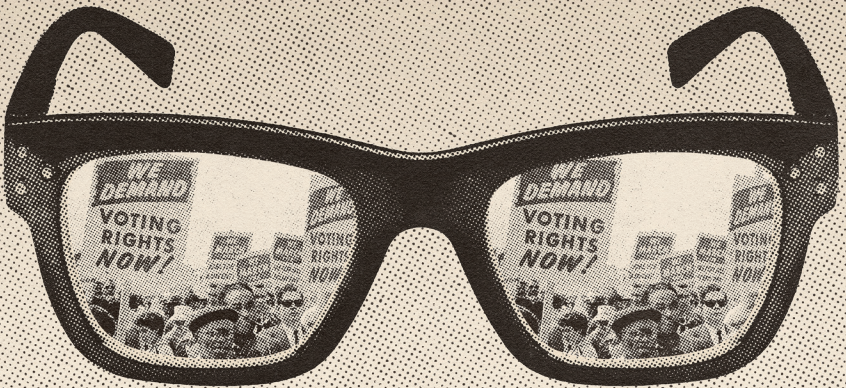


THURGOOD



NATASHA, PIERRE & The
**GREAT
COMET**
of
1812

A Vibrant Musical Extravaganza

By Dave Malloy

Adapted from War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy

Directed by Victoria Bussert

Sept. 22 - Oct. 8, 2023 | Hanna Theatre

GENEROUS SUPPORT PROVIDED BY



Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812 is part of the Kulas Musical Theater Series at Great Lakes Theater.



Dracula:
THE BLOODY TRUTH

A Bloody Good Romp

By Le Navet Bete and John Nicholson

Directed by Charles Fee

Oct. 20- Nov. 5, 2023 | Hanna Theatre

GENEROUS SUPPORT PROVIDED BY



TICKETS START AT \$20 · PATRONS 25 & UNDER PAY \$15!

216.241.6000 | GreatLakesTheater.org

GENEROUS SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:



Groups of 10+ save big!
CALL: 216.453.1066

WELCOME TO CPH AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE



Welcome to CPH.....	4
CPH Board of Directors.....	5
CPH Staff and Colleagues.....	6
<i>Thurgood</i>	9
Synopsis/Cast/Additional Assistance.....	10
Director's Note	12
Inside CPH.....	14
Who's Who.....	18
CPH Donors.....	23
CPH Mission.....	24
Guest Services at Playhouse Square.....	30
September/October at Playhouse Square.....	31



Connect with the **LOCAL**
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
in Northeast Ohio!

WATCH



Applause is a weekly show highlighting creative people in our community.

LISTEN



The **Shuffle** podcast is your backstage pass to our region's independent music scene.

LEARN



The **To-Do List** is a weekly newsletter listing local arts and culture events.

ideastream.org/arts

WELCOME TO CPH'S 108TH SEASON



Tony Award-winning Cleveland Play House, America's first regional theatre, welcomes you to its 108th season! I hope you were able to enjoy our pre-season offering, *Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End*. It set the stage for our upcoming regular slate of productions ranging from thrillers and dramas to musicals and comedies.

The regular season debuts with *Thurgood*, portraying the life of Thurgood Marshall, the first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice. It recounts his triumphant journey from the streets of Baltimore to the legal leadership of the NAACP and podium at the Supreme Court, and then to its bench. Students attending America's law schools — myself included — have become absorbed in the study of the 1954 landmark civil rights case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, argued by Marshall before the Supreme Court. I personally am honored to have observed Justice Marshall years later during the oral argument of a case I was researching while in law school. Theatre veteran Lester Purry portrays the legal giant in this rich story of history and humanity, which is directed by the legendary and award-winning Lou Bellamy. Our heartfelt gratitude is extended to Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and the many attorneys, judges, and others, including Directors on our Board, who extended their support for this production.

I am also excited to welcome Rachel Fink, the new Managing Director of Cleveland Play House. Rachel comes to CPH from Chicago, where she served as Executive Director of Tony Award-winning Lookingglass Theatre. She returns to Northeast Ohio, where she grew up, and to CPH, where she served in the CPH Curtain Puller Program and as an administrative intern. A sincere thank you also goes to Interim Artistic Director Mark Cuddy, who has provided artistic and managing leadership during the past 14 months, including formulating the 2023–2024 season!

Finally, the highest praise and appreciation goes to our internal staff — artistic, production, marketing, development, finance, human resources and education. Their talent and commitment are the drivers that allow CPH to bring stories of the highest quality that matter. Enjoy the show!

Michael J. Meehan
Chair, Board of Directors
Cleveland Play House

UNIONHOME
MORTGAGE

uhm.com | 1-877-UHM-4YOU

Union Home Mortgage Corp. NMLS 2229 | OH RMLA FM 802837.000

CPH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Michael J. Meehan

Vice Chairs

Roland V. Anglin *

Quo Vadis Cobb

Scott L. Hamilton

Kathleen A. Hogg

Kim Meisel Pesses

Treasurer

Sam Steinhouse *

Secretary

Jeffrey L. Kapp

Honorary Directors

Robert A. Blattner

Kenyon C. Bolton III **

Walter E. Kalberer

Sandra Kiely Kolb **

Robert G. Paul

Alan M. Rauss

Boake A. Sells

National Directors

Alan Alda

Joel Grey

Austin Pendleton

Directors

Dr. David L. Bronson

Marianne Crosley *

Ryan R. Cross

Emmanuel Entsie

Betsy J. Fallon

Barry Feldman

Janice E. Focke

Traci L. Forrester

Roe Green

Robert D. Gries

Dr. Brian Harte

Colleen Jackson *

Regina Klein

Janet L. Kramer

Raymond M. Malone

Milton Maltz

Kevin D. Margolis

Dr. Nancy-Clay Marsteller

Dr. Margaret McKenzie

Mark Midkiff

Sonia Mintun

Deborah L. Neale

Anthony M. Panzica

Deborah Pye

Rosemary Rehner

Robert G. Salomon

Paul Siemborski

Karen A. Skunta

Dalithia Smith

Sally Stewart

Anne Marie Warren

Amy Willey

Charles B. Zellmer

* Community Director

** Emeritus

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The cast, crew, and creative team of this production and the CPH staff would like to acknowledge those of the Shawnee, Miami, Erie, Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Haudenosaunee peoples, whose lands we stand on, and the nearly 28,000 Native American people who live in Northeast Ohio today who represent over 100 tribal nations. For information about the lands on which you reside, visit native.land.ca.



LEADERSHIP

Mark Cuddy..... Interim Artistic Director
 Rachel L. Fink..... Managing Director

ARTISTIC

Derek Green..... Artistic Producer
 Craig Joseph..... Literary Director
 Betty B. Brooks..... Company Manager
 Kate Beckley..... Associate Producer
 Michael Glavan..... Artistic Associate

EDUCATION

Pamela DiPasquale... Director of Education & Artistic Strategies
 Thomas Kazmierczak..... National Director of CARE
 Marcela Rodriguez-Gonzalez..... Director of
 Community Development
 Emmanuel Jackson..... Associate Director of
 Out-of-School Time Learning
 Lilianna LaVeau-Corey..... Associate Director of
 Out-of-School Time Learning
 Pablo Lopes..... Associate Director of Wraparound Services
 Liz Burns..... Education Management and Compliance Officer
 Yining Lin..... Manager of Partnerships
 Kalie Scanlan..... Manager of Pedagogy
 Gabriela Lopez, William Merritt..... Managers of Wraparound
 Services
 Donna Dziak..... Producing/Education Management Associate
 Arcelia Gandarilla, Juana Sok, Jonathan Sweet..... Creative
 Community Builders
 Inés Joris, Mark Swinerton..... Managers of Teaching Artist
 Development

