

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts (BTA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to producing plays of the highest possible standards, offering educational opportunities and cultural arts for our community.

## Be A 2017 Season Supporter

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

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- name recognition in all playbills
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- TBTA Membership

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- your logo & name on our web site
- TBTA Membership

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- 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

### APRIL 1st COMEDY NIGHT—NO KIDDING!

Join us for a night of fun and laughter while supporting our 60th Anniversary Season!

Our April 1st Comedy Night Fundraiser features **Jane Condon** as seen on NBCs "LAST COMIC STANDING".

**PLUS** Boston Stand-Up Comedian **Jim Flaherty**

The evening begins with our own **17 Debacles** improv troupe!

Tickets are \$35.00 each (*donors, subscribers & members pay just \$25.00!*)

Available on-line at [www.BrookfieldTheatre.org](http://www.BrookfieldTheatre.org)

Or mail your donation & ticket order to:

Brookfield Theatre, P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Comedy Night Tickets @ \$35.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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

 The  
BROOKFIELD  
THEATRE  
for the Arts

## 60th Anniversary Season!



# Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

by Tennessee Williams

Directed by **Jeanine A DeFalco'**

Produced by **Robert Lane & Andrew Okell**

set design by **Alexander Kulcsar**

lighting design by **Jonathan Curns**

costume design by **Molly Farrell Savage**

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service on behalf of the University of the South, Sewanee, TN.

### The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Lou Okell, PRESIDENT • Rebecca Pokorski, VICE-PRESIDENT

Jean A Jackson, TREASURER • Andrew Okell, SECRETARY

Will Jeffries, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

DIRECTORS

Carol deGiere (*new musicals*), Anne Marie Foran (*gallery curator*),

Desirae Kelley (*improv liaison*), Robert Lane (*building manager*),

Beth Patrick, Joy Tagliavento (*member-at-large*), Nicole Veach

**Join our team! Contact us at [BrookfieldTheaterCT@gmail.com](mailto:BrookfieldTheaterCT@gmail.com)**

# The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

March 2017

Dear Brookfield Theatre family & friends,

It is my great honor to serve as Brookfield Theatre's president for this 60th anniversary season. Whether you know it as "the Playhouse" or "Country Players" or its acronym "TBTA", the Brookfield Theatre for the Arts has been a welcome oasis of creativity while giving all who step through its doors a sense of coming home since 1957. This is due to the commitment and caring of the many wonderful volunteers who have given so much time and talent throughout the years. From cast and crew, to founders and board members, to patrons, donors and advertisers—this is the time to celebrate our shared success with congratulations for the wonderful work we have accomplished while looking to a vibrant future and endless possibilities.

I am so proud of our past and excited for the future. We have consistently offered well-rounded seasons with shows that entertain audiences, provide creative challenges, and encourage thoughtful conversations. We owe such a debt to all those that came before us—our founders and early volunteers who shaped the organization, and our many past presidents including Larry Stewart, Imelda Roth, Bart Geissinger, David Tuttle, Stephanie Skrok, and Michael Burnett and the Board members who served with them making the difficult decisions and finding ways to achieve so much during their stay.

Through all these years, our mission has remained constant—to provide a space to strive for excellence in the arts, to learn new skills, practice the craft of theater, and to provide worthwhile live performances to the Brookfield area community. This is no easy task for a non-profit community theater staffed entirely by volunteers. Yet for sixty years we have enjoyed a respectable reputation as one of the finest community theaters in the state. Most recently, OnStage blog listed two of our 2016 shows as top ten in the region—and we have so many wonderful things planned for 2017!

Our 60th Season is a perfect tribute to all we have accomplished and all we pledge to achieve with a full range of theater experiences. We are also planning a benefit April 1st Comedy Night—No Kidding! It will feature Jane Condon (as seen on NBC's Last Comic Standing), stand-up comedian Jim (Uncle Jimmy) Flaherty, and our own 17 Debacles improv troupe. Tickets are only \$35.00—we hope you will join us for this outstanding evening of comedy!

