

**CAT on a
HOT TIN
ROOF**

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proudly present:

CAT on a HOT TIN ROOF

by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

APRIL 18-27, 2024

director
Sean Young

artistic director
Edward R. Fernandez

stage manager
Eileen Quinn

production manager
Alec Skwara

scenic designer
Victor Capece

costume designer
Lionella Darling

asst. costume designer
Brody Eisenhour

lighting designer
David Tyson

assoc. lighting designer
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Preston Cuer

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A coat rack is available within the main lobby of the theater. EPAC is not responsible for any lost property. Please do not hang any personal property from railings in the theater.

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Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of Management.

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Please see the Box Office for lost and found items.

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PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES, WHICH MAY INTERRUPT A PERFORMANCE. THE USE OF CAMERAS, VIDEO CAMERAS, AND OTHER RECORDING DEVICES IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

Violators may be asked to leave at the discretion of Management.

Medical Emergencies:

Please report any medical emergency to the Management in the lobby or box office area. An AED machine is on premises.

Safety Notice:

For your safety, please do not leave your seat until the house lights come up.

Fire Notice:

In the event of a fire, please exit the theater in a calm and orderly manner, making your way to any available exit. Please walk; do not run.

Smoking Policy:

EPAC is a non-smoking facility; there is NO SMOKING within 15 feet of the building. Thank you!

Inclement Weather Policy:

EPAC makes every effort to remain open during the winter and hurricane season. However, we are aware that at times the weather makes this impossible. Please check EPAC website and social media pages to check on any inclement weather closings. Additionally, EPAC will be announced on the WGAL Closings and Delays Website.

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CAST OF CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

Maggie Pollitt.....	Gabrielle Hondorp
Brick Pollitt.....	Zach Haines
Big Daddy.....	Edward R. Fernandez
Big Mama.....	Elizabeth Pattey
Gooper.....	Andrew Terranova
Mae.....	Tatiana Dalton
Reverend Tooker.....	Jeff Sims
Doctor Baugh.....	Anthony Zbrzezny
Dixie.....	Emily Checchia
Buster.....	Hayden Checchia
Trixie.....	Briana Checchia
Polly.....	Sofia Dalton
Sonny.....	Owen Ridenour

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Sean Young	Director
Edward R. Fernandez	Artistic Director
Eileen Quinn	Stage Manager
Alec Skwara	Managing Director
David Tyson	Lighting Designer/Light Board Operator
Thomas Hudson	Associate Lighting Designer
Victor Capece	Scenic Designer
Austin Barrick	Sound Designer
Grant Patrick	Audio Manager
Lionella Darling	Costume Designer
Brody Eisenhour	Assistant Costume Designer
Keith Eyrich	Properties
Steve Schelling	Technical Director
Preston Cuer	Fight Choreographer
Zach Haines	Media Director

The events of this play occur in 1955, and contain scenes depicting smoking, alcohol abuse, and some moments of verbal or physical domestic abuse.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Stating the obvious... *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* is one of the greatest plays ever written by one of the greatest playwrights who ever lived.

Through its original Broadway staging in 1955, an Oscar-nominated film starring a pair of Hollywood icons, as well as several stage and television revivals, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* challenged audiences to confront complex relationships within a traditional family from the fading antebellum south. As only great art can, it also caused audiences to turn the mirror on themselves.

Cat's themes cover a wide gamut of human conditions—intimacy and loneliness; wealth and influence; addiction and mortality; denial and resentment.

Cat is a classic to be sure. However, it endures not just because of what it says about its time but because of its continuing relevance to our time. While the play gives us a window into a dysfunctional family who squabbles over money, property, legacy and power, it is not this dysfunction that makes *Cat* so intriguing. Sexism, terminal cancer, addiction, depression and homosexuality are no longer the hush subjects they were when *Cat* first premiered almost 70 years ago.

So why does Williams' classic tale still strike a chord? Its timeless appeal, in the view of this director at least, is its ability to illuminate our ever-present, very human temptation to believe we can control the events and people around us.

The characters of *Cat* conspire, cajole, and contort facts in a desperate attempt to control the will and actions of fellow family members, romantic desires, financial decisions, alcoholism, and even death itself. As we soon see, their efforts fall well short of the desired effect.