Lauren Anthony, Bre Armstrong, Craig Branch, Maya Cundiff,
 Sarah Demetruk, Yonica Gilberry, Gavon Johnson,
 Valerie Moore, Albert Reese, Ben Senter, Priscilla Vidal,
 Chemenda Wilbourn, Kelsey Witt..... OST Coordinators
 Christian Andrews, Harmon Andrews, Jenifer Bermudez,
 Nathalie Bermudez, Tyler Collins, Zakeia Curry, Joseph Dunn,
 Gary Galbreath, Nikita Garcias, Larry Harris, Brinden Harvey,
 Raegina Hill, Jonathan Loya, Abigail Lundin, Jenna Messina,
 De'Aja Mon'e, Nnamdi Okpala, Natalie Phillips, Justin Steck,
 Kristen Ward, Morgan Wilson..... Teaching Artists

CWRU/CPH MFA ACTING PROGRAM

Donald Carrier..... Director
 Jerrold Scott..... Department Chair
 Eliza Ladd Schwarz..... Movement
 Beth McGee..... Voice
 Jeffrey Ullom..... Performance History
 David Vegh..... Acting, On-Camera Acting
 Kenya Woods..... Dance

PRODUCTION

Maryann Morris..... Director of Production
 Reynard Pope..... Production Facility Manager
 Emily Kovalcik..... Production Support Associate

STAGE MANAGEMENT

John Godbout, David Levine,
 Timothy Toothman..... AEA Stage Managers
 Kitty Wen..... Assistant Stage Manager

SCENERY

Vince Tose..... Associate Technical Director
 Nick Lucas..... Head Carpenter
 Emma Sherban..... Stage Carpenter
 Marcus Class, Gavin Price, Zachary Robb,
 Daniel Schumacher..... Carpenters

PAINT SHOP

Megan Walsh..... Charge Scenic Artist
 Kelly Ann Sherlock..... Scenic Artist

COSTUMES

Jeffrey Van Curtis..... Costume Shop Manager
 Carolyn Dickey..... Associate Costume Shop Manager
 Clare Briggs..... Head Draper
 Kristine Davies..... First Hand
 Cristine Patrick..... Stitcher
 Sandra Zodnik..... Crafts Artisan
 Sara Ratliff..... Wardrobe Supervisor

PROPS

Jessica Rosenlieb..... Prop Shop Supervisor
 Erin Ocampo..... Associate Prop Shop Supervisor
 Thomas Cannon, Shay Knuth..... Properties Artisans

LIGHTING

Russell Homan..... Interim Lighting Supervisor
 Marissa Green..... Head Electrician
 Aaron Frazier, Logan Snodell..... Electricians

SOUND & PROJECTION

James C. Swonger..... Sound and Projection Supervisor
 Justin Gibbs..... Associate Sound and Projection Supervisor
 Kimberly Grice..... Sound and Projection Technician

MARKETING AND AUDIENCE SERVICES

Nathan Lilly..... Director of Marketing
 Kristen Vlahopoulos..... Associate Director of Marketing
 Brittany Kent..... Audience Engagement & Accessibility Manager
 Victoria Martin..... Group Sales Manager
 Joshua McElroy..... Digital Communications Specialist
 Julie Gill..... Audience Services Associate

DEVELOPMENT

Chris Fornadel..... Director of Development
 Emily Cole..... Acting Director of Development
 Karen Hernandez..... Corporate Relations Manager
 Saewon Lee..... Grants Manager
 Robin Lucak..... Development Associate

CREATIVE SERVICES

Brian Tatsumi..... Creative Director

ADMINISTRATION

Merlin DeTardo..... Associate Managing Director
 Caitlin Overton..... Administrative Assistant

FINANCE

Erica Tkachyk..... Director of Finance
 Hope McGuan..... Grants and Contracts Accountant
 Laura Dawson..... Accounting Assistant

HUMAN RESOURCES

Elaine Lyons..... Human Resources/Finance Specialist
 Jamie Casamento, Mona LaMar, Lori Skiljan..... Consultants,
 People Architects

SUPPORT SERVICES

Jeff Werbeach..... NetworkinGuys – IT Services

DOBAMA THEATRE

“THE GHOSTS OF CHILDHOOD
NEVER DISAPPEAR.”



MAKE BELIEVE

OCTOBER 6—29, 2023

WRITTEN BY:
Bess Wohl

DIRECTED BY:
Nathan Motta

DOBAMA.ORG

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM

THE GEORGE GUND
FOUNDATION

DAVID MALTZ

PAUL M. ANGELL
FAMILY FOUNDATION

AGNES
STUDIO

CLEVELAND
ASSOCIATION

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL

arts & culture
cleveland
imagine history community

SHUBERT
FOUNDATION INC.

2023-24 SEASON



THURGOOD

SEPT 9 - OCT 1
ALLEN THEATRE

MARY SHELLEY'S
OCT 21 - NOV 12
OUTCALT THEATRE

FRANKENSTEIN

The Play That Goes Wrong

FEB 10 - MAR 3
ALLEN THEATRE

APR 6 - 28
OUTCALT THEATRE

Amadeus

IN THE HEIGHTS

MAY 11 - JUN 9
ALLEN THEATRE

BECOME A MEMBER & SAVE!

— clevelandplayhouse.com —





INTERIM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | **MARK CUDDY**
MANAGING DIRECTOR | **RACHEL L. FINK**

Welcomes you to

THURGOOD

by **GEORGE STEVENS, JR.**

Directed by **LOU BELLAMY**

SCENIC DESIGNER
VICKI SMITH

COSTUME DESIGNER
CASEY McNAMARA

LIGHTING DESIGNER
DON DARNUTZER

SOUND DESIGNER
JUSTIN ELLINGTON

PROJECTIONS DESIGNER
RASEAN DAVONTÉ JOHNSON

STAGE MANAGER
DAVID LEVINE*

STAGE MANAGER
TIMOTHY TOOTHMAN *

September 9 – October 1, 2023

ALLEN THEATRE

* * *

THURGOOD was first performed at Westport Country Playhouse and subsequently on Broadway.

THURGOOD is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC
www.broadwayplaypub.com

This production of *THURGOOD* was originally produced in 2018 at Geva Theatre Center, Rochester, NY.
Mark Cuddy, Artistic Director

Cleveland Play House's Production Staff is responsible for the sets, costumes, lighting, props, furniture, scenic painting, sound, and/or special effects used in this production.

Season Sponsor



Additional Season Support



SYNOPSIS

The Story of “Mr. Civil Rights.” Armed with the US Constitution, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall devoted his life to championing justice and equality for all people. This biographical play spans his remarkable 58-year career while highlighting his warmth and sharp wit. A powerful tour-de-force about Marshall’s transformative journey from his early days as a young lawyer upending the landmark “separate but equal” decision to his time serving on the highest court in the nation.

TIME: Early 1990s, sometime toward the end of Associate Justice Marshall’s career

PLACE: The auditorium of Howard University Law School

CAST

THURGOOD MARSHALL.....LESTER PURRY*

Understudies never appear for a listed player unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

For THURGOOD MARSHALL: GREG WHITE

*Indicates member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

The director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

The scenic, costume, lighting, sound, and projections designers in LORT Theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

Production Assistant.....CAMILLE HENDERSON+

Technical Director BILL LANGENHOP

Technical Direction Consultant IAN STILLMAN

Wardrobe Supervisor..... SARA RATLIFF

Wig Technician.....ANTONEE SABBS

Sound Design Associate.....JAMES C. SWONGER

Projections Design Assistant.....JASMINE A. GOLPHIN+

+ Indicates member of the FOCUS Apprenticeship program at Dobama Theatre. For more information visit:dobama.org/focus

THIS PLAY WILL BE PERFORMED WITH AN INTERMISSION.

Wowed by the set? Feel free to snap a photo before the show, during intermission, or after the show. Don’t forget to tag Cleveland Play House (@cleveplayhouse on Twitter and Instagram) and use the hashtag #CPHThurgood.



—

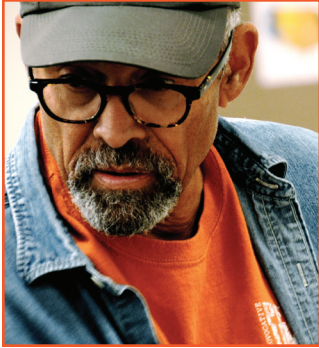
celebrating the arts that bring us together.

Whether on the page, on the screen, on the stage, or anywhere else, art brings life to life. KeyBank is grateful for the passion and creativity that inspires and enriches all of our lives.

