



The Normal Heart Nov. 7-22

Larry Kramer's semi-autobiographical play about love, AIDS, and New York in the 1980s. This is the ultimate tragic love story with a political and inspirational message that continues to resonate today. Auditions are August 17 & 18.

Regular Tickets ~~\$20⁰⁰~~ each / ~~\$15⁰⁰~~
students with ID

Save The Date Saturday, Oct. 11

Special comedy workshop—watch our web site for details. Space is limited.

17 Debacles Saturday, Nov. 29

Our resident improv group returns with more fun—tickets are \$10 at the door.

**Our 58th Season will be announced
on our web site in November.**

(203) 775-0023 • www.BrookfieldTheatre.org

Blithe Spirit

by Noel Coward



Desirae Carle
Barbara Disraeli
Eric Greenfeld
Susan King
Emily Seibert
John Thompson
Dianna Waller

directed by **Erik E Tonner
& Rebecca Pokorski**

produced by **Andrew E Okell
& Karen E Steckler**

September 12-27

FRI. & SAT. @ 8PM
Sunday Matinee 9/21 @ 2PM

BrookfieldTheatre.ORG

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

Dear TBTA Family,

It has been an amazing season at TBTA with more to come! We began our season with "The Divine Sister," a hilarious send-up of how nuns are portrayed in Hollywood that also touched on the theme of regret. Our second show, "God of Carnage," explored the petty wars of everyday life. Summer brought us "Next To Normal" with powerful performances on the theme of mental illness.

"Blithe Spirit" was written in 1941 during World War II while Britain was suffering severe casualties and facing German bombing attacks at home. After his London office and apartment were destroyed by bombs, Noel Coward felt the public would want something amusing and escapist to boost morale and to raise funds for the war effort.

Described as "a cross between Monty Python and Downton Abbey," Blithe Spirit allows us a glimpse into the past that resonates in the present day. When everything seems to be tumbling around you, one can still maintain a sense of humor...and frightfully good manners.

We end our 2014 season with the ultimate tragic love story "The Normal Heart"—the semi-autobiographical play by Larry Kramer about love and AIDS in 1980's New York. Directed by David Bass, the talented cast is already in rehearsal. "The Normal Heart" runs Nov. 7 to 22.

We could not be more pleased to bring to you this amazing group of shows and the depth of experiences this grouping provides. Proposals for our 2015 season are currently being accepted and we hope to announce next year's shows by November. Please watch our web site or join our mailing list!

As 2014 winds down, we are asking for you to remember Brookfield Theatre in your year end giving. Our ticket prices are the lowest in the area in order to encourage the widest audience possible. Please help us to continue to provide meaningful community theater experiences with your generous gift.

On your way in today, you may have noticed that we have some storm damage and driveway repair. This is in addition to the regular maintenance that a building with historic value requires, and the fees we pay for the quality programs we provide. Your contribution will allow us to continue this work.

Thank you for your support of The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts. We hope you enjoy the show.

Peace,
Michael Burnett
TBTA President

Thank you to our TBTA 2014 Season Supporters

PLATINUM \$500-\$999

Thomas & Emilie Connor

GOLD \$250-\$499

SILVER \$100-\$249

BRONZE \$25-\$99

Angela & Joseph Barna • Susan Bastura

Maureen Burnett • Anthony Chiodo

Donald Lococo • Nancy Pond

Lisa Strassman

"TIPS" up to \$25

Susan Balla • John Baron • Susan Bastura • Daniel Bayer
Sarah Belanger • Theresa Bobak • Joan Bybee • Helena Coelho
Charlene Degrazia • Charles Donais • Kristine Donahue
Duane Ellingson • Jean Fagernes • Janet Kaufmann • Lynne Kearney
Alyssa Kolessar • Judith Long • Jean Michetti • Howard Rovics
Debra Sanchirico • Lisa Strassman • Oscar Urena
Patti Wakeling • Christopher Watkins • Angel White

*We apologize for any errors or omissions.
The above list is complete as of printer's deadline.*



2015 Program Advertising

TBTA is excited to offer another wonderful season of live performances! Each show of our upcoming season has been chosen to ensure a wide range of appeal and enjoyment. Your ad in our season program can reach over **5,000 patrons annually**. These patrons are generally upscale, community-minded individuals and families who will thank you for supporting TBTA. As a non-profit all volunteer organization, we rely on your advertising dollars to continue to provide quality shows at affordable prices. As the best deal for live theatre in our area, our affordable advertising rates offer a unique opportunity for you and your business. Please consider sending your ad today using the form below.