Cat endures because it reminds us of an uncomfortable yet unavoidable truth—control is the ultimate illusion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Young', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

- Sean Young, Director

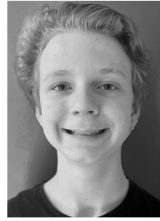
CAST OF CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF



**Brianna
Checchia**



**Emily
Checchia**



**Hayden
Checchia**



**Sofia
Dalton**



**Tatiana
Dalton**



**Edward R.
Fernandez**



**Zach
Haines**



**Gabrielle
Hondorp**



**Elizabeth
Pattey**



**Owen
Ridenour**



**Jeff
Sims**



**Andrew
Terranova**



**Anthony
Zbrzezny**

MEET THE CAST

Brianna Checchia (Trixie) - Brianna is so happy to make her EPAC main stage debut in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. She was previously seen in *Finding Nemo, Jr.* at EPAC! Brianna loves coming to the theater with her parents and siblings and getting to watch all the really cool shows! Brianna spends most of her days playing with friends and doing arts and crafts, building houses for all of her toys. Brianna wants to thank Hayden and Emily for being there for her during rehearsals and her mom and dad for encouraging her to do live theatre! Most of all, Brianna wants to send all her love to her puppies and kitty cats.

Emily Checchia (Dixie) - Emily is so happy to be able to slay on the EPAC stage once again. Previous shows include *Les Miserables: School Edition (Young Cosette)*, *Frozen, Jr. twice*, *Rudolph, Jr.*, and *Finding Nemo, Jr. (Bubbles)*. Emily loves to spend her days scrolling TikTok and snuggling with all of her dogs and cats! Emily wants to thank her siblings for being in this show with her and to her mom and dad for always being her chauffeur!

Hayden Checchia (Buster) - Hayden is thrilled to be back on the EPAC stage and even happier that he gets to do it with his best friend Zach Haines. Hayden's first EPAC show was *The Wizard of Oz (Lollipop Guild)* in 2017 and he was a part of *Frozen, Jr. Summer Camp*. Hayden also played Prince Hans in *Frozen, Jr.* at Warwick Elementary last year. Hayden loves being able to share the stage with his sisters and is thankful to his parents for always being so supportive!

Sofia Dalton (Polly) - Sofia is excited to be in her first EPAC show with her mother. Previous favorite productions include *Mixed Up Cabaret*, *Matilda*, *A Christmas Story*, *The Addams Family*, and *Chess*. She also has been in several local commercials and movies including Hersheypark! Sofia is in 5th grade and loves singing, acting, and soccer. Special thanks to her family including her Dad, Ryan, Lily and Addi and her voice teacher Dana.

Tatiana Dalton (Mae) - Tatiana is thrilled to be in her first EPAC production with her daughter and this amazing cast and crew! Previous favorite shows include *The Addams Family (Morticia)*, *Mamma Mia (Donna)*, *Steel Magnolias (Truvy)*, *Calendar Girls (Ruth)*, *Matilda (Mrs. Wormwood)*, *Into the Woods (The Witch)*, *Rock of Ages (Regina)*, *The 39 Steps*, *A Christmas Story (Miss Shields)*, *9 to 5 (Judy)*, *Tommy (Mrs. Walker)*, *Cabaret (Kost)*, *Rainmaker (Lizzie)*, *Rent (Maureen)*, and *Hairspray (Velma)*. When not onstage Tatiana is a proud Penn State family medicine physician and Mom to three amazing girls - Lily, Sofia and Addi. Huge thank you to my rock Ryan for supporting my love of theater.

Edward R. Fernandez (Big Daddy) - See Artistic Director's section.

Zach Haines (Brick Pollitt) - Zach is very glad to be part of this all-time great play during this exciting 2024 season. A regular of the EPAC stage, he has been seen in numerous shows since his debut in 2017 including *West Side Story*, *Ragtime*, *The Boys in the Band (2x)*, *Something Rotten!*, *Hedda Gabler*, *The Little Dog Laughed*, and *The Prom*. You may have also seen him at other theaters across the area, such as Servant Stage Company, Susquehanna Stage Company, Genesis Theatre, and Steel River Playhouse. As always, he extends love and gratitude to his friends and family for their support of him, and to our audiences for their support of the arts.