We're proud to support the Cleveland Play House.

KeyBank 
Opens Doors.SM

LOU BELLAMY, DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT: THURGOOD



It is my distinct pleasure to bring Lester Purry and George Stevens Jr.'s *Thurgood* to Cleveland Play House. I can't imagine a more relevant moment to consider the life and contribution of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall.

Having been a pre-teen in the mid-1950s and a teen in the '60s, I have a special connection to the NAACP's powerhouse team, comprised of Thurgood Marshall and a host of brilliant Black attorneys. These men risked life and limb as they crisscrossed the United States, challenging racial discrimination wherever they found it. They appeared on the covers of *Jet*, *Ebony*, *The Crisis*, and *Opportunity* magazines. My understanding of the world, the development of my citizenship, the emergence of my racial identity — and indeed, my manhood

— was shaped in large part by photos of those brave men carrying briefcases and dressed in topcoats, suits, ties, and fedoras, striking fear in the hearts of those who would deny complete citizenship to Black America.

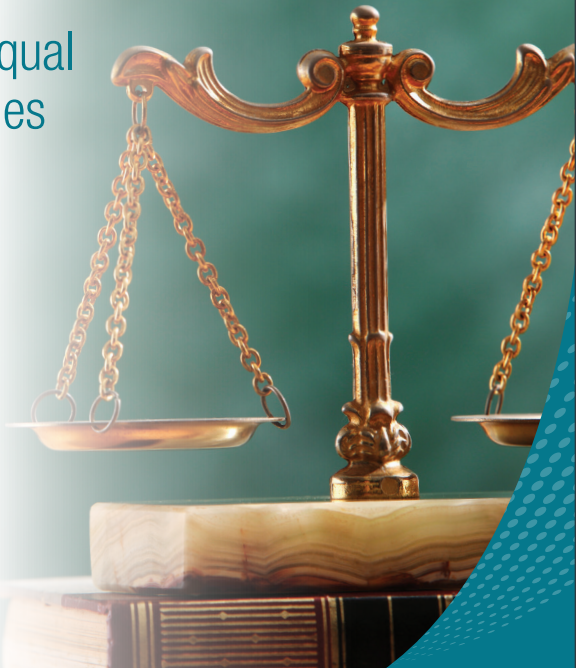
I hope you are similarly affected, educated, and moved by our telling of the story of a giant whose legacy and impact is the shaping of our laws and our efforts toward building a more just and equitable American society.

The fight for equal justice continues

We are proud to support **Cleveland Play House** and this production, honoring one of the greatest fighters for equal justice in U.S. history.

BakerHostetler

bakerlaw.com





IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO

move to a different beat.

Ohio City Inc. OHIO CITY STREET FESTIVAL
KATIE DIKE

ClevelandArtsEvents.com

connects you to the region's vibrant arts and culture scene.

With just a few clicks, discover hundreds of events made possible in part with public funding from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.



THOUGHTS FROM THURGOOD: WIT & WISDOM FROM A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

*Compiled by Craig Joseph,
Literary Director*

“None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody — a parent, a teacher, an Ivy League crony or a few nuns — bent down and helped us pick up our boots.”

“Our whole constitutional heritage rebels at the thought of giving government the power to control men’s minds.”

“I have a lifetime appointment and I intend to serve it. I expect to die at 110, shot by a jealous husband.”

“If the First Amendment means anything, it means that a state has no business telling a man, sitting alone in his house, what books he may read or what films he may watch.”

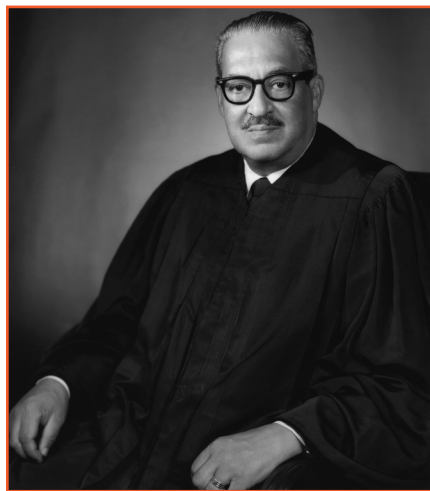
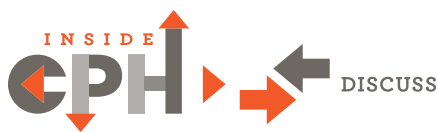
“This is a great country, but fortunately for you, it is not perfect. There is much to be done to bring about complete equality. Remove hunger. Bring reality closer to theory and democratic principles.”

“The Ku Klux Klan never dies. They just stop wearing sheets because sheets cost too much.”

“What is the quality of your intent? Certain people have a way of saying things that shake us at the core. Even when the words do not seem harsh or offensive, the impact is shattering. What we could be experiencing is the intent behind the words. When we intend to do good, we do. When we intend to do harm, it happens. What each of us must come to realize is that our intent always comes through.”

“The measure of a country’s greatness is its ability to retain compassion in times of crisis.”

“We must dissent from the indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from the fear, the hatred and the mistrust. We must dissent from a nation that has buried its head in the sand,



waiting in vain for the needs of its poor, its elderly, and its sick to disappear and just blow away. We must dissent from a government that has left its young without jobs, education or hope. We must dissent from the poverty of vision and the absence of moral leadership. We must dissent because America can do better, because America has no choice but to do better.”

“The United States has been called the melting pot of the world. But it seems to me that the colored man either missed getting into the pot or he got melted down.”

“Do what you think is right and let the law catch up.”

“I’m the world’s original gradualist. I just think ninety-odd years is gradual enough.”

“Racism separates, but it never liberates. Hatred generates fear, and fear — once given a foothold — binds, consumes and imprisons. Nothing is gained from prejudice. No one benefits from racism.”

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL



@OHIOARTSCOUNCIL | #ARTSOHIO | OAC.OHIO.GOV



EXPERIENCE
ENGAGE
TRANSFORM

State and federal dollars through the Ohio Arts Council supported your arts experience today.

WHERE WILL THE ARTS TAKE YOU NEXT?
VISIT ARTSINOHIO.COM



LEGAL AID AND THE POWER OF THE LAW

“Equal Justice Under Law.” These words engraved above the United States Supreme Court are meant to inspire. But people like Thurgood Marshall knew these words were never an assurance, rather an ideal we must actively work towards. He also knew that when used right, the law is a weapon. By harnessing its power, we can protect the rights of every American citizen.

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland shares these beliefs and is committed to helping more people access the power of the law. Since the right to an attorney is not guaranteed in civil cases impacting basic needs like shelter, safety, and financial security — people who cannot afford an attorney often face these complicated legal battles alone. Legal Aid addresses this issue by providing free legal representation and advice to people with low incomes.

Since founded in 1905, fighting for social justice has been an important part of Legal Aid’s work. In the early years, Legal Aid represented mostly immigrants and non-English speakers who were discriminated against, preyed upon, and denied access to the justice system. Legal Aid also brought about systemic changes in many issues, like race discrimination and segregation in Cleveland’s public housing. In 1977, Legal Aid prevailed in a landmark U.S. Supreme Court case on the rights of an extended family to live together in *Moore v. City of East Cleveland*. Justice Marshall himself co-wrote a specific opinion on the case that underscored how important this victory was to the survival of immigrant, minority, and historically disadvantaged families.

Not only was Legal Aid a leader in advocating for social justice, but in the middle of the 20th century, we were among the few places hiring lawyers of color when many law firms refused.

Today, Legal Aid is one of the largest law firms in the area with 75 full-time attorneys, 50 other staff and hundreds of volunteers. And, Legal Aid is proudly the most diverse law firm in Northeast Ohio. Last year, Legal Aid provided free legal



The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

services to 21,700 people with low incomes, helping them protect their homes, health, safety, and livelihoods. We also offer community education to help people understand their rights and advocate for systemic solutions that combat inequality.

