

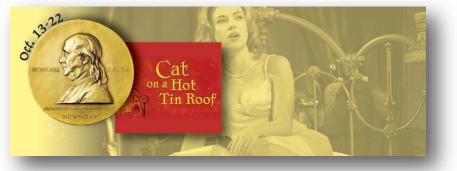
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by Tennessee Williams An American Playwright's Masterpiece

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## **Box Office Hours**

#### **Jim Johnson** Artistic Director

Mon. and Wed. 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Saturdays 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. (One month prior to show opening, and continuing through the run of each production)

The Box Office is open one hour before show time on performance dates.

## Main Stage Performance Times

Thursday through Saturday Evening performances at 8:00 p.m. Sunday Matinee performances at 2:00 p.m.

## **Audience Notes:**

- Unauthorized use of flash cameras and recording devices is strictly prohibited.
- For the consideration of fellow audience members, please turn off all electronic devices. In addition to being a distraction, they can interfere with the lighting and sound controls.
- Patrons are prohibited from smoking inside the theater,
- Aisles are frequently used for actors' entrances and exits. For your safety, please do not leave your seat until the house lights come up.
- There will be two 15 minute intermissions during this performance.

**Sylvia Garner** Administrative Director

Jason Spickler Business Manager

## 2017-2018 Board of Directors

## Stephen Bair

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### **Curt Elledge** Vice Chairman

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## **Cynthia Hassinger** Treasurer

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The Susquehanna Stage Co.'s production of **Cat On A Hot Tin Roof** is performed through special arrangement with and all materials provided by:



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Pulitzer Prize Season 2017

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How can **YOU** help us continue to produce top quality theater at the Susquehanna Stage Co.?

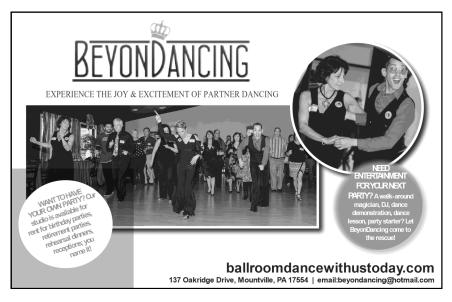
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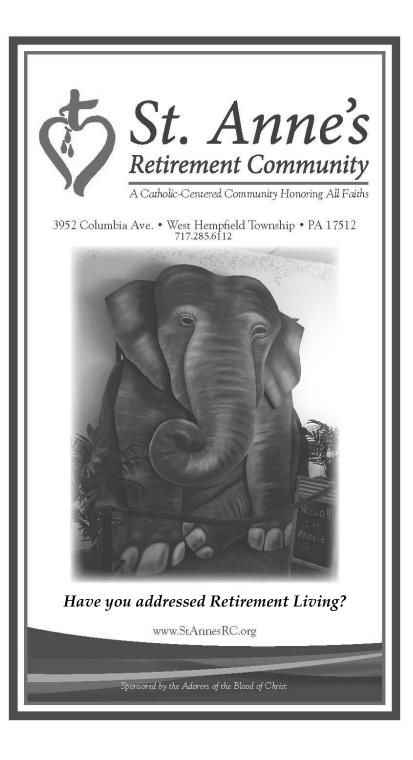
## Currently seeking <u>show sponsors</u> and <u>advertisers</u> for our 2018 10th Season Anniversary line-up

Contact our Business Manager, Jason Spickler for more information on how you can help!



## 2016 SEASON SUBSCRIPTION FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE!







Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize and Drama Critics Circle Award winning play Cat on a Hot Tin Roof is our latest production in our very challenging 2017 Pulitzer Prize winning season, and what an exhilarating piece of theatre it is! As the esteemed Edward Albee stated, "The sensuality and excitement of Cat... first heated up Broadway in 1955 with its Gothic American story of two brothers (and their wives) vying for the inheritance of their dying father, Big Daddy, amid a whirlwind of sexuality untethered (in the person of Maggie the Cat), and the burden of love repressed (in the person of her husband, Brick Pollitt)."