Regular Season Shows: Advertisement in our four main shows.

- Back Cover (Full Color). \$375.00 *Includes logo & link on our website.*
- Inside Cover (Full Color). \$325.00 *Includes logo & link on our website.*
- Full page (4.75"x 8"). \$275.00 *Includes logo & link on our website.*
- Half Page (4.75"x 3.875") \$150.00 *Includes name & link on our site.*
- Quarter Page (4.75"x 1.875") . . \$ 90.00 *Includes company name on our site.*
- Eighth Page (2.25"x 1.875") . . . \$ 50.00 *Includes company name on our site.*

Individual Shows: Prices are per show.

- Spring Show Summer Musical
- Autumn Musical Winter Show

- Full page (4.75"x 8"). \$225.00 *Includes logo & link on our website.*
- Half Page (4.75"x 3.875") \$125.00 *Includes name & link on our site.*
- Quarter Page (4.75"x 1.875") . . \$ 75.00 *Includes company name on our site.*
- Eighth Page (2.25"x 1.875") . . . \$ 40.00 *Includes company name on our site.*

Web site advertising: www.brookfieldtheatre.org

- Web Only - Banner Ad (*above site header*) - \$25/month (\$200/year)
- Web Only - In Column (*side column*) - \$50 for the season

*All ads are black & white except for the back page of the program and web advertising. We are happy to create an ad from your business card.

Company Name _____ Contact _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Please email press@BrookfieldTheatre.org if you have questions or requests.

Send with your check to: **TBTA**, PO Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804 • (203) 775-0023

Blithe Spirit

by Noel Coward

directed by **Erik E Tonner & Rebecca Pokorski**

produced by **Andrew E Okell & Karen E Steckler**

CAST

- Charles Condomine **John Thompson**
- Ruth Condomine **Dianna Waller**
- Madame Arcati **Susan King**
- Elvira. **Emily Seibert**
- Edith **Desirae Carle**
- Dr. Bradman **Eric Greenfeld**
- Mrs. Bradman **Barbara Katz Disraeli**

ACT I

An evening in the living room of the Condomine's house in Kent

There will be a 10 minute intermission.

ACT II

- Scene 1. The next morning
- Scene 2. The following afternoon
- Scene 3. Several days later

There will be a 10 minute intermission.

ACT III

- Scene 1. Several days have passed
- Scene 2. Later that evening

Performed with permission from Samuel French, New York

For the safety of performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons, taking photos of any kind is strictly forbidden. Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video. Please turn off **ALL** phones, pagers, computer games and other electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons who are unwilling to turn off electronic devices are welcome to leave the theatre.**

TBTA Membership

Membership is still only \$20 and is a great way to support the theatre!

2014 Members

Aldis Alexander, Robert Bassett, Don Bergeron,
Rosemary Bergeron, Frank Bulson, Kerry Bulson,
Michael Burnett, Brian Casella, Gail Cowser, Carol Hoose,
Kristin Hoose, Margaret Teed Jones, Don Lombardo,
Karlene Lombardo, Sara Mariano, Andrew Okell, Lou Okell,
Karen E. Steckler, Joy Tagliavento, Diane Toth

Lifetime Members

Bart Geissinger, Gloria Laposka, Barbara Locke,
Wendell MacNeal, Imelda O’Gara Roth,
Bill Possidento, Larry Stewart, David Tuttle

Season Subscribers

Thank you to our 2014 Season Subscribers

Susan Amlung, Janet & Steve Betz, Jim & Margie Blansfield,
Sandy Bouclier, Stacy & Laurie Boxer,
Maureen & Mike Burnett, Adele Brudnicki, Anna & Roy Chan,
John & Vivien Cheeseman, Anthony Chiodo, Frank Cioffi,
D. Laurence & Arlene Coleman, Annette & Brent Crozier,
Marianne Gaffey, Janine & Jonathan Gibney, Jacqueline Green,
Sabrina Hermenze, Steve Hoose, Mary Kluge, Donna Laber,
Denis & Judith Larkin, Donald & Karlene Lombardo,
Rose Luizzi, Marilyn Matern, Brenda & Lou Meola,
Judy Mangan, Michael & Susan O’Brien, Tara Peterson,
Vicki Sakorafos, Georgeann & William Shields, Les Slater,
Cathleen Sullivan, Jim & Marie Sweeney, Diane & Rick Toth,
Deirdra Wallin, Lynda Willingham, Steve Wright

Thank you for your support!