Our nation still has a long way to go to achieve racial equity. Inspired by groundbreakers like Justice Marshall, Legal Aid remains committed to fighting for justice using the law as our weapon. In 2019, Legal Aid inspired Cleveland’s Right to Counsel law. This law is a critical response to an eviction crisis that largely impacts Black, female-led households. It gives eligible Cleveland families the right to an attorney when facing eviction, improving the chances they stay safely housed. Before this law, only two percent of Cleveland families facing eviction had legal representation. Now, Legal Aid represents seventy-nine percent of eligible Cleveland families.

Using the power of the law, we are making Northeast Ohio a more just and equitable community. To get information on your rights or help Legal Aid extend justice, visit laslev.org.

LIGHTS UP!

CAMPAIGN DONORS



The Board of Directors, staff, students, artists, and everyone at Cleveland Play House express our deepest gratitude to the hundreds of supporters who made a gift to the Lights Up! campaign. The donors listed below made gifts of \$200 or more.

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

\$100,000+

Cleveland Foundation
KeyBank Foundation

\$25,000+

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.
The George Gund Foundation

\$10,000+

Nordson Corporation Foundation

\$5,000+

DLR Group

\$500+

Masthead Brewing Company

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$1,000,000+

Milton & Tamar Maltz

\$500,000+

Dr. Nancy-Clay Marsteller

\$200,000+

Cathy Lincoln

\$100,000+

Roe Green
Walter & Jean Kalberer
Jon & Jane Outcalt

\$75,000+

Anonymous

\$25,000+

Martin & Sandra Kiely Kolb
Pesses & Meisel Families

\$20,000+

Carol Barnak
Janet Kramer

\$10,000+

Cathy Kuhn
Paul & Kim Meisel Pesses

\$5,000+

Fred & Mary Behm
Beverly Gans
Jeffrey & Lisa Kapp
Richard Knapp & Ellen Mattingly
Michael & Ellen Meehan
Robert Paul & Margaret Kennedy
Alec & Tam Pendleton
Larry & Sally Sears
Jeff & Celia Sinclair
Diane M. Stack
Anne Marie Warren
Chuck & Ann Zellmer

\$2,000+

Edward & Connie Babcock
David & Kathy Bronson
Quo Vadis Cobb
Barry Feldman
Richard Frey
Walter P. Ginn
Dr. Jeannette Grasselli Brown
Jeffrey H. Grover
Scott & Lisa Hamilton
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Horvitz
Larry & Francine Johns
Michael Kaczka
Donna Koler
Sheila McHale
Mark & Sara Midkiff
Deborah L. Neale
Anthony & Cindy Panzica
Dario & Emily Savron
Karen A. Skunta

\$1,000+

Roland & Dale Anglin
Robert & Eileen Blattner
George Brant
Robert Bruce & Beverly Cameron
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Cook
Char & Chuck Fowler
Lynn & Kathy Hoag
Regina & Jason Klein
Ann Klotz
Ingrid Knechtges
Fred W. Martin
Peter & Julie Raskind
Michael & Joanne Schwartz
Christina Sibilla & Mark Chance
Sam & Susan Steinhouse
Sally & Terry Stewart
Paula Tuffin
Robert J. Vagi
Gregory Videtic

\$500+

Margaret Anderson
Anthony Barabani
Kim Barton & Mr. Doug Orr
Ken & Jana Beck
Jack & Carolyn Blackwell
Dennis Block
Marc Byrnes
Marianne Crosley & Arthur L. Clements
Paul Eickmann
Anna Greenfield

Kurt Haas

Richard & Mary Louise Hahn
Kathy & Jamie Hogg
Lynn Iams
Richard Jeschelning
Norma Lerner
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Maimbourg
Dan Mansoor
Sheila & Kevin D. Margolis
Mr. Peter Meisel
Linda Rae & Mr. Andrew Hertz
Mr. & Mrs. John Rohrer
Roberta Rosell
Jeff Ryder
John & Christine Scheatzle
W. David Sedwick & Ms. Martina Veigl
Frances L. Sharp
Paul Vincent

\$200+

Ugur & Charmaine Akers
Catherine L. Albers
Dan & Carolyn Beears
Jacob Calcei
Audrey DeClement
Edward & Cheryl Eiskamp
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Ford
Philip Freund
Amy Green & Dr. Eric Konicki
Lee & Peter Haas
Richard & Katherine Hoenigman
Rolande Howard
William Ivancic
Dr. Catherine E. Keating
Ursula Korneitshouk
Michael Meisel
Robert S. Meisel
Claudia Murphy
Clare Paquelet & David Swank
Mary Quandt
Dr. & Mrs. Martin Z. Rabinowitz
Dr. William J. Reinhart
JoAnn C. Rogers
Susan M. Schumacher
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Shamis
David & Faye Sholiton
Lynda Herman Thomas
Martha & Edward Towns
Linda Travis
Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Weiss
J. Daniel Whittenberger
Dr. Daniel & Mrs. Ellen Worthington

We applaud our donors for their support of Cleveland Play House. Scan the QR code to view the full list of all of our generous donors that were part of the Lights Up! campaign.



WHO'S WHO



LESTER PURRY (*Thurgood Marshall*) most recently performed the role of J.P. Madison in *What I Learned in Paris*. He performed the role of August Wilson in his one-man show, *How I Learned What I*

Learned, at The Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Purry has performed in regional theatre across the country, including in a national tour as Othello in *Othello*, as Augustus Newcastle in *The Darker Face of the Earth*, and as Lester Mason in *The Big White Fog*, all with The Guthrie Theatre. A longtime company member with Penumbra Theatre (where August Wilson was discovered), Purry has played the roles of Cory in *Fences*, Clay in *Dutchman*, Hambone in *Two Trains Running*, Lymon in *The Piano Lesson* (the production that Wilson said was the best he'd ever seen), Hedley in *King Hedley II*, and Booster in *Jitney*, to name a few. At Baltimore Center Stage, Purry was Marvell Thunder in *Thunder Knocking on the Door*, as well as King of the Hill in *I Could Stop On a Dime*. He played Lymon in *The Piano Lesson*, Scarus in *Antony and Cleopatra*, and Mordred in *Camelot* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Purry performed at Philadelphia Theatre Company as Floyd Barton in *Seven Guitars*, at Arizona Theatre Company as Wolf in *Two Trains Running*, and at Portland Playhouse as Troy Maxson in *Fences*. He has also performed at Palm Beach Dramaworks and Los Angeles Performing Arts Center. Purry also played the role of Aslan in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* at Children's Theatre Company. He performed the role of Charles Grace in *Fireflies* at South Coast Repertory Theatre and Thurgood Marshall in *Thurgood* at Geva Theatre Center, Portland Playhouse, and Penumbra Theatre.



GREG WHITE (*U/S Thurgood Marshall*) is no stranger to the Cleveland area. Performing in several theatres for fifteen years: Karamu House, Dobama Theatre, Ensemble Theatre, the Beck

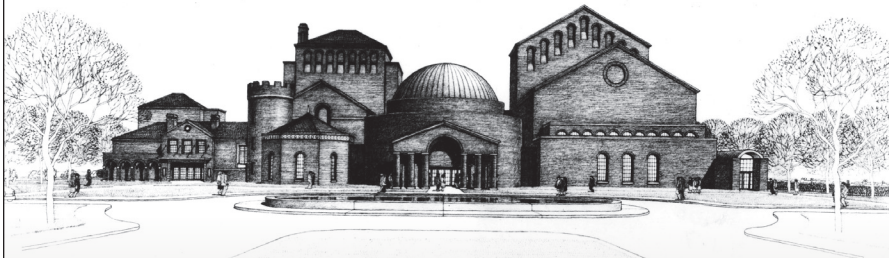
Center, and Cleveland Public Theatre. For the past three summers, Greg has portrayed the characters of Carl B. Stokes and Jessie Owens for the Historical Gateway Corporation's Take-A-Hike program, a tour through Cleveland to hear the story of these historical figures. Seen at Dobama as Kenyetta in Dominique Morriseau's *Sunset Baby*, and several plays at Ensemble including *Voodoo Macbeth* (Banquo), *Death of a Salesman* (Will Loman), and *Water by the Spoonful*. Greg also directed *Slow Dance on the Killing Ground*. In 2018, he was recognized as Best Actor in *Scene* magazine for his performance in *Thurgood* and for Superior Achievement by the Cleveland Critics Circle for his performance of Chris Christopherson in Eugene O'Neill's *Anna Christy*.

