ARDEN CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRESENTS

The WONDERFUL WIZARD of OZ

Based on the Book by

L. FRANK BAUM

Adapted and Directed by

WHIT MACLAUGHLIN

Arden THEATRE CO

Honorary Producers:
Anne Cook and
Russ Troyer

NOV 25-JAN 17

On the F. Otto Haas Stage

Production Sponsor:

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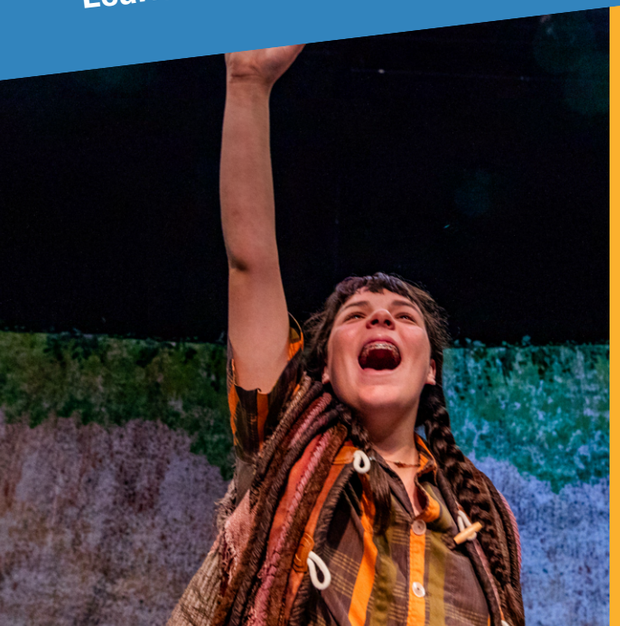

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WELCOME

From the Producing Artistic Director



Welcome to *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*!

This is the 50th Arden Children's Theatre production we've produced. We believe kids and their families deserve great theatre, and we've been lucky that so many people have come together to make that happen.

Our first children's show was *Charlotte's Web* back in 1998. That first year, a parent came up to me and suggested we check out this new book about a kid who goes to a school for wizards — she thought it would be a great children's show. That was a very good tip, but we didn't get the rights to that wizard story. But we have produced so many great stories through the years. And now, for the very first time, we are producing *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, adapted and directed by Whit MacLaughlin (Arden Children's Theatre's own wizard of wonder).

I love when adults walk into our lobby and tell the box office, "I saw a play here about dinosaurs when I was a kid." Or when parents pass the tradition on - showing their kids the photos in the lobby of the shows they saw when they were kids. Part of the magic of what we do is we help make memories. Live theatre makes that possible.

With Arden Children's Theatre, we partner with schools throughout the area with a program we call Arden for All. Their 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders come here to see our shows and we go to their classrooms to get them excited about theatre and reading and being creative. This year, one of our schools is celebrating 20 years being part of Arden for All (Go CW Henry!) To all the students, teachers, administrators, bus drivers, Arden Teaching Artists, and supporters who make this program possible, THANK YOU! We are so proud that you are part of the Arden.

Thanks for making memories here at the Arden. Our 51st Arden Children's Theatre production is *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. Come check it out!



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Energizing **Vibrant Creativity,** Together.

At PECO, our responsibility goes beyond keeping the lights on and natural gas flowing. It's about fueling the communities we serve. We proudly support organizations like the Arden Children's Theatre and its production of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,* making the arts more accessible and bringing people together through creativity and connection.

This is our home, too—and it's neighbors like you who inspire us to make every day brighter and our communities more vibrant.

Learn more at peco.com/community

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A Message
From our Production Sponsor

PECO is proud to continue our longstanding partnership with the Arden Theatre and support this season's production of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*.

Supporting the arts throughout Greater Philadelphia is central to what we do. We don't just power homes and businesses – we help power creativity, connection, and opportunity for all. By partnering with organizations like the Arden Theatre, PECO is helping make the arts more accessible and welcoming for diverse audiences, so everyone can enjoy the stories, performances, and experiences that bring our communities together.

At PECO, we believe the arts inspire and light the way for the next generation of creators and leaders. That's why we couldn't be prouder to support the Arden Theatre as they bring stories like *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* to life for audiences of all ages in our community.