Listing is current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

Blithe Spirit

by Noel Coward

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR Erik E Tonner & Rebecca Pokorski
PRODUCER Andrew E Okell & Karen E Steckler
SET DESIGN Andrew Okell
LIGHTING DESIGN Stephen Cihaneck
SOUND DESIGN Erik E Tonner & Rebecca Pokorski
COSTUME DESIGN Marian Miller,
Bill Possidento, Beverly Regan
STAGE MANAGER / PROPERTIES Lou Okell
LIGHTING & SOUND EXECUTION Hattie Sorrells, Corey Downs
SET CONSTRUCTION Robert Lane & Andrew Okell
SET DECORATION Kerry Bulson, Andrew Okell,
Emma Okell, Lou Okell,
Karen E Steckler
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
& VOICE OVER ARTIST Marina Tonner
HOUSE MANAGER TBTA Volunteers
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER Stephen Cihaneck
BOX OFFICE Carol Hoose
SRO/CONCESSIONS Joy Tagliavento
CUCUMBER SANDWICHES Karen E Steckler
OPENING NIGHT PARTY Kerry Bulson

SPECIAL THANKS

Arkettype Graphics & Printing, Danbury Beauty Supply,
Judilynn Ferlow, Leslie Hardacre, Litchfield County Pickers,
Justin Morgan, New Milford Thrift Mart,
Ron Olsen & Wilda Hayes

EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. Should an emergency arise, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

TBTA is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to producing plays of the highest possible standards, offering instructional opportunities, and providing facilities for creative and cultural arts for our community.

Be A 2015 Season Supporter

Front Row Center \$2,500+

- a full page ad in all playbills
- TBTA Membership
- name recognition in all playbills
- your logo on our web site
- recognition on all posters and flyers
- recognition in all theatre advertising

Orchestra \$1,000-\$2,499

- a full page ad in all playbills
- name recognition in all playbills
- your logo & name on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Platinum \$500-\$999

- name recognition in all playbills
- your logo & name on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Gold \$250-\$499

- name recognition in all playbills
- name recognition on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Silver \$100-\$249

- name recognition in all playbills
- TBTA Membership

Bronze \$25-\$99

- name recognition in all playbills

Show Sponsor: Sponsor an individual show or special event for \$2,000

- full page ad in the playbill, "Show Sponsor" noted
- recognition, including your logo, in show playbills and web site
- recognition on posters and flyers
- recognition in all show advertising

TBTA Scholarship Fund

We are proud to award a college scholarship to graduating high schoolers that have been part of the TBTA community.

PAST RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Jenny Dear 2012 • Zach Jackson 2012 • Sammy Panzarino 2010

Billy Shields 2007 • Travis Moore 2006

Rob Sniffin 2005 • Andrew Wheelock 2004

If you would like to be part of this giving tradition, please specify "TBTA Scholarship Fund" on your check.

Please mail your tax deductible donation to:

**TBTA, P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804
(203) 775-0023 • tbta@brookfieldtheatre.org**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please consult your tax advisor.

BIOGRAPHIES

Desirae Carle (EDITH) is bloody thrilled to be portraying a female human! Recent stage credits include Little Timmy in *The Divine Sister* at TBTA and Sarah the sea-lizard in *Seascope* at New Milford Theaterworks. Many thanks to family and friends for all their support and to the cast and crew of *Blithe Spirit* for making this such a fun and rewarding experience.