GEORGE STEVENS JR. (*Playwright*) became interested in Thurgood Marshall when he wrote and directed the miniseries, *Separate But Equal*, the story of the *Brown v. Board of Education* school desegregation case on which Marshall was the lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. *Thurgood* is his first play. Stevens is the founder of the American Film Institute and a writer, director, and producer. Motion pictures include *The Thin Red Line*; *George Stevens: A Filmmaker's Journey*; *John F. Kennedy: Years of Lightning, Day of Drums*; and *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Television includes *Separate But Equal* (Sidney Poitier, Burt Lancaster), *The Murder of Mary Phagan* (Jack Lemmon, Peter Gallagher, Kevin Spacey), *The Kennedy Center Honors* (1978–2007), *The American Film Institute Life Achievement Awards* (1973–1998), *America's Millennium*, and *D-Day to Berlin*. Alfred A. Knopf recently published his book, *Conversations With the Great Moviemakers of Hollywood's Golden Age*. Awards include eight from the Writers Guild of America, two George Foster Peabody Awards, and two Emmys.

LOU BELLAMY (*Director*) is the founder and artistic director emeritus of Penumbra Theatre. During his 43-year tenure, Penumbra evolved into one of America's premier theatres dedicated to dramatic exploration of the African American experience. Under his leadership,

Penumbra grew to be the largest theatre of its kind in America, and has produced more than 40 world premieres, including August Wilson's first professional production. Bellamy and Penumbra are proud to have produced more of Mr. Wilson's plays than any theatre in the world. Bellamy is an OBIE Award-winning director, an accomplished actor and, for 38 years, was appointed as an associate professor at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. Mr. Bellamy most recently directed Penumbra's production of *What I Learned in Paris*. Directing credits outside of Penumbra include plays at Cleveland Play House, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, South Coast Repertory, Arizona Theatre Company, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Signature Theatre, Guthrie Theater, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Geva Theatre, Kansas City Repertory, Ensemble Theatre, Minneapolis Children's Theatre, Gem Theater, Round House, Portland Playhouse, Logan Festival of Solo, and Hartford Stage.

VICKI SMITH (*Scenic Designer*) has Cleveland Play House credits that include *Steel Magnolias*, *Radio Golf*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Dream a Little Dream*, *Dinner Party*, *Dirty Blond*, *Guardman*, *Emancipation of Valet de Chambre*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Russian Romance*, *Dracula*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Oleanna* and *The African Company Presents Richard III*. Regional credits include Children's Theatre Company (Minneapolis), South Coast Repertory Theatre, Penumbra Theatre Company, Denver Center Theatre Company, Geva Theatre Center, Arizona Theatre Company, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Guthrie Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Vigszinhas and Nemseti Szinhas (Hungary), Seattle Repertory Theatre and others. Awards include Times Newspaper's Theatre Tribute (*A Raisin in the Sun*), Bay Area Critics Award (*The Kite Runner*, *Execution of Justice*), Dramalogue Award (*Cyrano*), Colorado Theatre Guild Henry Awards (*Mariela in the Desert*, *Plainsong*, *Pierre*; *I'm Not Rappaport*), Prague Quadrennial Design Exposition 2007. Museum exhibitions include *Penumbra Theatre at 40* (Minnesota Historical Center) and *The*



OWN A PIECE OF CLEVELAND PLAY HOUSE HISTORY!



Scan the QR code to purchase a commemorative brick from our former home at 8500 Euclid Avenue.



Role of Scale Models in Theatre Set Design (Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures, Tucson).
vicksmithsetdesign.com

DON DARNUTZER (*Lighting Designer*) has designed 15 shows for Cleveland, including *Dream A Little Dream*, *Touch the Names* and *Radio Golf*. Broadway includes *It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues*. Off-Broadway credits include *Hank Williams: Lost Highway*, *The Immigrant*, and *Almost Heaven: John Denver's America*. He has designed lighting for Guthrie Theatre, The Denver Center Theater Company, Arizona Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, The Shakespeare Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Alley Theater, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Indiana Repertory Theatre, The Arena Stage, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, The Old Globe Theater, The Alley Theater, Geffen Playhouse, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis, Mark Taper Forum, Geva Theatre, Florida Grand Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Portland Opera, New Orleans Opera, Florentine Opera, Israeli Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Central City Opera, San Antonio Festival and Atlanta Opera.

JUSTIN ELLINGTON (*Sound Designer*) is making a Cleveland Play House debut. Broadway credits include *The Cottage*, *Ohio State Murders*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbow Was Enuf*, *Clyde's*, *Pass Over*, and *Other Desert Cities*. Off-Broadway includes *Hamlet* (Shakespeare In The Park), *Heroes Of The Fourth Turning*, *Corsicana* (Playwrights Horizons), *Pipeline* (Lincoln Center), *Mrs. Murray's Menagerie* (ArsNova), and *Merchant Of Venice* (TFANA). Additional credits include *Father Comes Home From The Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3)*, *Until The Flood* (Goodman Theater), *Jitney*, *King Hedley* (Alliance Theater), *The American Clock* (The Old Vic), *As You Like It* (Stratford Shakespeare Festival), and *The Comedy Of Errors* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival).

RASEAN DAVONTÉ JOHNSON (*Projections Designer*) is delighted to be working with Cleveland

Play House. A Columbus native, he has had the opportunity to locally work with institutions including Shadowbox Live and The Ohio State University. His regional work includes projects with Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, South Chicago Dance Company, Chicago Opera Theatre, Toledo Opera, Cleveland Play House, Indiana Rep, The Public Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, Hartford Stage, McCarter Theatre Center, Long Wharf Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Opera and Manual Cinema. Internationally, he's worked with the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Scotland), B-Floor Theatre (Thailand), and the Ningbo Song and Dance Company (China). Additionally, his installation work has been seen at the Yale Art Gallery, The Bay Street Theatre, The Bridgeport Film Festival, the Logan Center for the Arts, and the Columbus International Film Festival. He received his BA from The Ohio State University, and an MFA from Yale School of Drama. raseandavontejohnson.com.

DAVID LEVINE (*Stage Manager*) is a lifelong Oregonian who last was in Ohio in 1991 as the PR director for the Columbus Horizon basketball team of the now-defunct CBA. Recent stage management credits in Portland include *In the Name of Forgotten Women* at CoHo Productions; *The Evolve Experience* with The Red Door Project; and *Thurgood*, *What I Learned in Paris*, and *Great Wide Open* at Portland Playhouse.

TIMOTHY TOOTHMAN (*Stage Manager*) is pleased to rejoin Lou Bellamy and Lester Purry in *Thurgood*, which they originally created at Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, New York, in the fall of 2018. A member of Actors' Equity Association since 1974, Mr. Toothman recently retired after 15 years as a company stage manager and artistic associate to the artistic director at Arizona Theatre Company in Tucson and Phoenix. He has stage managed at numerous regional theatres, including Geva Theatre Center, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, and San Jose Repertory Theatre. He spent five years managing a national touring theatre company of deaf and hearing actors, and seven years as a program director and grants funding officer for performing arts programs and organizations for the Maryland State Arts Council and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.

CLEVELAND PLAY HOUSE, founded in 1915 and recipient of the 2015 Regional Theatre Tony Award, is America's first professional regional theatre. Throughout its rich history, CPH has remained dedicated to its mission to inspire, stimulate, and entertain diverse audiences across Northeast Ohio by producing plays and theatre education programs of the highest professional standards. CPH has produced more than 100 world and/or American premieres, and over its long history more than 12 million people have attended over 1,600 productions. Today, Cleveland Play House celebrates the beginning of its second century of service while performing in three state-of-the-art venues at Playhouse Square in downtown Cleveland.