MEET THE CAST

Gabrielle Hondorp (Maggie Pollitt) - Gabrielle is ecstatic to be making her EPAC debut with this iconic role. A resident of Bethlehem, PA, she has most recently been involved in the Lehigh Valley theatre scene as Catherine in *Proof*, and Alice in *Bright Star* at the Pennsylvania Playhouse, and as Natalie in *All Shook Up* at NCC Summer Theatre. She has also been in productions at Civic Theatre of Allentown, and Muhlenberg College—her Alma Mater. Other notable roles include Marian in *The Music Man*, Cunegonde in *Candide*, and Gretel in Engelbert Humperdink's *Hansel and Gretel*. Special thanks to Mark A Stutz for giving her the confidence and guidance to harness Maggie's wit and strength, her director Sean Young for giving her the chance to perform a dream role, her friends, partner, and family for all of their endless support, and of course her cats, Gus and Penny who unknowingly inspired her character study.

Elizabeth Pattey (Big Mama) - Elizabeth first appeared at EPAC over 30 years ago as the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd*, and her most recent role was Judge Danforth in the 2022's *The Crucible*. She has also been recently active with Creative Works of Lancaster and People's Shakespeare Project. Favorite EPAC productions include *The Humans* (Deirdre Blake), *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Kate), *August:Osage County* (Violet Weston), *Death of a Salesman* (Linda Loman), *Assassins* (Sara Jane Moore), and EPAC's landmark 2013 production of *Angels in America* (Hannah Pitt, Ethel Rosenberg, et al).

Owen Ridenour (Sonny) - Owen is an 8-year-old Lampeter Strasburg school district student. He also enjoys singing, dancing, gymnastics, and swimming. He is a free-spirited 2nd grader that loves to laugh and show everyone his flexibility and gymnastics abilities whenever possible. Owen was seen as Tiny Tim in the Dutch Apple production of *Christmas Carol* this past winter and part of the LSHS *Shrek Musical* as Young Shrek and a Dwarf. Owen studies voice with Tami Orama at Vocal Pro Studios. Thank you to Kevin Ditzler for recommending Owen for this role. He is excited to be a part of this production.

Jeff Sims (Reverend Tooker) - Jeff is excited to be making his debut with EPAC for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. He has performed in the area with Creative Works of Lancaster and Theater of the Seventh Sister. Most recently he was seen in Creative Works' Play Grounds: Theater on Site, part of Lancaster ArtWalk, where he portrayed Frankie, the waiter, in *Picnic at Musser*, as well as in The 24 Hour Plays. He is thrilled to be a part of this cast and to work with the amazing production team here at EPAC.

Andrew Terranova (Gooper) - This is Andrew's first time stepping back on (any!) the EPAC stage in 22 years and he couldn't be more thrilled to return home. Previous EPAC shows include *The Boys From Syracuse*, *Kiss Of The Spider Woman*, *Anything Goes*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Camelot*, and *Cabaret*.

Anthony Zbrzezny (Doctor Baugh) - Anthony is honored and humbled to work with such wonderful and talented actors. After leaving the world of opera over thirty years ago, Tony came to EPAC and has performed in a variety of shows ranging from *The Crucible* to *Passion* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* and this year in *Rock of Ages*. Now to have the privilege to be a part of one of America's great plays is really something special. As always he thanks his wife and partner Grace who is so supportive of him following his passion. Also thank you for supporting the important work done at EPAC. We cannot do this without you.

MEET THE TEAM

Austin Barrick (Sound Designer)

Victor Capece (Scenic Designer) - Victor has been involved with EPAC since 1986, as a designer, Board member, Advisory Committee member, and Renovation Committee member. His first EPAC design was *The Mousetrap* (1987), and most recently, *How I Learned to Drive* (2023) with many in between, including *South Pacific* which featured tonight's director as Emile, *La Cage Aux Folles* featuring tonight's Big Daddy, *Blithe Spirit* featuring tonight's Big Mama, and enough others to elude his memory. He also portrayed the Emcee in the 1991 EPAC production of *Cabaret*. He is Professor Emeritus (a.k.a. 'retired') of Millersville University, Communication and Theatre; and retired from United Scenic Artists (the professional designer, and scenic artists union). In his New York career, he designed both scenery and costumes from NYC Opera at Lincoln Center, to the Parco Seibu Theatre in Tokyo; dozens of commercials, especially for jeans, in the 80's; and he created many effects, including toasted marshmallow, for the film 'Ghostbusters.' Victor also taught at Albright College, Pennsylvania Academy of Art and Design, and taught Intro To Theatre at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC). His work as a faux finisher and muralist is evident across the county. And he has designed for virtually every theatre in the area. Before joining the MU faculty, he was the Designer and Technical Director for Theatre Harrisburg. His retirement time is being spent as an exhibiting and award-winning artist, coveting a collection of vinyl records, and going back to his first career as a member of The Professional Magician's Club of Lancaster (In addition to enthusiastically working with EPAC).

