE BALANCE

Directed by Bernard Havard

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT walnutstreettheatre.org
OR CALL 215-574-3550 or 800-982-2787 (7 days a week, 10am – 10pm)**

INDEPENDENCE STUDIO ON 3 MEDIA PARTNERS



Philadelphia Weekly is proud to be a sponsor of the Walnut Street Theatre's Independence Studio on 3. Print issues of *Philadelphia Weekly* are published every Thursday, but the latest in news, the arts and much more is at phillyweekly.com, where you can also enter to win some of our fabulous giveaways, including free theatre tickets, concert tickets, movie passes and more! Follow *PW* on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @phillyweekly — and pick up the new *Philadelphia Weekly* for an in-depth look at the scene both in and around Philly!



WHYY, Greater Philly's NPR and PBS station, supports and celebrates the arts through television and radio programming, local journalism and Member events – and by being a proud sponsor of the Walnut Street Theatre's Independence Studio on 3! Concert lovers, museumgoers and patrons of the arts can access WHYY on WHYY-TV 12, WHYY-FM 90.9, the WHYY App and on WHYY Passport, where you can stream programs like *On Stage At Curtis* on-demand. Stay connected with us at WHYY.org/connect.



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WALNUT STREET THEATRE

825 WALNUT STREET • PHILADELPHIA PA 19107

BERNARD HAVARD

President and Producing Artistic Director

NOVEMBER 12 – DECEMBER 22, 2019

THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI

From the Stories of **O. HENRY**

Book by **MARK ST. GERMAIN**

Music by **RANDY COURTS**

Lyrics by **RANDY COURTS** and **MARK ST. GERMAIN**

Set Design

ANDREW THOMPSON

Costume Design

REBECCA DWIGHT

Lighting Design

RYAN J. STOFA

Sound Design

MARK VALENZUELA

Director of Production

SIOBHÁN RUANE

Stage Manager

KELLY L. SCHWARTZ

Music and Vocal Direction by

JAMISON FOREMAN

Directed by

JESSE BERNSTEIN

MARK D. SYLVESTER

Managing Director

Director of Development

**RICHARD
VAN FOSSEN, JR.**

Director of Education

**T.J.
SOKSO**

Director of Marketing

and Public Relations
ED GILCHRIST

THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

Willy Porter.....MALCOM BISHOP
The City – HimJAMISON FOREMAN*
The City – HerAMANDA JILL ROBINSON*
Della Dillingham.....ALANNA J. SMITH*
Jim Dillingham.....SEAN THOMPSON*
Soapy Smith.....BILL VAN HORN*

UNDERSTUDIES

ANDREW BARR (Soapy Smith), SCOTT BERKOWITZ (The City – Him),
JANE ERICKSEN (The City – Her), THOR SPEELER (Willy Porter/Jim Dillingham),
ANNA NICOLE VENTOR (Della Dillingham)

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

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

“THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI”

is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York



Malcolm Bishop



Jamison Foreman



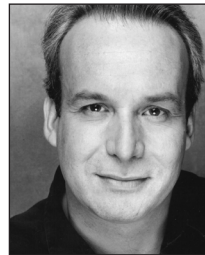
Amanda Jill Robinson



Alanna J. Smith



Sean Thompson

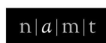


Bill Van Horn

MUSICAL NUMBERS

New York City, 1905

Star of the Night.....	City Him and Her
Gifts of the Magi.....	Willy and Company
Christmas to Blame.....	Willy, City Him and Her
How Much to Buy My Dream?	Jim
The Restaurant	Jim and Della
Bum Luck.....	Soapy and Jim
Greed	Company
Pockets	Willy
The Same Girl.....	Della
Once More.....	Jim and Della
The Gift of Christmas.....	Company



NATIONAL ALLIANCE
for MUSICAL THEATRE

The mission of the Walnut Street Theatre Company is to sustain the tradition of professional theatre and contribute to its future viability and vitality. It does so through the production and presentation of professional theatre; the encouragement, training and development of artists; the development of diverse audiences; and the preservation and chronicling of its theatre building, a National Historic Landmark.



Walnut Street Theatre is a member of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania, the National Alliance for Musical Theatre and the League of Historic American Theatres.



Walnut Street Theatre receives support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Independence
STARTS HERE!

Walnut Street Theatre acknowledges with appreciation Bryce's Catering Company (Wynnewood, PA) for their elegant catering of theatre events.



Accessibility Equipment, Training and Marketing provided by Independence Starts Here, the statewide cultural accessibility program of VSA PA/Amaryllis Theatre Co., jointly led in different regions in PA by cultural partners in that region. In Greater Philadelphia, Independence Starts Here is jointly led by Art-Reach, Inc.