MARK CUDDY (*Interim Artistic Director*) joined Cleveland Play House as Interim Artistic Director in July 2022. Mr. Cuddy served as artistic director of Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, New York, for 27 years and was named Artistic Director Emeritus in July 2022. He led Geva through a renaissance of artistic and institutional growth with a diverse reper-

ry, topflight artists, wide-reaching educational programs, and a commitment to new-play development. Mr. Cuddy is a founding member of the board of directors for the Rochester Fringe Festival, and served on the board of directors of the only national service organization for non-profit theatres, Theatre Communications Group. As a director, Mr. Cuddy is known for his productions of musicals, contemporary comedies, and premieres. He also directed the CPH/Geva co-production of *Clybourne Park*. His Geva productions include *Once, The Humans, Ring of Fire, Good People, To Kill a Mockingbird, You Can't Take it With You, Superior Donuts, A Midsummer Night's Dream* co-directed with Skip Greer, and Company, as well as his adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* with music and lyrics by Gregg Coffin. Among his many other Geva credits are *The Music Man, Sweeney Todd, Fences, Five Course Love, A Christmas Story, and Pride and Prejudice* (co-adaptor), and the world premieres of *Convenience* (musical) by Gregg Coffin, *Theophilus North* by Matthew Burnett from Thornton Wilder (also at Arena Stage), *Splitting Infinity* by Jamie Pachino, *Famous Orpheus* by

The Cleveland Play House
Board and Staff honor

**JEAN ANN
CHRISTMAN
KALBERER**

1933-2023

Jean's unyielding dedication, belief in CPH's mission, and generous spirit will forever reside within the halls of Cleveland Play House. In her words:

"Music and theater comfort us during the difficult times... and they are critical to helping people, especially young people, figure out how they relate to the world around them."



Oyamo (choreography by Garth Fagan), *House and Garden* by Alan Ayckbourn (East Coast premiere), and *That Was Then* (American premiere). Mr. Cuddy has also served as artistic director of Sacramento Theatre Company, producing director of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and as a member of the directing staff of the Denver Center Theatre Company. He has served on the review panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts. He received his B.A. in theatre/honors from the University of Massachusetts where he was a Commonwealth Scholar.

RACHEL L. FINK (*Managing Director*) (she/hers) is thrilled to return to her hometown as Cleveland Play House's Managing Director after having served as the Executive Director of the Tony Award-winning Lookingglass Theatre

Company. Rachel has held leadership positions at arts organizations across the United States including Theatre Bay Area, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, International Festival of Arts & Ideas, Long Wharf Theatre, and Lyric Opera Cleveland. Rachel's professional distinctions include Fellow, Civic Leadership Academy at the University of Chicago/Harris School of Public Policy; US delegate, British Council's Cultural Leadership International Programme; Inaugural Member, American Express/Aspen Institute Fellowship for Emerging Nonprofit Leaders; Board Member, League of Chicago Theatres; and Board Member, Theatre Bay Area. She was also recognized as a 2013 "Face of Theatre Bay Area," and as one of New City Stages' 50 Players in 2022. Rachel holds a BA in Theatre Arts from Case Western Reserve University and an MFA in Theater Management from the Yale School of Drama.

CASE
WESTERN
RESERVE
UNIVERSITY //

CLEVELAND
PLAY HOUSE
MFA ACTING
PROGRAM



COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY



2 for \$25

USE
PROMO CODE
MFA25

STUDENT TICKETS JUST **\$7.50** //////////////////////////////////////

THE TEMPEST

SEPTEMBER 20 - 30
THE HELEN



MIDDLETOWN

FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 2
THE HELEN



SEE BOTH AND SAVE \$5 WHEN ORDERED TOGETHER!
216.241.6000 // CLEVELANDPLAYHOUSE.COM

CPH DONORS

The board of directors, staff, students, artists and everyone at Cleveland Play House expresses our deepest gratitude to the thousands of supporters who made a gift to CPH during our 2022-23 Season. The donors listed below made gifts of \$1,000 or more between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

Institutional Donors

Gifts made by Corporations, Foundations, and Government

\$100,000+

Anonymous
Case Western Reserve University
Cuyahoga Arts and Culture
The George Gund Foundation
Ohio Arts Council
Ohio Department of Development
Ohio Department of Education
The Shubert Foundation
U.S. Department of Education

\$50,000+

Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
KeyBank Foundation
The Stocker Foundation
United Way

\$25,000+

The Abington Foundation
Famicos Foundation
The Hankins Foundation
Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
The John P. Murphy Foundation
David and Inez Myers Foundation
Starting Point
Theatre Forward

\$15,000+

Brown & Kunke Foundation
Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening
Foundation
DLR Group
George Garreston Wade Charitable
Trust #2
Edwin D. Northrup II Fund

\$10,000+

Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan &
Aronoff, LLP
Dominion Energy Charitable
Foundation
Galen Miller Fund of the Cleveland
Foundation
The Higley Fund of the Cleveland
Foundation
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling
Group
K & D Management
NISI PRIUS
The Thomas H. White Foundation

\$5,000+

The Ruth and Elmer Babin
Foundation

Bank of America
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.
Cleveland Magazine
The Harry K. Fox and Emma R. Fox
Charitable Foundation
Great Lakes Publishing
The Gries Family Foundation
Jones Day
Kaulig Giving
LSC Service Corporation
O'Neill Brothers Foundation
RPM International Inc.
S.K. Wellman Foundation
WME Entertainment©
Dorothea Wright Hamilton Fund of
the Cleveland Foundation

\$2,500+

The Crispin and Kate Oglebay Trust
of the Cleveland Foundation
Design Studio Cleveland
Erie Bank
Giant Eagle Foundation
Hispanic Fund of the Community
Foundation of Lorain County
Junior League of Cleveland
Leonard C. Hanna Jr. Fund for
Cleveland Play House of the
Cleveland Foundation
Leonard and Joan Horvitz Foundation
The Laub Foundation
Medical Mutual
Metro West Community Development
Organization
The Murch Foundation
NetworkinGuys
Harold L. and Patricia D. Williams
Charitable Fund of the Cleveland
Foundation

\$1,000+

ASI International Ltd.
Caroline Brown Prescott Fund of the
Cleveland Foundation
Charities Aid Foundation
William H. & Phyllis H. Evans
Charitable Foundation
Gould Inc. Foundation
Music and Drama Club
Nordson Corporation Foundation
The Shifrin Family Foundation
The Union Club of Cleveland
John A. Wiegman Fund of the
Cleveland Foundation
Women's Fund of the Community
Foundation of Lorain County

Individual Donors

\$200,000+

The Roe Green Foundation
Milton & Tamar Maltz Family
Foundation

\$100,000+

Walter & Jean Kalberer Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Outcalt

\$40,000+

Megan Mayhugh
Mr. Robert G. Paul &
Ms. Margaret Kennedy
Lucy Schey
Mr. & Mrs. William L. Spring

\$20,000+

Fred & Mary Behm
Ms. Kathleen E. Hancock

\$15,000+

Meisel & Pesses Families
Drs. Robert & Mary Salomon

\$10,000+

Mr. Richard Arter
Mrs. Bernadine Kaniecki
Ms. Janet Kramer

\$5,000+

Megan Arth
Drs. David L. and Kathleen Bronson
Dr Nancy Clay-Marsteller
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Eberl
Bob and Sally Gries
Kathy & James Hogg
Jeffrey & Lisa Kapp
Andrew & Katherine Kartalis
Mrs. Nancy & Mr. John McMillan
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Meehan
Ms. Deborah Neale
Kim & Paul Pesses
Rosemary and Dale Rehner
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Sears
Paul Siemborski
Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. Williams

\$2,500+

Anonymous
Ms. Carol Bamak
Margo & Tom Bertin
Mr. & Mrs. Homer Chisholm
Marianne Crosley &
Arthur L. Clements
Betsy J. Fallon
Janice E. Focke
Traci Forrester & and Sven Nielsen
Mr. Walter P. Ginn
Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Gulstrand
Scott and Lisa Hamilton
Ms. Suzanne L. Irwin

Mrs. Donna Koler
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Lane Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin D. Margolis
Mark and Sara Midkiff
Mr. Anthony M. Panzica and
Dr. Cindy Panzica
Dr. Scott & Mrs. Judy Pendergast
Mr. Alan M. Rauss &
Ms. Marcie Bergman
Mr. & Mrs. Mark J. Saltzman
Mr. & Mrs. Darion Savron
Samuel & Susan Steinhouse
Sally & Terry Stewart
Dr. Anita Stoll & Mr. Pete Clapham
Twyman Charitable Gift Fund
Anne Marie Warren
Ms. Mary C. Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Zellmer