As part of our 60th anniversary, we have rededicated the theater to being an open and welcoming place for the arts and creativity. As part of this commitment, the lobby has been renovated to be a modern gallery space and reception area. Under the guidance of Anne Marie Foran, Brookfield Theatre's new gallery curator, we hope to offer a meaningful place for a wider range of artists to share their work as well as other musical and performance events.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we wish you all a happy 60th anniversary with congratulations to all those who have contributed to this amazing enterprise. We hope you will join us in making 2017 a year of celebration and help us to spread the word to the wider community.

Thank you for your continued support!

**Enjoy the show,**

Lou Okell, President

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*Thank you to our 2017 Season Supporters*

**FRONT ROW CENTER \$2,500+**

**ORCHESTRA \$1,000-\$2,499**

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**Novartis**

**PLATINUM \$500-\$999**

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**Wendy Davies**

**Philip R Kastellec & Megan Tallmer**

**SILVER \$100-\$249**

**Sue Beresin • Anthony Chiodo**

**Donald & Karlene Lombardo • Jim & Kathy Sullivan**

**BRONZE \$25-\$99**

**Maggi Heilweil • Ron Malyszka**

**IN-KIND SERVICES**

**Arketype • Simpson & Vail**

*List current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.  
The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community theater.*

*Donations are tax deductible—please consult your tax professional.*

**ADD YOUR NAME & SUPPORT OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON!**

## Brookfield Theatre Membership

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

### 2017 Members

Aldis Alexander, Amanda Bevacqua, Danielle Calabrese,  
Carol de Giere, Anne Marie Foran, Maggi Heilweil,  
Carol Hoose, Steve Hoose, Jean A Jackson, Will Jeffries,  
Desirae Kelley, Robert Lane, Donald Lombardo,  
Karlene Lombardo, Bill McGee, MaryAnne McGee,  
Brian & Janet McGovern\*\*, Monica O'Brien, Andrew Okell,  
Lou Okell, Elizabeth Patrick, Rebecca Pokorski,  
Joy Tagliavento, Nicole Veach

### Lifetime Members

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

### 2016 Season Subscribers

John Bottelsen\*, Joseph & Angela Barna\*,  
Laurie & Stacy Boxer\*, Anthony Chiodo,  
Larry & Arlene Coleman\*, Deb Donofree\*,  
Diana & Dennis Filbert\*, Mark Forlenza\*,  
Ilona & Mark Johnson\*, Gregory & Joanne Kelsey\*,  
Donald & Karlene Lombardo\*, John Muller\*, Tara Peterson,  
Brian & Kathy Reiff\*, Anne & Clint Rickards\*, Sally Socci,  
Steve Wright\*

\*Subscription for Two. \*\* Two Subscriptions for Two.

## Gift of Theater

### Thank you to our Gift of Theater Givers

Ailene Janeczek, Wendy Leon-Gambetta, Carolyn Lyon,  
Courtney Matteson, Pete & Kristi McPadden,  
Lou Okell, Stefania Wilcox

### Thank you for your support!

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

# Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

by Tennessee Williams

directed by Jeanine A DeFalco

## CAST

Margaret "Maggie" Pollitt . . . . . Anna Fagan  
Brick Pollitt . . . . . James Wilding  
Big Daddy . . . . . Will Jeffries  
Big Mama . . . . . Monica O'Brien  
Mae Pollitt . . . . . Anya Caravella  
Gooper Pollitt . . . . . Christopher Cooney  
Doctor Baugh . . . . . Francis A Daley  
Reverend Tooker . . . . . Jeffrey Rossman  
Servant 1 . . . . . Kate Valiska  
Servant 2 . . . . . Morgana Kate Watson

Running time is approximately 2 hours.

There will be a 15 minute intermission—  
refreshments are available in the gallery.

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service  
on behalf of the University of the South, Sewanee, TN.

## IN THE GALLERY

We are happy to feature the paintings of three popular local artists in the Brookfield Theatre Gallery throughout the month of March. A variety of oil paintings by **Dorothy Calio** of Oxford and **Anne Marie Foran** and **Roberta Shea** of Newtown will be on display until April 2. Gallery hours are before and after all performances of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and our fundraising event "Aprils 1st Comedy Night—No Kidding!" with additional hours on Saturday afternoons and by appointment. We invite you to attend the Artists' Reception on Saturday, March 11th between 2 and 4 pm which will provide an opportunity to meet and talk with the artists.