Enjoy the show!

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Arden DRAMA SCHOOL

WINTER 2027



Learn more and register online at ardentheatre.org

Action packed and taught by theatre professionals!

A Message from our Honorary Producers



Welcome to the Arden—we hope you're ready for an adventure! As Honorary Producers, we are delighted to support this new adaptation of L. Frank Baum's beloved book, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*—a story brimming with curious characters where courage and friendship and the power we carry within us lead the way. There have been a multitude of adaptations of the original Baum book, published in 1900: the 1939 *Wizard of Oz* classic movie (which, according to the U.S. Library of Congress, is the most seen film in cinematic history); the 1978 film, *The Wiz*, and the 1974 Broadway musical from which it was adapted; *The Wizard of Oz*, graphic novel (2020) by Russell Punter with art by Simona Bursi; and the Marvel's *Oz* Comic Series (2009), to name just a few. We are excited to add to the list the latest adaptation by Whit MacLaughlin, the acclaimed creator who has brought so many wonderful stories to the Arden stage including *A Year with Frog and Toad* (our favorite), *Charlotte's Web* and *Peter Pan*. We know Whit is going to do amazing things with this story!

What a treat it is to share the fascinating world of live theatre with our grandchildren, to experience the awe and wonder through their eyes. Children's theatre invites audiences to help create the world of the play through their own imaginations. Together, we can follow a road, meet a stranger who becomes a friend, and imagine a place far beyond the walls around us. We are proud to support the artists who make these experiences possible and the Arden for its commitment to creating imaginative theatre for young people and their families. And we give a special shout out to Arden for All, the program we support, which helps make live theatre accessible to children from all socioeconomic backgrounds, and is designed to encourage literacy, inspire creativity and confidence, and allow students to discover their unique strengths and abilities.

Put on your silver shoes, sit back, and enjoy the show!

Anne Cook and Russ Troyer

Accessibility Services

Accessible Seating & Seating Requests
Removable seats for wheelchairs & Accommodations for comfort, mobility, and hearing or vision needs.

Caption Glasses (CG)
Wearable, customizable closed captioning glasses. Available 1 week after Opening Nights. Ask Box Office to borrow.

Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs)
Amplification of all onstage sounds. Available with headphones or a t-coil neck loop.

Large Print Programs
Enlarged-text printed programs for low-vision patrons.

Open Captioning (OC)
Text display of all dialogue and sounds. Available select Friday and Saturday performances.

Audio Description (AD)
Live verbal commentary of all visual elements. Available select Friday and Saturday performances.

KultureCity Sensory Tools
All Arden staff are Sensory-Friendly trained. Quiet Area, Social Stories, and Fidgeting Tools available.

Service Dogs
We welcome patrons with Service Dogs to attend our performances.

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ARDEN CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRESENTS

THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ

Based on the book by L. FRANK BAUM

Adapted and Directed by WHIT MACLAUGHLIN

Scenic Designer
DAVID P. GORDON+

Costume Designer
JILLIAN KEYS

Lighting Designer
JORGE ARROYO+

Sound Designer & Composer
JORDAN MCCREE

Assistant Director
JACK TAYLOR

Dramaturg
EMORY MACLAUGHLIN

Stage Manager
LYNDSEY CONNOLLY*

Honorary Producers:
Anne Cook and Russ Troyer

Production Sponsor:

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+ Member of United Scenic Artists Local USA 829

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the U.S.

A Note
From the Director



There are jobs. And then there are missions.

Sometimes I walk into a rehearsal as a director and it's a total blast. Fun, inspiring, always surprising. Pure pleasure. Sometimes, though, this career of theatre is really hard work. Perplexing and difficult. A struggle.

We who do this as a profession know this in our bones. The making of art is work; daily work. So many people at the Arden have committed their energies and labor to making what you will see in this production of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The work, though, is transformed when we remember that art has a purpose. We come to realize and often bring to mind, that making theatre is a mission. Mission describes work that has meaning. We undertake missions when we do work that is an expression of what we value.

Theatre becomes a mission when we add you to the mix. The audience.

