

PLAYBILL

The Shawnee Playhouse



Script, Music and Lyrics by - **Eric B. Sirota**

September 9th-24th, 2023

www.TheShawneePlayhouse.com

Shawnee Institute Artistic Division
The Shawnee Playhouse and WORTHINGTON PLAYERS
The artistic arm of The Shawnee Institute was formed in
December of 1999 as a 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission
statement is to provide diverse, quality artistic programs to the residents of the historic
village of Shawnee; its neighbors and visitors. As a not-for-profit organization, the Institute
has flourished in its endeavors creating original programs here at Shawnee.

PLAYHOUSE STAFF

Executive Producers.....Ginny & Charlie Kirkwood
Executive Director.....Midge McClosky
Group Sales.....Tansy Morgan Baird
Press Writer.....Sam Cameron
Box Office.....Barb Dickinson, Cyndi Valcukas
Media Manager.....Robert McClosky
Company Photographer.....Kenneth R. Card
Company Videographer.....Paul Valcukus

CREATIVE TEAM

Director.....Midge McClosky
Music Director & Pianist.....Todd Deen
Cellist.....Ethan Custard
Choreographer.....Jack Tang
Stage Manager.....Krista Hulsizer
ASM/Tech Operators.....Marie Steeger and Rachel McDaniel
Set Designer.....Marissa Rachjaibun
Specialty Scenic Artist.....Cara London

**2023 Summer
Playbills**



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CAST

SAM.....	Dirk Marks
SUZANNA.....	Maureen Card
SOPHIE.....	Marissa Rachjaibun
DAVID.....	Erik Sparks
PAUL.....	Ben Salinas
MARGARET.....	Krista Hulsizer
ANNE.....	Julia Hodnik
MICHAEL.....	Luke Swierczek
YOUNG SUZANNA.....	Laurel Cameron
YOUNG SAM.....	Gaetano Stone

Scene List

ACT 1

- Scene 1 – Suzanna’s house
- Scene 2 – Sam’s home
- Scene 3 – Nursing home
- Scene 4 – Sam’s home
- Scene 5 – Suzanna’s room
- Scene 6 – Suzanna’s house
- Scene 7 – Suzanna’s room
- Scene 7a – Rest stop on turnpike
- Scene 8 – Sam’s home
- Scene 9 – Nursing home

ACT 2

- Scene 1 – Paul’s and Sophie’s bedrooms
- Scene 1a – Suzanna’s room
- Scene 2 – Sam’s home
- Scene 3 – Suzanna’s room
- Scene 4 – Nursing home lobby
- Scene 5 – Concert hall
- Scene 6 – Suzanna’s house
- Scene 7 – Suzanna’s room
- Scene 8 – Nursing home lobby
- Scene 9 – Suzanna’s room

SETTING: Suburbs near New York (or other large city); current day

SPECIAL THANKS:

Eric Uhler, Ryan Cook, Grant Wagner, Betsy Buzelli-Clarke,
Christopher Cameron, Dante Sabelius, Shawnee Inn, Danielle Stone.

Musical Numbers

Act One

Sundown – Beginning.....	Ensemble
Empty House.....	Sam
Sundown.....	Margaret & Ensemble
A Ghost or an Angel.....	Sam
Oh, Mama!.....	Sophie & David
That’s Me.....	Suzanna
Feelings of My Youth.....	Sam
The Swan.....	Sam & Suzanna
I Don’t Get Him.....	Sophie
Feel.....	Sam & Sophie
Act-I Finale.....	Sam, Suzanna and Ensemble

Act Two

Sundown - Reprise.....	Sam, Sophie & Paul & Ensemble
Suzanna’s Night.....	Suzanna & Ensemble
You Can’t Just Walk Away.....	Anne, Michael, Sam
Dear Sam.....	Suzanna
True Art - Reprise.....	Sam
Dreams We Left Behind.....	Sam & Suzanna
Dearest Sophie.....	Paul
Love Renewed.....	Sophie & Paul
Evening Star.....	Sam
Mother’s Day is Coming.....	Margaret, David & Ensemble
Remember.....	Sam & Suzanna
A Good Day.....	Ensemble

PRODUCED IN SPECIAL ARRANGMENT

Eric B. Sirota

<https://EricSirota.com> - Eric@EricSirota.com

TheShawneePlayhouse.com

A GOOD DAY



Dirk Marks (SAM)- is honored to create the part of Sam in this meaningful production. This year marks his 40th anniversary on the stage. Playhouse credits: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Jacob/Potiphar), Calendar Girls (Rod), A Christmas Carol, the Musical (Scrooge), Sex Please, We're Sixty, the Musical, Spirit of the Blue Heron Inn. Elsewhere: Anything Goes (Billy), The King and I (Kralahome), Carousel (Starkeeper/Dr. Seldon), South Pacific, How To Succeed In Business..., Bye Bye Birdie, The Nerd, Love Letters, The Real Thing, Don't Dress For Dinner. Dirk has also directed plays and musicals.