The three women have won numerous awards and their works appear in numerous galleries and private collections. Dorothy Calio paints frequently in bold abstracts and has had a diverse career ranging from advertising design to fashion illustration. Anne Marie Foran is noted for her vivid use of color and was recently awarded first prize in the Members' Exhibition at the Washington Art Association. Roberta Shea, with her rich Irish heritage, often paints vast, open landscapes, combining a sense of place with imagined scenes and memories.

Our Brookfield Theatre Gallery is curated by artist and Board member Anne Marie Foran. Artists interested in showing in our gallery and encouraged to contact her through the theater email: [press@brookfieldtheatre.org](mailto:press@brookfieldtheatre.org).

# Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

by Tennessee Williams

directed by Jeanine A DeFalco

## PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR . . . . . Jeanine A DeFalco, PhD  
PRODUCERS . . . . . Bob Lane, Andrew Okell  
SET DESIGN . . . . . Alexander Kulcsar  
COSTUME DESIGN . . . . . Molly Farrell-Savage  
LIGHTING DESIGN . . . . . Jonathan Curns  
SOUND DESIGN . . . . . Jeanine A DeFalco  
STAGE MANAGER & LIGHT EXECUTION . . . . . Becky Venable  
SOUND EXECUTION . . . . . Lou Okell  
SET CONSTRUCTION & DECORATION . . . . . Bob Lane, Andrew Okell,  
Arlene Coleman, Larry Coleman, Will Jeffries  
Don Lombardo, Emma Okell, Lou Okell  
HOUSE MANAGER . . . . . TBTA Volunteers  
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER . . . . . Stephen Cihanek  
BOX OFFICE . . . . . Deanna Rullan & Jean A Jackson  
SRO/CONCESSIONS . . . . . Joy Tagliavento & TBTA Volunteers  
OPENING NIGHT PARTY . . . . . Anne Marie Foran

## SPECIAL THANKS

Arketype Graphics • Seamus Kelly • Kat Rose Lynch  
Monica O'Brien • Ridgefield Theatre Barn  
Simpson & Vail Coffees & Teas • Rebecca Tew

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## 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. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

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For the safety of performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons, taking photos of any kind is strictly prohibited. Please turn off **ALL** phones and other electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems and disrupt the show. **Patrons who must text, tweet, or candy crush may do so in the lobby.**

## BIOGRAPHIES

JOSEPH...DREAMCOAT, and BRIGADOON. New York Credits: THE BROTHERS GRIMM SPECTACULATHON (Rumplestiltskin), WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF! (Rebecca), ALL IN (Sarah, Steph, Polly). She has a BA in Drama from SUNY Purchase and is a proud member of The Complete Theatre Company. Many thanks to Jeanine, Lou, Andy, Mom, Dad, Aunt Em, Keegan, and Marta.

**James Wilding (BRICK)** was recently seen in ALMOST MAINE in Newtown. Along with many other stage credits, he participated in Shakespeare on the Sound productions and in several independent films. He thanks Jeanine, Brookfield Theatre, and the cast and crew for this opportunity.

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Anya Caravella (MAE)** is so happy to be back at Brookfield Theatre and would like to thank Jeanine for the opportunity! Anya is a singer, who studied classical voice for several years including in Milan. She is a music director for The Ridgefield Theater Barn Kids' program. Anya's theater credits (the past 2 years) include FIVE WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS, COMPANY, DEARLY DEPARTED, OLYMPUS ON MY MIND, SEMINAR and DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS, and acting in the International Playwrights Festival last summer. Anya shot a movie in July that is being considered for the Tribeca Film Festival. She would like to thank her amazing husband, George, for all of his love and support.

**Christopher Cooney (GOOPER)** is making his Brookfield Theatre debut. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to perform in this American classic with such a talented cast and crew. Thank you Jeanine! He has been performing throughout Fairfield county for several years now on various stages. Most recently he was seen as the reporter in FARRAGUT NORTH (Ridgefield). Also last year he performed the lead role Jonathan Waxman in SIGHT UNSEEN (Newtown). He was seen as Scanlon in the classic ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST at the Bijou theatre (Bridgeport). When not performing, he continues to work for D&D elevator out of Westchester County and is the proud father of two teenagers Brian and Megan. He hopes you enjoy celebrating Big Daddy's birthday celebration with the Pollits!