Stephen Cihaneck (LIGHTING & SOUND DESIGN) After studying theater and engineering in college, his interest in theater returned while attending the First Baptist Church in Brewster where he took on the role of technical director and lighting/sound designer (and sometimes actor) for many productions. Since then he has designed lights for TBTA and other local theaters. Shows include *Little Red & the Hoods*, *Master Class*, *Outward Bound*, *Putting It Together*, *As Bees in Honey Drown*, *Dinner with Friends*, *Diviners*, *Harvey*, *Spelling Bee*, *The Book of Liz*, *Into The Woods*, *Be A Good Little Widow*, *The Divine Sister* and *God of Carnage* as well as sound design for *Thou Shalt Not Dance* and *Tuesdays With Morrie*. Steve is also TBTA's photographer and the 2012 Volunteer of the Year. His work may be seen at cihaneck.com.

Barbara Disraeli (Mrs. BRADMAN) is 'absolutely thrilled' to be making her TBTA debut with this show. She previously performed with Newtown Players in 2013 in *Tom, Dick and Harry* and in 2011 in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, as well as *Scripted from Romance*, *Revelry and Regret* in 2013 (Brewster). Other performances include *Rehearsal for Murder*, *Come Back to the Five and Dime*, *Jimmy Dean* (Brewster); staged readings of *War of the Worlds*, *The Weasel of Wall Street*, (both with Ridgefield Theater Barn) *The Bishops Wife* and *It's a Wonderful Life* (Brewster theater). Barbara has also worked behind the scenes as stage manager with Brewster Theater for *Blithe Spirit*, *Our Town*, *Lion in Winter* and *Tartuffe*. She thanks Erik and Andy for giving her the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful production, as well as Karen, Lou, Rebecca and the entire cast and crew for just being "extraordinary"!!

Eric Greenfeld (Dr. BRADMAN) is no stranger to TBTA's stage having performed here as Mike in *Wait Until Dark*, Barney Cashman in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, as well as in *Outward Bound*, *Man of LaMancha* and *Harvey*. Area credits include *WhoDunnit* in Newtown, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Titanic*, and *Wonderful Town* with Musicals at Richter. He began his acting career portraying Bugs Bunny for Warner Brothers. He dedicates this performance to his family—Cindy, Justin and Scott for their love and support. He also thanks the dedicated performers and production staff for all their hard work on this fun show.

Susan King (MADAME ARCATI) is thoroughly enjoying her first appearance at TBTA. She has performed throughout the tri-state area in regional, summerstock and off-Broadway and in her one woman cabaret show, *Babes on Broadway*. Favorite roles have included both the Reverend Mother and Sister Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Amanda Wingfield in *The Glass Menagerie*, Abby Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. Susan sings jazz standards and Broadway tunes with "The Susan King Duo" and will be appearing at the Chill Wine Bar in Beacon, NY on October 4th. She is also a real estate agent with Better Homes and Gardens Rand Realty in Somers, NY. Web sites: susankingentertainment.com and susan.mirwis.randrealty.com.

BIOGRAPHIES

Robert Lane (SET CONSTRUCTION) is in his fifth season at TBTA as Set Fabricator. He thanks his wife, Rita, for supporting his time spent building (many long into the evening). He also thanks all of the TBTA-ers he has collaborated with over the years. This was a jolly good show to work on, despite no Tea Intervals. Fahl-da-rahl-da!!

Marian Miller (COSTUMER) We are happy to welcome Marian back after a five years break from TBTA. We knew she couldn't keep away for long! Marian is a past board member who has produced and/or costumed many, many shows here. Welcome home Marian!

Andy Okell (PRODUCER/SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION) is dead chuffed to return to build another set with "Bob da Builder" Lane. Andy is also on the Board of Directors and thanks his wonderful daughter, Emma, for introducing him to theater. By day he runs his own graphics & printing business (arkett.com & local-author.com). Andy hopes you enjoy the show and, although "loose lips sink ships", he hopes you will tell your friends and family what a smashing time you've had this evening.

Lou Okell (STAGE MANAGER) is happy to be working on another show at her home away from home. A Board member since 2009, she supported TBTA by offering free and low-cost graphics & printing since the founding of her business, Arketype (arkett.com). She looks forward to producing TBTA's next show, *The Normal Heart*. Thanks to Erik, Andy & Karen for having me on the team, Rebecca for helping us reach the finish line, and the talented cast & crew for all your work on *Blithe Spirit*. Enjoy the show!