Preston Cuer (Fight Choreographer)

Lionella Darling (Costume Designer) - 'Lio' has been designing clothes for imaginary friends for over a decade. Her designs can be found all over the world, including international tours, San Francisco, New York City, and Lancaster County. Recent local regional credits include *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Gypsy* (Gretna Theater), *Rocky Horror*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Hair* (Mickey's Black Box), and *The Little Dog Laughed* (EPAC). Other selected credits include *The Resting Place*, *The Gangster of Love*, and *the Eva Trilogy* (World Premier, Fort Mason Center Theater, SF), *So She Heard*, and *Home We Go* (World Premier, Int.) She would like to thank the cast and crew for their diligent work, Emily Munn for her wild willingness to get weird, her Mom and Dad for their unwavering support in this crazy life, and her glorious husband Benjamin who never ceases to take her breath away. A heartfelt thank you to all who attend; she hopes you enjoy!

Brody Eisenhour (Assistant Costume Designer) - Brody Eisenhour has been in love with fashion and design ever since the second grade. In middle school, he gave it a go at theater and fell in love with the world of costuming, hair, and makeup. He has designed many shows, including *Wicked Christmas Carol*, *Moana*, *Into the Woods*, *Elf*, *Peter Pan*, *Flat Stanley*, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, *Curious George*, and *Oliver!* He has assisted with many other shows including *Charlotte's Web*, *Suessical*, *Shrek*, *Christmas Carol*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Prom*. He would like to thank his family for trusting his instinct, his friends for being his lifeline, Kristi and Sam for trusting his visions, and Lio for being an unwavering inspiration and role model. Thank you to the cast and crew for all your hard work, and to the audience for coming! Enjoy the show!

MEET THE TEAM

Keith Eyrich (Properties) - That word should have new meaning for all of us today. We can't be consumed by our petty differences anymore. We will be united in our common interests. Perhaps it's fate that today is the Fourth of July.

Thomas Hudson (Associate Lighting Designer) - Thomas serves as a Production Account Manager at 4Wall Entertainment in Rock Lititz. He most recently designed *Clybourne Park* and *Rock of Ages* at EPAC, *Mamma Mia!* and *Radium Girls* at Ephrata High School, *Jekyll & Hyde* at Gretna Theatre, and *Tick Tick Boom!* at Genesis in Reading. He also owns Scary Good Productions in Ephrata, which specializes in Lighting Design, Rentals, Sales and Installations. Previously, he served as the Master Electrician at American Music Theater from 2018 to 2019. If you are interested in checking out any of his work please visit www.thomashudsonlighting.com or scarygoodpro.com.

Grant Patrick (Audio Manager) - Grant, our Lead Audio Engineer here at EPAC, is excited to be part of another EPAC season. He is a local sound designer from the Lancaster County area and was recognized for Best Sound Design of a Play or Musical in 2022 by Broadway World for his work in EPAC's *Amadeus*. Grant designs and sponsors these shows through his business, Anarchy Sound LLC. Grant would like to thank his girlfriend Rachel. He would not be able to do any of this without her overwhelming support.

Eileen Quinn (Stage Manager) - Eileen could not say no to the opportunity to stage manage once again under the direction of Sean Young. Plus it was Tennessee Williams and it was EPAC. She has been seen on stage and off stage at EPAC since 2016. She also worked as a member of the directing team and improvisational actor at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, stage managed the *Murder Mystery* at Mt. Hope and worked on and offstage and served as a Member of the Board at Susquehanna Stage Company. But there's only one place like EPAC, so here she is. Eileen would like to thank Sean Young for his diligence and his brilliance. Also the amazing production team at EPAC, who always manage to make miracles happen. And of course the wonderful cast who have dedicated themselves to making this such a phenomenal production.

Steve Schelling (Technical Director)

Alec Skwara (Managing Director) - A native of central New Jersey, Alec has produced and designed for shows around the tri-state area, focusing his design work primarily on lighting and scenic design. He hopes to continue helping to bring powerful and thoughtful performances to the Ephrata area that EPAC is known for. Alec would like to extend his gratitude to the people of the EPAC community that have made him feel welcome and comfortable in his adjustment to the area. Special thanks go to his family, his best friend Thomas and his partner Sarah for continuing to believe and support him, even when he finds it hard to believe in himself.