**Jonathan Curns (LIGHTING DESIGN)** is a graduate of the UConn School of Fine Arts, with a degree in Lighting Design/Production Management in theater. He is the Technical Director at Naugatuck Valley Community College Fine Arts Center in Waterbury CT, and also designs and assists in many productions, from Theater to Ballet, all over the East Coast.

**Francis A. Daley (DOCTOR BAUGH)** Is a normal guy living an moderate lifestyle in his modest home in Danbury that he shares with his average family. He works regularly in an honest trade. He was last seen on this stage oh so many years ago in the wonderful Bernard Slade comedy SAME TIME NEXT YEAR along side the delightful M.J. Hartell, directed by the immortal Bill Possidento.

**Jeanine A. DeFalco (DIRECTOR)** is currently a clinical faculty member in the School of Education at Pace University at the Pleasantville Campus. She holds a PhD in Human Development, Cognitive Studies, from Teachers College, Columbia University; a Masters in Education from New York University (Theatre and English Education); and a Masters in Dramatic Literature from Johns Hopkins University. Jeanine completed her professional directing internship in 1997 at the Actors Theatre of Louisville, and since that time has directed new and established works regionally and locally.

**Anna Fagan (MAGGIE)** is thrilled to make her Brookfield Theatre debut with this dedicated cast and crew! She recently moved to Connecticut from Washington, DC, where she studied acting at The Theatre Lab Honors Acting Conservatory. Recent credits elsewhere include AMADEUS (DCT), PRIVATE LIVES (TWNM), CRIMES OF THE HEART, DOUBT, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, and PROOF. Her performance in the independent film LOTUS EYES received a Best Actress nomination at the 2016 Hudson Valley International Film Festival. [www.annafagan.com](http://www.annafagan.com)



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Molly Farrell-Savage (COSTUME DESIGN)** was last seen here assisting Rebecca Pokorski with costumes for THE FANTASTICKS and is so honoured to be back! Big thanks to Rebecca, Jeanine, Will, and the entire cast/crew of CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF! Other theatre design credits include: VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE, CABARET (32 Below); SHREK THE MUSICAL (Newbury Musical Theatre Company); THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF NEW YORK (Lincoln Center/Broadway Dreams Foundation). TV: PROJECT RUNWAY: THREADS (Lifetime TV); ART LESS (Amazon Video).

**Will Jeffries (BIG DADDY)** appeared on this stage in the readings of Ray Sipherd's plays THE RESCUE STATION and CHRISTMAS AT MACOMBERS, and in THE OTHER PLACE. He is a retired professional actor, with a career on stage, television and film spanning 25 years. On other area stages he has appeared in THE COCKTAIL HOUR, SLEUTH, LEND ME A TENOR, A TIME TO KILL, DEATH OF A SALESMAN, ALL MY SONS, THE SEAFARER, THE SHADOW BOX, THE FANTASTICKS, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, TIME STANDS STILL, A FEW GOOD MEN, and OTHER DESERT CITIES, and many more. He has directed A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES, ENTER LAUGHING, THAT CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON, Edward Albee's THREE TALL WOMEN and others. He will direct the next TBTA production, BENT, and will be seen later this season as President Richard Nixon in FROST/NIXON. He serves Brookfield Theatre as Artistic Director.

**Alexander Kulcsar (SET DESIGN)** is formerly the resident set designer for The Rainbow Theatre in Stamford and Square One Theatre in Stratford. At Westport Community Theatre and Town Players of Newtown his set designs have included A PICASSO, FROST/NIXON, THE WEIR, THE SEAFARER, HAY FEVER, and THE TEMPEST.

**Bob Lane (PRODUCER/SET FABRICATOR)** In his seventh season at TBTA, from set fabricator to producer and board member and much in between. Thanks to the Jackson family for pulling me into this place. Thanks to my friends and theater family for the support. Thanks to my co-producer & fabricator Andy, who makes the process fun and even educational. And most of all to my wife Rita, who supports what I do and despite the hours (some very late), gets it!