Bill Possidento (COSTUMER) has a long history with TBTA. He is a Lifetime Member, past board member, vice president, director, producer, set designer and costumer. We are so fortunate to have Bill join us again for *Blithe Spirit* and hope we can coax him back again soon.

Rebecca Pokorski (DIRECTOR) Although her first love is performing, Rebecca's talents include directing and costuming. Favorite on-stage roles include Rebecca in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (TBTA), Madame Thernardier in *Les Miserables* (Thomaston Opera House), featured tapper in *Anything Goes* (Warner Theatre), Stepmother in *Into the Woods* (TBTA), and Vicki in *The Full Monty* (Brewster Theatre Company). She is also the mother of the best 12 year old ever! Rebecca thanks Erik for the opportunity to work with this dedicated cast and crew.

Beverly Regan (COSTUMER) is a retired public school principal who called Brookfield her home for over forty years. A great supporter of TBTA, she worked on wardrobe for *Assassins*, *Harvey*, *Carnival*, and now *Blithe Spirit*—always a pleasure! Thank you for letting me share in the fun.

Emily Seibert (ELVIRA) is very excited to be back at TBTA again after making her first appearance on this stage in *Joseph....* Some past favorites include *Der Signal & Tragic Mirth* with Puppetsweat Theater Company, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice), *Ernest in Love* (Gwendolyn), *The Trojan Women* (Helen), *Coastal Disturbances* (Holly Dancer), *Grease* (Rizzo), *How*

BIOGRAPHIES

I Learned to Drive (Director), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Music Director), *Mauritius* (Light Design). She's a recent graduate from Quinnipiac University with a BA in Journalism and Theater. A huge thank you to Erik for the chance to perform one of my dream roles.

Karen E Steckler (PRODUCER) is a member of the TBTA Board of Directors, a 10-year resident of Brookfield, and winner of four Emmys in the field of broadcasting. She has volunteered for every TBTA production for the past two year whether in production, costuming or running tech. She is also a volunteer at the New Milford Thrift Mart who we thank for their donations to our productions at TBTA.

John Thompson (CHARLES CONDOMINE) is thrilled to be returning to the TBTA stage where he had the pleasure of playing Elwood in *Harvey*. Recent performances include Gillette in *Postmortem* (Town Players of New Canaan), Gabe in *Dinner with Friends* (Pound Ridge Theater), Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks* (Bedford Community Theatre) and Mel in *Prisoner of Second Avenue* (BCT). Other favorite roles include Warbucks in *Annie* (BCT), Ludie in *The Trip to Bountiful* (YCP Theaterworks) and David in *Social Security* (Fort Hill Players). Thanks to this terrific cast and crew—especially our terrific directors Erik and Rebecca. And as always, love and appreciation to Andie, Natalie and Charlotte—the best family ever!

Erik E. Tonner (DIRECTOR) is happy to return to direct *Blithe Spirit* after directing *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* here last season. He previously directed *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Godspell*, *As Bees In Honey Drown* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at TBTA. Other directing credits include *Iphigenia*, *The Wiz*, *Tongues & Savage/Love* and *Trust*. Erik is also a drummer and has enjoyed drumming in his Praise Band. He thanks Rebecca for the amazing teamwork and the cast and production crew for their patience and hard work.

Marina Tonner (VOICE OVER & DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT) is excited to be going to a new school this September and hopes she will make lots of friends. She loves theater and was very happy to help behind the scenes for this show. She thanks her parents and sister for letting her spend so much time here this summer!

Dianna Waller (RUTH CONDOMINE) is thrilled to be making her TBTA debut and would like to thank Erik and Andy for the opportunity. Ruth has always been her favorite character, and she is delighted to be reprising the role! A graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, some of her favorite past roles include: Lucy in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Trinity), Susan in *Company* at the Vagabond in Baltimore, Ann Deever in *All My Sons* (RTB), Judy in *9-5: The Musical* (90MOB), Georgie Bukatinsky in *The Full Monty* (BTC), Meg Brockie in *Brigadoon* (MAR), and The Authority Figure in *Hairspray* (Bedford). Dianna would like to thank her real life leading man, Jim, for being simply amazing, Christina and Howard Rovics for giving her a voice, and Christopher Gladysz—always.