I couldn't say it better. Susquehanna Stage Co. is thrilled to offer you such a challenging and classic play by this romantic poet of the theatre. As we know, you can choose your friends, but you can't choose your family. Big Daddy's family is at the least memorable and at the most exacerbating. We are thrilled to introduce you to our stellar ensemble, and we thank you for supporting live theatre in our community.

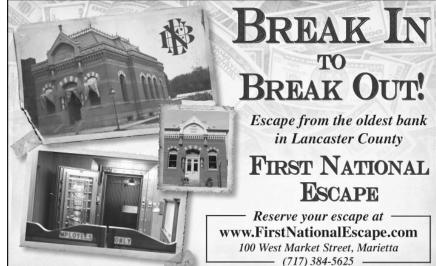
It has been a wonderfully creative and successful season for this director, beginning in early spring with Next to Normal, Crimes of the Heart, the wildly successful A Chorus Line in the summer and now Williams' masterwork, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. My cup runneth over with gratitude for all the actors, backstage volunteers, AND the audiences who have supported us. Please join us in December as we wrap up our season with How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, directed by Mr. Nick Smith. Exciting plans await us in 2018 as we prepare and present our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season of thrilling, memorable theatrical experiences. You don't want to miss a single show! Love and humble thanks to each and every one of you!

**Jim Johnson** Founding Artistic Director



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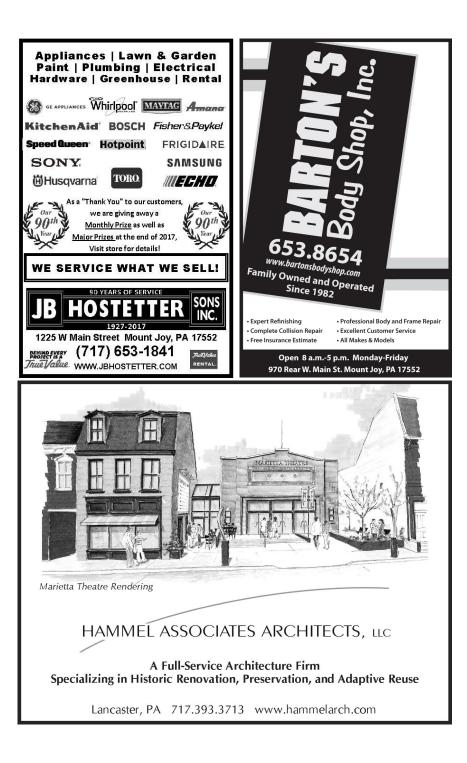
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Best Wishes for much success to the cast and crew of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and to The Susquehanna Stage Co. for all of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize-Winning Season productions!

## Dr. Cynthia F. Gessler

1425 Center Road Lancaster, Pennsylvania





Become a patron and supporter of The Susquehanna Stage Co. for a donation of \$25 or more and help us continue to provide quality theater experiences in our community.

Speak to the House Manager or any of the individuals on our Board of Directors (see inside front cover) for more information.

## 2017 PATRON DONATIONS

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Thank you and apologies to anyone who has become a program patron, yet were not listed because of inadvertent omission or program printing deadlines.

## About the Cast

**BARBARA STRONG ELLIS** (Big Mama Pollit) makes her Susquehanna Stage Co. debut in this production of *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof.* Barbara, however, is no stranger to theatre goers in the Susquehanna Valley. She has appeared in performances at EPAC, Hershey Area Playhouse, First Stage, Actors Company of PA, and the Elizabethtown Music Foundation over the last 29 Years. She met her husband, Gene "Big Daddy," while employed in a summer theatre company 43 years ago. Barbara has a resume that includes over 100 roles in her 50 years of stage, radio, and film acting. Her fondest dream is that mendacity will cease and honesty will prevail. "Time goes by so fast...we need to just love each other..." Thanks to Dopey!