MEET THE TEAM

David Tyson (Lighting Designer) - David is a lighting designer from Harrisburg, PA. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre from York College of PA. He is the House Electrician and Lighting Console operator at EPAC, and designs for Scary Good Productions and LLC. His Lighting Designs include *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Rock of Ages*, *Clybourne Park*, *Shrek, Jr.*, *Finding Nemo, Jr.*, *Seussical, Jr.*, and Disney's *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* at EPAC, and *Seussical, Jr.* at Open Stage Harrisburg. He has also been in numerous plays/musicals, and a film. He would like to thank his girlfriend and his family/friends for all their continued support! LEMME TALK TO YA!

Sean Young (Director) - *Cat* marks Sean's 30th Anniversary at EPAC. Since 1994's *The Secret Garden*, he's appeared in more than two dozen main stage productions, including *Sweeney Todd*, *Assassins* (twice), *Ragtime*, *Evita*, *Sunday in the Park with George* (also twice) and last season's production of *The Prom*. He has also performed at the Fulton Theater (*Cinderella*), The American Music Theater (*Branson to Broadway*) and the Hershey Theater with the Hershey Symphony (*Jesus Christ Superstar in Concert*). Sean's directing credits include the EPAC productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 2008, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and the 9/11 tribute play, *The Guys*. His next directorial effort will be a staging of Aaron Sorkin's *A Few Good Men* this October at Lebanon Community Theatre. He dedicates this production to his mother who still thinks the only thing cooler than Elizabeth Taylor is Elvis.

EPAC ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Edward R. Fernandez (Artistic Director) - This is Ed's 28th year as Artistic Director of the Ephrata Performing Arts Center. A native of New York City, Ed studied theatre arts at the Leonard Davies Center for the Performing Arts at the City College of New York, as well as Acting and Scene Study with the renowned acting teacher and theorist Herbert Berghof at his studio in Manhattan. In 1987, he came to Lancaster to perform in the EPAC (Ephrata Performing Arts Center) production of *The Mousetrap*, fell in love with EPAC, and decided to move to Lancaster County.

After two years of acting in the Lancaster and Berks County area, Ed was asked to perform the leading role in Edward Albee's *The Man Who Had Three Arms* at the Albee Festival at Albright College. The production was moved to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Scotland), where it took the First Fringe Award. Upon returning to Lancaster County, Ed directed his first show at EPAC, *Golddust*, and a western musical based on Moliere's *The Miser*. After the opening of *Golddust*, Ed went on to become one of the most prolific directors of musical theatre in the Lancaster Area. In 1996, Ed took over the reins as Artistic Director at the Ephrata Performing Arts Center.

His EPAC directing credits are too numerous to mention, besides producing all the productions over his 28 years as Artistic Director, he has directed most of them. In addition, he has directed *Pacific Overtures*, *Macbeth* and *Oedipus Rex* for Theatre of the Seventh Sister, *Cinderella*, *Pippin*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Peter Pan* for the Fulton Opera House, and *Bus Stop* and *Dancing* at Lungasha for the York Little Theatre, now known as The Belmont. Ed's commitment to theatre education is reflected in the classes he has taught, including Basic Acting Technique, Advanced Scene, Monologue workshops, and Musical Theatre Technique.

Ed has seen the Ephrata Performing Arts Center grow incredibly over the 35-plus years that he has been here, from a small hot barn to the beautiful year-round facility you are sitting in tonight. It was a long hard road but a wonderful, fun one as well, filled with laughter, love, creativity, and great memories.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tennessee Williams - (1911-1983) was one of America's most prolific and important playwrights. His prodigious output included *The Glass Menagerie* (NY Drama Critics Award 1944), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (New York Drama Critics Award, Pulitzer Prize 1947), *Summer and Smoke* (1948), *The Rose Tattoo* (1951), *Camino Real* (1953), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (New York Drama Critics Award, Pulitzer Prize 1955), *Orpheus Descending* (1957), *Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959), *Night of the Iguana* (1961), *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore* (1963), *Out Cry* (1973), *Vieux Carre* (1977), *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur* (1979), and *Something Cloudy, Something Clear* (1981).