Maureen Card (SUZANA)- is thrilled to be playing Suzanna in this premiere production of A Good Day, her first major musical role in 15 years. Maureen's first Shawnee production was 2 years ago as Giselle in The Spirit of the Blue Heron Inn. Previous performances include My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music, Nunsense, and The Mikado. Thank you to our extraordinary cast and crew, to Todd our musical director, and especially to Midge and Ken for believing in me.



Marissa Rachjaibun (SOPHIE/SET DESIGNER/SCENIC PAINTER)- has been a longtime fan of productions at Shawnee Playhouse where her daughter first took to the stage. Eventually Marissa too joined the Shawnee family lending a hand as a scenic artist and performing the roles of Emily Hobbs in Elf the Musical and Ghost of Christmas Past in A Christmas Carole. She dedicates today's performance to the memory of beloved family friend, Norman Kostman who used to sing and play guitar every Thanksgiving. Norman lost his life to Alzheimer's in 2008 but will never be forgotten.



Erik Sparks (DAVID)- has lived in the Poconos with his family for 20 years. Prior to moving he lived in Arizona where he had a successful opera career, singing with many companies in the west and southwest. After moving to Pennsylvania, he continued to sing with many local groups and spent six seasons singing in the Metropolitan Opera chorus. This is Erik's first role with Shawnee Playhouse.

A GOOD DAY



Ben Salinas (PAUL)- This is Benjamin's third production here at the Playhouse. He was last seen here in *The Full Monty*, and last year made a memorable impression as Electra in *Gypsy*. Benjamin has traveled nationally and internationally with *Victor/Victoria* (First Broadway National Tour w/Toni Tennille), *Man of La Mancha* (National Tour w/Hal Linden), and *Evita* (National & International Tours). He has been nominated for NEPTA awards for *Evita* (Best Director), and *Christmas Carol: Radio Play* (Best Actor). This is for Socorro.



Krista Hulsizer (MARGARET/STAGE MANAGER)- has acted for many years in her school productions growing up. She then moved on to major in theater arts in college. After an 8-year hiatus, she found the opportunity to begin doing theater again. She started as Stage Manager for "Calendar Girls" at Shawnee. Afterward, she was soon invited to be in another production. Krista is excited and beyond grateful to all those at the Shawnee and at home who have supported her. She can't wait to do more.



Julia Hodnik (ANNE)- is always looking forward to performing on the Shawnee stage. Some of her most recent credits include *Calendar Girls* (Brenda Hulse) *Sex please Were 60* (Charmaine) *Church Basement Ladies* (Mavis). She hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Luke Swierczek (MICHAEL)- has wanted to act since before he could walk. In addition to majoring in theatre at East Stroudsburg University, he has performed in over 70 live productions in his career, with Shawnee Playhouse in particular being his most regular venue. Favorite roles include "Dracula" in *Dracula*, "Tesla" in *Inventing Fire*, "Brian" in *No Sex Please, We're British*, "Danforth" in *The Crucible* and "Rosencrantz" in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

A GOOD DAY



Laurel Cameron (Young Suzana)- is thrilled to be a part of yet another spectacular production at The Shawnee Playhouse! She has been dancing for five years. Some of her favorite past roles include #2 in *The Wolves* (In2YouArts), Baby Bear in *Shrek the Musical* (Stroudsburg High School), and Elsa's Powers in Disney's *Frozen Jr.* (Shawnee Playhouse). Laurel would like to thank Miss Midge for this wonderful opportunity as well as her large family for their unconditional love and support! Enjoy the show everyone!



Gaetano Stone (Young Sam)- From spotlight to the stage. I'm thrilled to be in my very first show, also my first time dancing. I have been an intern for 2 years doing tech work such as spotlight, sound, and lighting for shows such as *Joseph the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *SpongeBob*, *Singing in the rain*, *Mame* and *A Christmas Carol*. I want to thank Jack & Laurel for training me, my parents who encourage & support me and Midge for giving me this opportunity.



Midge McClosky (DIRECTOR/UNDERSTUDY ANNE & SOPHIE)- is humbled by Eric Sirota's creation and vision, the immense dedication of this entire company and the superb talent of this cast. After a lifetime on stage and 18 years as Executive Director here at The Shawnee Playhouse, she is ever more grateful for the GIFT that theater is. May today truly be "A Good Day" for all of us!