\$1,000+

Dr. & Mrs. Roland V. Anglin
Ms. Sherri Appleton
Dr. Charles M. Bailin
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Beck
George L. Beckman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Blattner
Dr. Jenny Grasselli Brown
Drs. Robert Bruce & Beverly Cameron
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Campbell
Ms. Maria Casby
Ms. Quo Vadis Cobb
Ryan R. Cross
Mr. Mark Cuddy & Christina Selian
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Duffy
Bruce & Nancy Fisher
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Frankel
Dr. George L. Gelehrter
Ms. Amy Green & Dr. Eric Konicki
Greg & Susan Griffith
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Hoag
Michael J. Horvitz
Colleen Jackson
Ann V. Klotz
Ms. Joan Laro
Dr. & Mrs. Gilbert Lowenthal
Saul Ludwig
Dr. Margaret McKenzie &
Mr. Clairmonte Cappelle
Ms. Moore
Ms. Joan Naro
Steele Nowlin & Christine Jayjack
Mr. John & Mrs. Norine Prim
Mr. & Mrs. Sethu Reddy
Thomas N. Rich
Dr. & Mrs. Bradford J. Richmond
Ms. Robin Richmond
Ms. Kathy M. Saleem
Mr. and Mrs. Sanders
Peter Scriven
Mr. David Shifrin
Ms. Linda Springer
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Taylor
Mr. Robert J. Vagi

We applaud our donors for their support of Cleveland Play House.
Scan the QR code to view the full list of all our generous contributors.





CPH Mission: To inspire, stimulate, and entertain diverse audiences across Northeast Ohio by producing plays and theatre education programs of the highest professional standards.

CPH Vision: To be a premier American regional theatre that is welcoming, diverse, distinctive, bold, thrilling, and essential to our community.

PLEASE DIRECT MAIL AND DELIVERIES TO:

CPH ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION CENTER

1901 East 13th Street, Suite 200
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

For general inquiries, please call 216.400.7000

LATE SEATING is at the discretion of this production's director.

CPH Playbill Editors: Kate Beckley, Derek Green, and Craig Joseph

ACTORS' EQUITY/LORT Cleveland Play House operates under an agreement between the League of Resident Theatres (LORT), an association of the nation's leading resident professional theatres, and Actors' Equity Association (AEA), the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



IATSE and **UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS 829** Carpenters and Electricians at Cleveland Play House are members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the U.S. and Canada IATSE Local 27.



The Director is a Member of the **STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

TCG Cleveland Play House is a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.



Cleveland Play House and Cleveland State University have a formal education partnership that enhances the learning opportunities of CSU students. For more information, call the CSU Theatre Department at 216-687-2113.



Playhouse Square is a not-for-profit performing arts center that presents and produces a wide variety of performing arts, advances arts education and creates a destination that is a superior location for entertainment, business and residential living, thereby strengthening the economic vitality of the region.

Playbill Editor: Linda Feagler

For advertising information, please contact

Matthew Kraniske: 216-377-3681



LIVE YOUR BEST CLEVELAND



Each issue of *Cleveland Magazine* brings you the very best in arts and entertainment, dining, fashion, home and garden and health care.

SUBSCRIBE ONLINE ▶ CLEVELANDMAGAZINE.COM

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE HISTORY

Playhouse Square Education Department Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Since its inception in 1998, the Playhouse Square Education Department has remained committed to including the widest possible audience through streaming initiatives, sensory-friendly performances and its social justice series. The department is unique in the performing arts industry for the variety of programs it offers, the partnerships it initiates and the access it provides students, educators and aspiring artists to performing arts professionals. The Education Department oversees The Dazzle Awards presented by Pat and John Chapman, Disney Musicals in Schools presented by Dee and Jimmy Haslam, as well as school matinee performances, Children's Theater Series and Family Theater Day, all of which are presented by University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. The department also manages the free Broadway Buzz pre-show talks that are held before most KeyBank Broadway Series performances. Over the past 25 years, the Education Department has offered thousands of events, workshops and classes — most with minimal or no fees thanks to the generosity of our donors — and its nationally recognized performances and arts education programming have impacted hundreds of thousands of people in Cleveland and around the world, as they have enriched individuals of all backgrounds, abilities and means.

Broadway to Buildings

Where do the arts and real estate go hand-in-hand? At Playhouse Square, of course! As the theaters began to be restored in the early 1980s, it was thought that developers would step in to build and open businesses around them. When that didn't happen, Playhouse Square began to steward development of the surrounding neighborhood. In 1999, Playhouse Square became the first performing arts center with a real estate services division, which manages the one million square feet of property owned by the organization and another 1.5 million square feet outside the theater district. Other performing arts centers have since looked to our expertise as a model.

Keeping Up the KeyBank State Theatre

First restored more than 30 years ago, the KeyBank State Theatre was repainted from the street to the proscenium in 2015. The new, cohesive color palette showcases the beauty and craftsmanship of the nearly 100-year-old theater. It took 25 painters 12,500 hours and 595 gallons of paint in 15 different colors to complete the project, which also included 6000 sheets of new metal leafing in the auditorium dome and the application of a historically accurate wall-covering design. While the theater was dark, its lighting fixtures and restrooms received major upgrades.

What's in a Logo?

The Playhouse Square logo we use today — a tilted burgundy square with a capital P in its center — was introduced in 2008 to capture the enduring spirit of entertainment and excitement. Each of the logo's graphic elements has meaning: the exclamation point with a star in the "P" symbolizes excitement and innovation; the swirl in the "P" represents creativity and forward motion; the tilted square symbolizes Playhouse Square as a destination; and the burgundy color gives nod to the color scheme of our historic theaters.

Going Green

While red is the color most often associated with theaters, Playhouse Square is making efforts to go "green." You will find receptacles for recycling paper, plastic and cans, along with those designated specifically for the program you're currently reading, throughout the complex. Lighting fixtures are being switched to LED for increased energy efficiency. And the Playhouse Square administrative office is making strides towards going paperless.

Patterns in Plaster

As you walk through the theaters, you may notice various patterns within the plaster decoration. Common are dentil, lamb tongue, rope and rosettes. Other patterns you may see have been associated with certain meanings since they were first used hundreds or even thousands of years ago, such as the acanthus leaf (immortality), egg



and dart (life and death), and the palm leaf, first used in ancient Egypt as a reference to the Nile River. In the KeyBank State Theatre, if you look closely and carefully, you can find ox skulls, which were believed to offer protection from natural elements. And throughout the theaters, you will find griffins, mythical creatures thought of as guardians.

YPs Take the Lead

Best known as the masterminds behind the annual Jump Back Ball benefit, Playhouse Square's young professionals group – Partners – was formed in 1991. Since then, hundreds of young professionals engage with Playhouse Square each year to build leadership skills, raise funds and volunteer in support of our not-for-profit mission, enjoy shows together, network and have fun!

The KeyBank State Theatre Murals

The four murals on the walls of the KeyBank State Theatre lobby were painted by American Modernist James Daugherty (1890-1974), whose work hangs in the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum and the Smithsonian. One of the murals, *The Spirit of Cinema*, was featured on the cover of *Life* magazine on February 20, 1970. It was that national attention that became the

convincing argument to save the venue from the wrecking ball. Destruction of the State would also have meant the loss of the original historic Daugherty murals, since they are painted directly on the walls. Today they are the only Daugherty works which remain at the original site where they were painted.

The GE Chandelier

North America's largest outdoor chandelier, the 20-foot tall GE Chandelier is adorned with 4200 crystals. To find out how it was made, visit the Playhouse Square YouTube channel.

A Change in History?

One of many fascinating items to be found in the book *Playhouse Square: An Entertaining History* deals with the infamous John Wilkes Booth. Booth performed locally at the old Academy of Music, which was one of the first drama schools in the country and was located at 1371 W. 6th Street.