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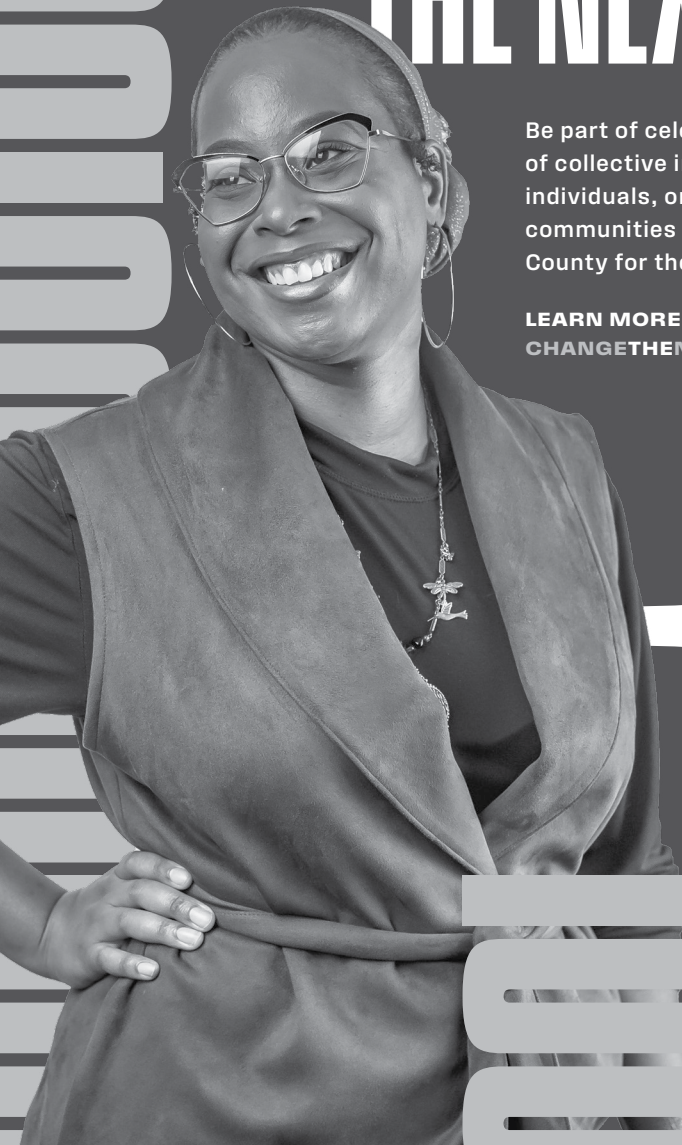
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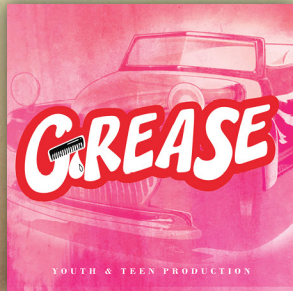
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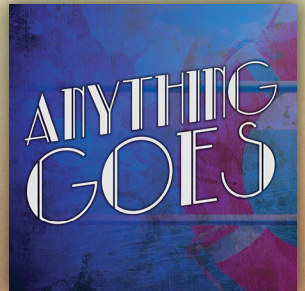
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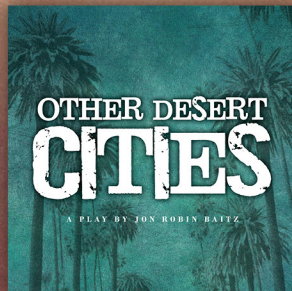
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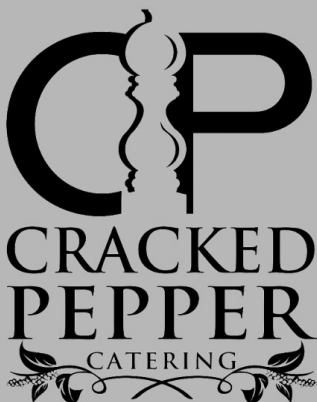


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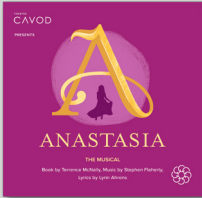
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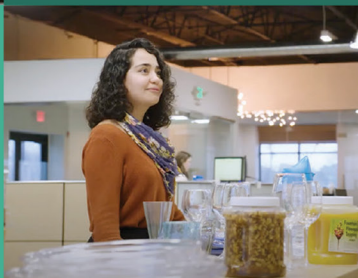
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