**Monica O'Brien (BIG MAMA)** is thrilled to be appearing again at Brookfield Theatre having played Ouiser two seasons ago in STEEL MAGNOLIAS. She participated in the staged readings of THE RESCUE STATION and CHRISTMAS AT MACOMBER'S, both original plays by Emmy award winning writer, Ray Sipherd. Monica also portrayed a grief stricken mother, who lost her young daughter in the original play SWISH: MARIA IN THE MOURNING at the Manhattan Repertory Theater and has appeared in a variety of community theater productions in Westchester- NY and Stamford, CT. She is currently directing Oklahoma for (A.M.D.G)2- a homeschooling theater troupe in Waterbury, CT. Monica's favorite "role", by far, is homeschool mother to four awesome kids!

**Andrew Okell (SET BUILD)** thanks his wonderful daughter, Emma, for introducing him to theater. By day he runs his own graphics & printing business (arkett.com). Andy is the 2011 TBTA Volunteer of the Year. He hopes you will tell your family and friends about the show so that he can return to build many more sets with "Bob da Builder" Lane and his growing band of set building co-horts.

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Lou Okell (SOUND EXECUTION)** is president of TBTA and the 2009 Volunteer of the Year. Many thanks to Jeanine for giving us this wonderful show, to Bob & Andy for putting it all together, and to the entire cast and crew for their dedication and talent. *Enjoy the show....*

**Jeff Rossman (REV. TOOKER)** You may remember Jeff in last season's AND THEN THERE WERE NONE as General MacKenzie. He's back again as the rather greedy Rev. Tooker looking to cash in on Big Daddy's wealth. Jeff just recently completed a run as Kapplmeister Bonno in the Downtown Cabaret Theater production of AMADEUS in Bridgeport. A veteran of numerous theater stages in Connecticut, his favorite roles include Candy in OF MICE AND MEN, Matthew Cuthbert in ANNE OF GREEN GABLES, Admiral Sir John Hayling in Noel Coward's RELATIVE VALUES. He has also performed in OPERA COMIQUE, INHERIT THE WIND, NUTS, THE RAINMAKER and DEARLY DEPARTED among others. Film credits include A BOTTLED ROSE, THE REMEDY, FRY DAY and other short films to be released soon and the forthcoming feature film BY ANY MEANS to be released later this year. He also appeared as an extra in season 2 of Amazon's MOZART OF THE JUNGLE and as Principal Higgins in the mockumentary series ART LESS, also on Amazon. Jeff would like to thank Jeanine for her confidence in me and to my wife, Lynn, for putting up with many sleepless nights listening to me mumbling lines late at night. Being a part of this outstanding cast has been a very unique pleasure.

**Kate Valiska (SERVANT)** is thrilled to be back on the Brookfield stage after last being seen as Nadia McConnell in the summer production of BARE: A POP OPERA. She has also performed in various other TBTA productions such as Sarah in COMPANY and various roles in GODSPELL which included a wicked Sarah Palin impression. Some of her favorite roles include Tzeitel (FIDDLER @ the Warner), Connie (A CHORUS LINE @ MAR), Rita LaPorta (LUCKY STIFF @ Wilton Playshop). Kate recently began her directing career, having directed last winter's TBTA production of AND THEN THERE WERE NONE. She has also directed DEATHTRAP for Brewster Theater Company and two 10 minute plays in the Newtown Arts Festival. Kate will be seen next in the Wilton Playshop's production of HOW TO SUCCEED as the sultry Hedy La Rue. She would like to thank Jeanine for everything she has given to this production, since it is difficult to pinpoint every single thing she has shown the Politt family and under-represented people. To the cast and production team: Thank you for your dedication, passion, patience, and most of all for sharing your talents. Kate would also like to thank her family and friends for their constant support. Last, but certainly not least, Kate would like to thank her fiancé, Eli, for always being my Dwayne the Rock Johnson!

**Becky Venable (STAGE MANAGER/LIGHTING EXECUTION)** is an artist and actress. She attended Connecticut School of Broadcasting and has been involved in theater for many years. She has appeared in various roles with Phoenix Stage Company. This is Becky's second production as stage manager and she's looking forward to more opportunities both on and off stage. She's excited to announce that some of her artwork will be displayed during the run of BENT here at Brookfield Theatre for the Arts.

**Morgana Kate Watson (SERVANT)** is ecstatic to be making her Brookfield debut. Connecticut and nearby credits include RAGTIME, REEFER MADNESS, A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS (Patty), TWELFTH NIGHT (Malvolio), 9-5,