It was at that Cleveland Academy where he would play his last role prior to performing at Washington D.C.'s Ford Theatre where he would assassinate President Lincoln. (Might history have been changed if the Academy had held over Booth's play for an extended run?)



Connor Palace Trivia

Before the days of clothes dryers, touring performers were often forced to pull still-damp clothes off the drying line when it was time to pack and leave. During the vaudeville era, the Connor Palace (known then as the Palace) became known as one of the most performer-friendly venues in the country because of its many backstage amenities, one of which included a drying room. In this large room, wet clothes could be hung and hot air was continuously blown into the area to hasten the drying time.

Singers' Secrets

Repeat three times: Performer packs pickle for perfect pipes. Singer Anita Baker surprised backstage workers during her sold out shows by keeping an ample supply of pickle juice in her dressing room — using it to gargle! (No report as to whether Anita acquired the pickle practice during her two pregnancies.) Likewise, another unusual gargling agent was the preference of singer Millie Jackson who required a certain imported beer as her gargle-of-choice.

There Goes the Neighborhood!

The 1870s ushered in the golden age for Euclid

Avenue as the street became a stretch of grand mansions, with grounds often extending as far as Lake Erie, and stately elm trees arching over the avenue. Called Millionaire's Row, it was the address where all the best families lived.

But by Cleveland's Centennial in 1896, Euclid Avenue residents were likely muttering, Well, there goes the neighborhood! as the dirt street was paved with sandstone, and businessmen began to buy up and tear down the mansions and towering elms to make way for commercial ventures.

Streetcar lines on the once totally residential stretch hastened the creation of a commercial district, forcing wealthy families to move even farther east on Euclid Avenue. In another 30 years, the district would see the birth of the five main theaters that would eventually become Playhouse Square.

KeyBank State Theatre Trivia

The stage of the KeyBank State Theatre is so large that a typical high school gymnasium (complete with basketball court and bleachers) could easily fit on stage. As another point of comparison, three of the Mimi Ohio Theatre stages could fit onto the State's stage.

Hanna Theatre Trivia

Since its opening in 1921, the Hanna Theatre has been the site of two world premieres: Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Me and Juliette* in 1953 and, in 1974, *Odyssey* by Michel Legrand, starring Yul Brynner. Another first occurred in 1937, when Gilbert and Sullivan's first Cleveland-staged opera was performed at the Hanna by the D'Oyly Carte Company from London.

KeyBank State Theatre Trivia

Above the fireplace at the rear of the KeyBank State Theatre auditorium, an original mural hangs despite its near-tragic loss. Removed from the wall in the early 1970s prior to the scheduled demolition of the venue, the mural eventually turned up in the basement of a piano store and was repurchased by Playhouse Square for \$200.

The recovered mural was badly torn, having originally been painted on burlap then glued to the wall. The challenge of restoring the artwork fell to the Theater District's Bonfoey Company. Artisans sanded the glue from the burlap and attached the cleaned mural to canvas via beeswax.

The next step was to clean and restore the work where needed. A stretcher for the canvas had to be custom-made. To eliminate tears and wrinkles, the stretcher was designed to expand and contract with the theater's climactic changes and held together with springs (no nails or screws). It took Bonfoey employees 18 months to restore the painting at a cost of \$8,500.

Although the creator of this mural is unknown, it is suspected to be Italian artist Sampitrotti, who had painted three murals for the original Mimi Ohio Theatre lobby. (Those murals were later destroyed in the Ohio's 1964 lobby fire.)

Kennedy's Cabaret Trivia

The bar in Kennedy's (the lower level cabaret space accessed by way of the Mimi Ohio Theatre lobby), might be familiar to Cleveland oldtimers. The former home of the bar was the Elegant Hog Saloon when the tavern was located on Buckeye Road.

World's Longest Lobby Explained

In 1920 as the Loew's chain anticipated building in the area that would come to be known as Playhouse Square, it was discovered there wasn't sufficient room to build two theaters side by side in the available space.

Since it was important that the proposed theater marquees be located on Euclid Avenue, an architectural plan was devised. Even though the KeyBank State Theatre would be completed and open 21 months before the Connor Palace, it was decided to build the State behind the Connor Palace. This led to the construction of the State's 320-foot-long lobby, reported to be the longest theater lobby in the world. The Mimi Ohio Theatre would then be built on the other side of the State, giving all three theaters the desired Euclid Avenue marquee frontage.

What Would It Cost to Build Them Today?

Even though the Connor Palace is not the largest of the Playhouse Square venues, it was the most costly to build (\$3.5 million) by the time it premiered on Nov. 6, 1922. The largest theater, the State, (opened Feb. 5, 1921) was built at a cost of \$2 million; the Ohio (Feb. 14, 1921) also cost \$2 million, and the Allen's costs totaled \$1.9 million when it opened April 1, 1921. (Exact building costs for the Hanna Theatre — which opened March 28, 1921 — have yet to be uncovered.)

A Phoenix from the Ashes

In 1964, the Mimi Ohio Theatre lobby and auditorium were destroyed by fire. When the fledgling Playhouse Square organization restored the spaces in 1982, funding and time constraints made it possible only for the auditorium to be fully restored. Thanks to a gift from the George Gund Foundation, the lobby was re-created in its original splendor in 2016. You can watch a documentary about the project, "Restoring the Legacy," on Playhouse Square's YouTube channel.

Re-Creating History

We call the completed Mimi Ohio Theatre George Gund Foundation Lobby project a "re-creation" rather than a restoration. Why? There was nothing left to restore after a 1964 fire destroyed the space. To reproduce the lobby's original 1921 splendor, architects, restoration specialists and Playhouse Square staff conducted exhaustive research of the original drawings by architect Thomas Lamb, photo archives and a few remaining bits of ornamental plaster detail to gain a thorough understanding of the space and inform the plans for re-creating the lobby.

GUEST SERVICES AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE



Guest Assistance

For questions or service that may provide a quality, entertaining experience, please see the House Manager on duty. A RedCoat usher can direct you to their office location.

Smoking Policy

Smoking, including electronic smoking or “vaping,” is not permitted indoors at Playhouse Square.

We Love Hearing From Our Guests

Your feedback is important. For matters that are not immediate or for additional questions you may have, please access our online comment form at playhousesquare.org/contact-us. We read and share all comments with the staff and meet often to discuss how we can improve upon your experience at Playhouse Square.

Follow Us!

Follow Playhouse Square on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

Beware of Ticket Scalpers

Buy your tickets **ONLY** from the Playhouse Square Ticket Office, at playhousesquare.org, by phone at 216-241-6000 or your licensed group/travel leader. (We cannot guarantee validity or admittance for tickets purchased elsewhere, nor can we issue replacement tickets if they are lost or stolen). Help us keep ticket prices affordable and fair for everyone.

Camera Policy

Cameras, including cameras on cell phones and other personal handheld devices, audio/video recorders and flash photography are strictly prohibited.

Mobile Devices

The experience of a live performance can be ruined by the interruption of ringtones, vibrating phones or conversation. The magic of a darkened theater can be disrupted by the light of someone text messaging as well. Please be considerate to others and remember to turn off your cell phone for the duration of the show.



Thank You

Playhouse Square gratefully acknowledges the people of Cuyahoga County for their historical support to theater restoration, upkeep and programming, as well as through their ongoing contributions through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

SEPT./OCT. AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE

ALLEN		OUTCALT/ ALLEN	HELEN/ ALLEN	HANNA	KENNEDY'S	MIMI OHIO	CONNOR PALACE	KEYBANK STATE	US BANK PLAZA	WESTFIELD STUDIO	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
					SEPTEMBER						
									</		



SETTING THE STAGE *for Success*

We believe that all Cleveland youth should have access to high-quality arts education. Through the generosity of our donors, we have invested more than \$12.6 million since 2016 to scale up neighborhood-based programs that serve thousands of youth year-round in music, dance, theater, photography, literary arts and curatorial mastery. *That's setting the stage for success. Find your passion, and partner with the Cleveland Foundation to make your greatest charitable impact.*

(877) 554-5054

www.ClevelandFoundation.org/Success

CLEVELAND
Foundation