**GENE ELLIS** (Big Daddy) is making his first appearance at Susquehanna Stage Co. and he is very happy to be working with Jim and this cast. He recently retired from the Speech and Theater department at Millersville University. There he directed Spring Awakening, Hair, Proof, and Little Shop of Horrors, just to name a few. He has also performed at EPAC and Hershey Area Playhouse. He was last seen in EPAC's King Lear and will be in SSC's next production of How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying in December. Thanks Jim, for the chance to explore this role. Thanks Barbara, I love working with you.

**RICH MEHRENBERG** (Doctor Baugh) was last seen at Susquehanna Stage Co. as Mr. Dussel in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. He has acted in shows in many companies throughout Central Pennsylvania including EPAC, The Belmont Theater, The Theater of the Seventh Sister and Dreamwrights.

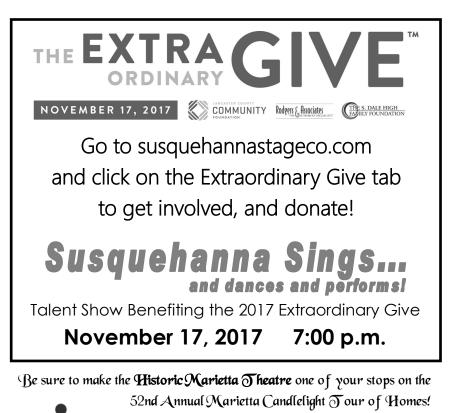
JAMES STRICKLER (Rev. Tooker) joined SSC in the spring of 2010 for *Our Town*. He went on to perform in ten musicals, dramas and comedies. He also has assisted Linda Boozer with the summer camp for kids and several SSC Children's Workshop Productions. He is blessed to have worked at SSC in many different capacities and hopes to be able to continue to do so for some time.



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## About the Cast

TIMOTHY RIGGS (Gooper) is excited to make his Susquehanna Stage Co. debut after acting, directing, producing and educating in the Central Pennsylvania region for the past seventeen years. As a theater educator, he's served on the teaching roster of the Fulton Opera House, directed the Ephrata Performing Arts Center Stage Summer Drama Camp, and brought Shakespeare to schools throughout Central Pennsylvania via Theater of the Seventh Sister's "Shakespeare Face-to -Face" program. He is a founding member and contributing writer for Happy Time Explosion Show, a sketch comedy troupe which is now a project of Creative Works of Lancaster. As a director, he's recently staged EPAC's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and The Odd Couple. As an actor, he was most recently seen as John Williamson in EPAC's Glengarry Glen Ross. Other favorites include Hamlet (Hamlet), Frozen (Ralph Wantage), The Pillowman (Katurian), Night of The Iguana (Shannon), The Glass Menagerie (Tom), The Elephant Man (Merrick), Stones In His Pockets (Jake), Of Mice and Men (George). He is delighted to be reunited once again on stage with his lovely wife, Megan, whom he met at an audition twelve years ago.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 466 19 South Gay Street — Marietta, Pennsylvania

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## About the Cast

**MEGAN L. RIGGS** (Maggie) is thrilled to be making her debut at Susquehanna Stage Co. Megan began performing in Elizabethtown when she was eight years old, cast in her first production by Barbara Ellis (Big Mama), met her husband Timothy Riggs (Gooper) during their first show together at Ephrata Performing Arts Center and was most recently on stage performing in EPAC's production of *King Lear* with Gene Ellis (Big Daddy). Some of Megan's favorite roles include Abigail Williams in *The Crucible*, Ophelia in *Hamlet*, Catherine Sloper in *The Heiress*, and Regan in *King Lear*. Thank you to Jim for the opportunity. All my love to Hailey, Mya, and Coszette.