ART · REACH

Support for Walnut Street Theatre's general operations provided in part by the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.



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WALNUT STREET THEATRE 5

Page 6

Advertisement

Page 7

Advertisement

WHO'S WHO

MALCOLM BISHOP (Willy Porter) Walnut Street Theatre debut! Malcolm attended Point Park University in Pittsburgh, where he studied Musical Theater. He is grateful to his family and friends for their loving support and would like to thank all involved in *The Gifts of the Magi* for making this experience possible. Special thanks to B!

JAMISON FOREMAN (Music and Vocal Direction/The City Him) is excited to be back at the Walnut! Regional: Arden, Azuka, Walnut Street Theatre, InterAct, People's Light, Quintessence Theatre Group, Theatre Horizon, Inis Nua, 11th Hour, Applied Mechanics, Act II, Commonwealth Classics, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company (DC), Everyman (Baltimore). International: *Fame* (Chinese Tour), *OverExposed* (Edinburgh Fringe Fest). Awards: 2014 Barrymore Award Winner for Best Musical Direction. Training: STC's Academy for Classical Acting at The George Washington University: MFA, Classical Acting; University of the Arts: BFA, Musical Theatre. Teaching: Has proudly taught at The University of the Arts, Drexel, and West Chester University.

AMANDA JILL ROBINSON (The City Her) is a theatre/visual artist, musician, composer, educator, and half of the comedy duo, Ruth and Estelle. Overjoyed to be back at the Walnut! Regional: 1812 Productions, Act II Playhouse, EgoPo Classic Theater, Philadelphia Artists' Collective, Delaware Shakespeare, Theater at Monmouth, The Greenfield Collective. Love to E. amandajillrobinson.com

ALANNA J. SMITH (Della Dillingham) Gift-giving is my love language! WST: *Young Frankenstein*, *A Comedy Of Tenors*, *Noises Off*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Story*. Regional: Fireside Theatre, Media Theatre, Bristol Riverside Theatre, Hangar Theatre. So many thanks and love to the entire Walnut team. alannajsmith.com

SEAN THOMPSON (Jim Dillingham) WST: *Legally Blonde* (Warner), *South Pacific*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Eclectic Society*. Broadway: *Sunset Boulevard* (opposite Glenn Close). First National Tour: *Love Never Dies* (Raoul, American premiere cast). Best Leading Actor Barrymore nominee. Proud graduate

of Temple University; native of Northeast Philly. Many thanks to Bernard and Jesse! [@oneseanthompson](https://twitter.com/oneseanthompson)

BILL VAN HORN (Soapy Smith) Recently at Walnut: *Annie*, *Forum*, *Oz*, *A Christmas Story*, *Mary Poppins*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Elf*, *The Prince*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Directed *Civil War Voices*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and created and starred in *O Captain, My Captain: Whitman's Lincoln*. Bill is a permanent member of the acting company at Theatre at Monmouth in Maine. Proud member of Actors' Equity.

JESSE BERNSTEIN (Director) Walnut directing credits: *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Shipwrecked!*, *Little Mermaid, Jr.*, *Aladdin, Jr.*, *Honk, Jr.* as well as several outreach plays. Other credits include: *Complete History of Comedy (Abridged)* (Cardinal Stage); *Heathers: The Musical* (Penn Players); *Young Voices* (Philadelphia Young Playwrights); *Secret in the Wings*, *Mary's Wedding*, *Achilles in Sparta* (NHSI); and the short film "Allergy" (available on YouTube). Next up: directing *Peter and the Starcatcher* at Drexel and touring his one-man show, *Ethics of the Fathers* for Theatre Ariel. Many thanks to Bernard, Mark and the entire Walnut family.

ANDREW THOMPSON (Scenic Designer) has been on the production side of theater for 33 years, 13 seasons as Technical Director for Walnut Street Theatre's Studio 3. Credits: *Ajijaak on Turtle Island* Nat. tour (TD 2109), Spoleto Festival USA (TD/ATD) 20 seasons, 954 Dance Movement Collective/ 3 Pony Show-Keila Cordova Dances (technical supervisor/scenic design) Lincoln Center Out Of Doors Festival (crew chief seven seasons), and Upper Darby Township Summer Stage (TD/ Var. positions) 15 seasons. Thanks to all.

