THEATER AT MONMOUTH | SEASON 54

BRAVE NEW WORLDS

July 1 - September 24, 2023

SEASON SPONSOR THE SHAKESPEARE FUND OF THEATER LEAGUE OF KANSAS CITY
SEASON CO-SPONSOR MAIN STREET PSYCHOTHERAPY
ACTING COMPANY CO-SPONSOR KENNEBEC SAVINGS BANK
From the Divine Right of Kings to the awkward banter of young love, TAM's 54th season explores Shakespeare's flawed rulers in Richard II and forest-dwelling lovers in As You Like It; Peterson and O'Hare's modern take on the repercussions of war in An Iliad, Wilde's effervescent wit & wisdom in The Importance of Being Earnest, and Bartram & Hill's exploration on the reach of the bonds of friendship in The Story of My Life. TAM's Brave New Worlds Season is a lesson in humanity that will tickle your funny bone with one hand and pluck your heartstrings with the other.

The 2023 Summer Repertory Season includes Shakespeare's Richard II directed by Kathryn Walsh and As You Like It directed by Dawn McAndrews; Neil Bartram and Brian Hill's touching musical about friendship in The Story of My Life directed by Adam P. Blais with music direction by Courtney Babbidge; Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare's take on Homer's epic in An Iliad dramatizing the impact of war throughout the ages; originally directed by Bill van Horn; directed for 2023 by Dawn McAndrews; Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest directed by Nathan Winkelstein; and for our Family Show, Tall Tales Twice Told by Dawn McAndrews directed by AJ Baldwin. For the Fall Show, TAM presents Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore directed by Adam P. Blais with music direction by John Neal.

We are hopeful that you'll be chomping at the bit to join us for every exciting minute of our 2023 Brave New Worlds Season. Performances will take place mostly in Cumston Hall, the 250-seat Victorian opera house designed by Harry Cochrane. Great dramatic literature invites you to take a leap of faith into other worlds, other times, and other realities and find a bit of yourself, your fears, your joys, and your humanity. This year I, too, invite you to take that leap with TAM for this adventurous season!

Dawn McAndrews
Producing Artistic Director
The Story of My Life
July 1 - August 17
Music & Lyrics by Neil Bartram
Book by Brian Hill
Directed by Adam P. Blais

The Story of My Life follows the friendship of Alvin and Thomas, two men from a small town. These lifelong friends are reunited after Alvin’s mysterious death. In the abstract world of his mind, Thomas struggles to write Alvin’s eulogy while recounting the many turns that their lives have taken since meeting as children. Alvin searches through manuscripts and stories in Thomas’s mind to lead him on a journey of remembrance.
An Iliad
July 8 - August 18
by Lisa Peterson and Denis O’Hare
Originally Directed by Bill Van Horn
Directed by Dawn McAndrews

An Iliad is a modern-day retelling of Homer’s classic. Through poetry and humor, the ancient tale of the Trojan War, and the modern world collide in this captivating theatrical experience. The setting is simple: the empty theater. The time is now: the present moment. The lone figure onstage is a storyteller — possibly Homer, possibly one of the many bards who followed in his footsteps. He is fated to tell this story throughout history.
Richard II is dangerously out of touch with his kingdom. He wastes money, raises taxes to support his lavish lifestyle, plays favorites and cares more about his vanity than the common good. When Henry Bolingbroke—father of the future Henry V—challenges Richard for the throne, it’s a fight the king can’t win. But in losing his crown he gains far greater things: his humanity and his soul. Shakespeare’s luminous, poetic masterpiece is the first of four plays that chronicle the House of Lancaster’s rise and the beginning of the Wars of the Roses.

Sponsored by David & Christine Heckman
The Importance of Being Earnest

July 20 - August 19

by Oscar Wilde

Directed by Nathan Winkelstein

“A trivial comedy for serious people.”
— Oscar Wilde

Jack and Algernon have chosen to lead double lives to evade the tedium of polite society. However, when they attempt to win the love of two women who declare they will only love a man called Ernest — chaos reigns. *The Importance of Being Earnest* is a tale of mistaken identities, rapid-fire wit, and cucumber sandwiches. There may not be a funnier, more socially insightful play chock-full of eccentric characters than this masterpiece by Oscar Wilde.

Sponsored by Elaine & George Keyes
Welcome to Arden. This is the story of Rosalind. Oppressed and exiled from Court under threat of death, she escapes with her cousin, cross-dressed and gartered, into the wild and unpredictable Forest of Arden. Disguised as a boy, she creates a world of her choosing, reveling in her newfound agency and self-discovery. But chance encounters with the love-struck Orlando complicate her new adventure. All the world’s a stage in *As You Like It*, Shakespeare’s gender-bending comedy, where poetry, mistaken identities, and true loves lost and found abound.

Sponsored by Eaton Peabody and DR Struck Landscape Nursery
Tall Tales Twice Told
July 8 - August 17
by Dawn McAndrews
Directed by Amber Baldwin

Tall Tales Twice Told is a collection of American folk tales featuring characters and situation larger than life and older than time. From Paul Bunyan and his Big Blue Ox to John Henry the Railroad Man and Johnny Appleseed the Planter of Orchards to Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express—these timeless and timely tales introduce young people to American history, culture, and role models.

Sponsored by Austin Associates and Central Maine Health Care
Back by Popular demand for TAM’s Fall Musical is the Gilbert & Sullivan comic opera HMS Pinafore! HMS Pinafore has a classic Gilbert and Sullivan plot: forbidden love, unforeseen plot twists, and a farcical ending. When Josephine, the daughter of Captain Corcoran, falls for Ralph Rackstraw, a lowly seaman, she has to contest with her planned marriage to Sir Joseph Porter, the First Lord of the Admiralty. Who she will end up with is anyone’s bet!

Sponsored by Andrews Tolman
## Theater at Monmouth Summer 2023 Calendar

### July

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**Shows:**
- **Life** (Story of My Life)
- **Iliad** (An Iliad)
- **TTTT** (Tall Tales Twice Told)
- **R2** (Richard II)
- **EARN** (The Importance of Being Earnest)
- **AYLI** (As You Like It)

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**Shows:**
- **HMS** (HMS Pinafore)
- **Iliad** (An Iliad)
- **TTTT** (Tall Tales Twice Told)
- **R2** (Richard II)
- **EARN** (The Importance of Being Earnest)
- **AYLI** (As You Like It)

**Denotes Post-Show Discussion**

Monmouth Night Performances in Italics (8/15 - 8/20) are not currently on sale.

### The Theater at Monmouth Summer 2023 Subscription

**Pass Type**
- **Gold Couples Pass** | $450
- **Gold Pass** | $225
- **Flex Pass** | $175
- **General Pass** | $165
- **Senior (age 66 or better) Pass** | $150
- **Senior Plus (66+) Pass** | $185

In addition to great savings, pass holders also enjoy preferred seating (beginning February 15, 2023), free ticket exchanges, lost ticket protection, and tax receipts for unused tickets. Subscriptions can be purchased using the accompanying form, online, or by calling 207.933.9999.

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**287.933.9999 | www.theateratmonmouth.org**

**Detach form and mail with payment to: Theater at Monmouth, PO Box 385, Monmouth, ME 04259. Thank you!**