**JONATHAN SHIREY** (Brick) has played several roles at Susquehanna Stage Co. over the past nine years. He is thankful for the opportunity to once again take the stage amidst a stellar cast. Offstage, Jonathan stars in the roles of family dinner time chef, cyclist, photographer, anesthesiologist, father, and husband. A native of Maytown, he now lives in Landisville with his beautiful wife Mandy and their three children. His thanks go out to his daughter Sofia for her passion for theater and her insistence he pursue his chance at the stage. Also to his two boys, Jackson and Luke, for the endless energy they give him. And most of all to his wife, for her patience and support.

**ANDI HILL** (Mae) is excited to be making her Susquehanna Stage Co. debut in Cat On A Hot Tin Roof. Some past performances include The Heiress (Maria), Xanadu (Euterpes), Urinetown (Little Becky), Cabaret (Sally Bowles), and Lucky Stiff at EPAC; Phantom (Flora), 42nd St., Singing In The Rain, The Pajama Game, and Damn Yankees at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre; and Evita, Wit, Amadeus, and The Wizard of Oz at the Fulton Opera House. Special thanks to Matt, Kailin and Gabe for all their love and support.

# THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO GAVE "EXTRA" DURING OUR 2016 CAMPAIGN!

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 17, 2017!

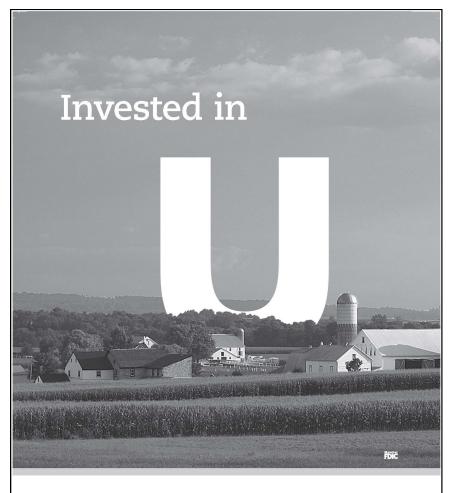


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Sound Board Operator Travis Kinser

#### Costume Collaborators

Brenda Fleming Nichole Garner Jacquee Johnson\* Debra Miller Fiona SInger Deb Sturgis Desiree Thomas Iris Thomas

#### Dressers

Desiree Thomas Iris Thomas

### **Child Wranglers**

Kara Best Ted Best Joanne Biltz Sarah Biltz Set Construction Clint Burdick Curt Elledge Mike Gage Scott Mackison\* Curt Snelbaker

#### **Box Office**

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#### House

Susan Hassinger\* Julie Barker Chris Barton Nancy Barton Dale Boyer Sharon Boyer Kyle Dunbar

Curt Elledge Lauren Elledge Nancy Elledge **Ricky Fitts** Lisa Greene Kara Hartman Cynthia Hassinaer Steve Hassinger Darlene Hein Keifer Kemmerly Shane Kinser Colleen Mackison Jered Mackison Deb Schmidt Doreen Stauffer Michael Stewart Steve Sturgis Abbie Waldron Jennifer Waldron Kate Zimmerman

## Program Design

Jason Spickler

\*Lead

## **Cast of Characters**

(In order of Appearance)

Maggie	Megan L. Riggs
Brick	Jonathan Shirey
Mae (Sister Woman)	Andi Hill
Big Mama	Barbara Strong Ellis
Gooper (Brother Man)	Timothy Riggs
Reverend Tooker	James Strickler
Big Daddy	Gene Ellis
Doc Baugh	Rich Mehrenberg

#### The Children

Brooke Bailey Teddy Best Harper Kitchen Molly Kitchen Abbey Michnya

## The Play

The action takes place during a warm, late summer evening along the Mississippi Delta in the mid 1950s



The action is continuous, with two 15 minute intermissions

## Thank You...

to the following individuals, businesses and organizations who have helped to make this production possible through their in-kind support:

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