RYAN J. STOFA (Lighting Designer) is a Philadelphia based lighting designer, who graduated from the University of the Arts in 2018 with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology. Selected credits: *In Ariel Narrow: An American Musical* Arden APA Showcase; *A Way Home* HUM Productions; *The Little Mermaid Jr.* Kimmel Center ShowStoppers Summer Camp. Endless thanks to Mom, Dad, and Andy; OG and NW

WHO'S WHO

REBECCA DWIGHT (Costume Design) is a Brazilian/American costume designer from Miami, FL. Her other designs include: *Meteor Shower*, *Civil War Voices*, *Oleanna* (WST), *Son of Blackbeard* (TAV Prod.), *As You Like It* and *Dogfight* (Ithaca College). Rebecca has also worked at the Williamstown Theatre Festival as a design assistant, and is currently the assistant costume shop manager at the Walnut. Many thanks to the WST costume shop, the WST production team, my family, and Matt. RebeccaDwight.com

MARK VALENZUELA (Sound Design) is a Philadelphia based artist who's been making sound for live performance for the last 14 years. Regional credits include: Pig Iron, Theatre Exile, 11th Hour, Lantern, Theatre Horizon, 1812 Productions, DTC, InterAct, Act II Playhouse, Walnut Street Theatre, Milwaukee Rep (Milwaukee WI), Vail Dance Festival (Vail, CO), UArts, and Villanova, Temple, Drexel and Arcadia Universities. Mark was honored to be a part of the #213 collective this past summer at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

KELLY L. SCHWARTZ (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be in Independence Studio on 3 for her second season at the Walnut Street Theatre. Kelly holds a BA in theatre from Butler University. She spent seven years as WST's national touring stage manager. All my love to Dave and Aidan for their love on this crazy adventure.

SIOBHÁN RUANE (Director of Production) This is Siobhán's seventh season at the Walnut. With almost 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.

MARK D. SYLVESTER (Managing Director) Mark is proud to be celebrating his 26th 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 450 stage productions. An avid collector of musical theatre recordings, his collection contains over 3,000 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 has become the most subscribed theatre company in the world.

BERNARD HAVARD (President and 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 37 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 172,000 students in our city schools. We have 30 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 AboutUs on our web site at WalnutStreetTheatre.org.

WALNUT STREET THEATRE

825 Walnut Street, 215-574-3550

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WALNUT STREET THEATRE STAFF**ARTISTIC****President and Producing**

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 Crys Clemente
Refreshment Services Manager..... **Mary Kate McMullen**
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 Denise Edwards, Demetrius Hill,
 Yuri Jenkins, Camielle Johnson, Victoria Robinson

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 Development Assistant Daniel Lord
 Development Apprentice Alexa Golieb

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 Resident Teaching Artist..... Ali Walker
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 Production Associate Megan Lampron
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 Stage Management Apprentices..... Patrick L. Johnson,
 Christian Marshall
 Studio 3 Stage Manager Kelly Schwartz
 Studio 3 Stage Management Apprentice .. Julianna Holzmann
Technical Director..... **Brian Fronjian**
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 Head Properties Artisan Natalie Reichman
 Properties Artisan Davis Caramanico
 Properties Artisan Apprentices ... Matthew Barth, Emily Davis
Costume Shop Manager..... **Mary Folino**
 Assistant Costume Shop Manager..... Rebecca Dwight
 Costume Apprentices..... Carly Polizzi, Tori Lewis
 Lead Dresser Alison Levy
 Dressers Amari Callaway, Anya Loverdi
 Stitchers Gretchen Ellis, Morgan Porter,
 Kayla Speedy, Abigail Stenner
 Wig Apprentice..... Emily Fox

Stage Crew
 Head Electrician Matthew Sanatore
 Head Sound Adam Orseck
 Head Props..... Valerie Bannan
 Seasonal Assistant Lighting John Szarka

Seasonal Assistant Sound..... Ryan Erlichman
 Stage Crew Apprentice Andrew Martinez
 Costume Stock Coordinator.....Katie Yamaguchi
 Doctors..... Jeff. Fam. Med. Assoc., Jeff. Otolaryngology



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits for its members, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. actorsequity.org



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The Director is a member of the
**STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS
 SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THIS THEATRE!

MAINSTAGE

- *Shrek The Musical*
 (Now – January 5)
- *A Woman of No Importance*
- *The Best Man*
- *The Bodyguard*

INDEPENDENCE STUDIO ON 3

Intimate Stories in an Intimate Space

- *Thurgood*
- *Popcorn Falls*
- *Edward Albee's A Delicate Balance*

WST FOR KIDS

- *A Christmas Carol*
 (Now – December 22)
- *Grace for President*
- *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*
- *Nate the Great*

WALNUT STREET THEATRE SCHOOL

Contact us about our current classes and the Spring 2020 semester beginning January 28th. Call 215-574-3550, ext. 510 or register on-line at walnutstreettheatre.org

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