Todd Dean (MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST)- is no stranger to The Shawnee Stage and theatre in the Poconos. He has accomplishments such as Northeastern PA Theatrical Award (NEPTA) winner for Best Musical Director 2018 and nominated for Best Musical Director 2019. Broadway World Award Philadelphia Region winner 2021 for *Hello Dolly* and nominated for *Singing In The Rain* 2022 at Shawnee Playhouse.

A GOOD DAY



Jack Tang (CHOREOGRAPHER)- is a dancer studying with NYU Tisch School of the arts. He has 9 years of experience spanning from ballet to hip hop and Chinese ethnic minority dance. Growing up in Massachusetts, he gained the love of dance through his performance journey with Angel Dance Company, a local Chinese dance school. He holds national titles throughout the tristate area in solo and group performances. The past year he has been taking a break from school to expand his mental health and in turn expand his artistic expression. He hopes to one day use his creative voice, with all its different colors, to send a message across the public's hearts.



Marie Steeger (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)- after a long hiatus, is so pleased returning to Shawnee Playhouse family. A graduate of East Stroudsburg University and Northampton Community College, Marie has Directed “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow is Enuuf” and “Rumple Shmumple”. She was Assistant Director for “A Lesson Before Dying”, Sound Design for “Electra” and Dramaturgy for the play 1000 Cranes. Marie, an actor & “techie” is very excited to be back in the booth again!



Rachel McDaniel (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)- is excited to be a part of this amazing production. She's been in several performances on the Shawnee stage including A Long Day's Journey Into Night (Cathleen), Calendar Girls (Elaine), Mame (Gloria), and the Shawnee Original Playwright Series. She is grateful for her husband, friends, and family for their unending love, encouragement, and support and is honored to work with such a talented and creative cast.



Eric B. Sirota (PLAYWRIGHT/COMPOSER)- is no stranger to creating art for the stage, having written five full-length musicals. He is also a highly published research scientist with a PhD in Physics. His Frankenstein, recently adapted as a film (streaming on-demand), previously played Off-Broadway for three years. Your Name on My Lips, was produced twice at Theater for the New City, where Sirota was a resident playwright. Recipient of the Denis Diderot grant to attend the Chateau Orquevaux residency where he wrote A Good Day. EricSirota.com

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**Worthington Players
Shawnee Playhouse**

TheShawneePlayhouse.com

Paintings by Cara London in A Good Day

- NFS Storm at Mashomack (1986), 16x34 acr/canvas
\$600 Dogwoods and Bleeding Hearts, 20x16 oil/canvas
\$400 Apples and Pears in Compote #2, 14x11 oil/wood
\$400 Hydries, 14x11 oil/canvas
\$800 Portrait of Alicia, 24x16 oil/canvas
\$1800 Floating, 36x24 oil/canvas
\$1800 Odalisque, 24x36 acr/canvas
\$800 John's White Plates, 16x20 oil/wood
\$450 Pink Roses, 16x12 oil/wood
\$2000 Craig's French Horn, 24x30 oil/canvas
\$1500 Emma Boats, 20x30 acr/canvas
\$700 Lorraine's Pitcher, 20x16 acr/canvas
\$1800 Blue Angel, 30x30 oil/canvas
\$1800 Kelly's Summer Bounty, 30x30 oil/canvas
\$300 Round Valley Reservoir, 8x10 oil/canvas
\$200 Pontoosuc Lake, 6x6 acr/canvas
\$1600 View from Tanglewood, 24x30 oil/canvas
\$400 Peonies #3, 11x14 acr/canvas
\$700 Young Suzanna with Cello #5, 18x24 oil/canvas
\$700 Silver Hair Suzanna, 24x18 oil/canvas
\$700 Family Portrait, 18x24 oil/canvas



Cara London (SPECIALITY SCENIC PAINTER)- is works primarily using oils and acrylics to depict representational subject matter; recently focusing on abstract painting. She regularly exhibits in solo and group shows and has work in major collections. Her paintings have appeared on stage and in films. B.A. Brandeis University; MFA NY Studio School. Attended Triangle Artists' Workshop, Vermont Studio School, Emma Lake, Leighton Foundation, and Chateau Orquevaux. Founder of Gallery at the Park. Adjunct Professor of Art at RVCC. CaraLondon.com

Cara@CaraLondon.com - CaraLondon.com - (908) 500-1534

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UPCOMING EVENTS



October 14th
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October 22nd



October 27th
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October 29th



November 3rd
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November 5th



November 24th
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December 23rd