Dorothy begins this new version of the *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* talking about work. She doesn't want to work. She doesn't like chores. She admits that farmers grow your food, but she wants to avoid some of the work farming requires.

She gets whisked out of Kansas by a tornado and thrust into a rich and fantastical story. She is sent by the Witch of the North to the Wizard of Oz to pursue a mission – to discover her true home. Along the way, she meets strange and wonderful beings. The mission leads to friendship and tasks she is asked to perform. She doesn't know how. The mission leads to a deeper understanding of herself. She discovers that she has dreams that lie deep in her heart and require her to understand where she belongs and what family means to her.

We do jobs to keep ourselves healthy by providing ourselves with food and shelter. We undertake missions to give meaning to our lives. The friends we make on a mission are very different from the friends we make in casual everyday life. Closer. Deeper.

Dorothy learns this difference.

We do things in a special way at the Arden. For me, working for the Arden Theatre has felt like a mission from the very beginning. I sense that making performance for young people at the Arden is a special kind of activity. Work, yes, but with meaning. I have tried to pack what I have learned and experienced while making plays into this particular version of Dorothy's story. It is a mission with soul.

Whit MacLaughlin

Cast of Characters

Aunt Em/The Witches/and Others.....Grace Gonglewski*
Scarecrow/and Others.....Adam Howard*
Tinwoodman/and Others.....Sean Lally*
Cowardly Lion/and Others.....Kishia Nixon*
Dorothy.....Brazil Taylor*
Uncle Henry/Wizard of Oz/and Others.....Steven Anthony Wright*

UNDERSTUDIES

Solomon Hess (Scarecrow/and Others), AJ Krier (Tinwoodman/and Others),
Jordan Neff (Aunt Em/The Witches/and Others), Kiara Negroni (Dorothy),
Julie Rivera (Cowardly Lion/and Others), Christian Tuffy(Uncle Henry/Wizard of Oz/and Others)

Arden Theatre Company is a professional company employing members of Actors' Equity Association.
*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
Please check houseboards for any program changes.
Taking pictures and/or making visual or sound recordings is expressly forbidden.
Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States.
Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. www.actorsequity.org



GRACE GONGLEWSKI (*Aunt Em/The Witches/and Others*) Arden: (27 Roles). Off-Broadway: *The Guys* (The Flea Theater). Regional: Arena Stage, Cape May Stage, The Cape Playhouse, Delaware Theatre Company, Folger Shakespeare Theatre, Fulton Theatre, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival (11 seasons), Philadelphia Theatre Company, Orlando Shakespeare Festival, Walnut Street Theatre (11 roles), Wilma Theater, 1812, and a tour of Ireland with InterAct Theatre Company. Grace has a BFA from North Carolina School of the Arts and four Barrymore Awards. She is the voice of Longwood Gardens, Cooper Hospital, The Philadelphia Zoo and Mass Mutual Insurance, among others.

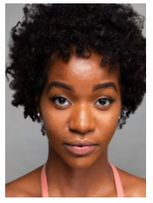


ADAM HOWARD (he/him) (*Scarecrow/and Others*) is a Barrymore nominated actor here in Philadelphia. Regional theatre credits include: *Why I Stuck a Flare Up ……For England* (Inis Nua Theatre Co. Barrymore Nom: Outstanding Leading Performance in a Play), *Proof* (Act II Playhouse), *The Shark is Broken* (Montgomery Theatre), Mitch in *Tuesdays With Morrie* (Delaware Theatre Co. Barrymore Nom: Outstanding Leading Performance in a Play), *The Real Thing* (Lantern Theatre Co.), *Peter Pan* (Arden Theatre Co.), *Camp Siegfried* (Theatre Exile), Wilbur in *Charlotte's Web* (Arden Theatre Co.), as well as work at Hedgerow Theatre, People's Light, and Shakespeare in Clark Park. Adam graduated with a BFA in Acting w/ a Minor in Creative Writing. As always, love to Mom.



SEAN LALLY (*Tinwoodman/and Others*) Arden: *The Hobbit*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Equivocation*, *The Jungle Book*, *Robin Hood*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *The Threepenny Opera*, Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*. Off-Broadway: *In Conflict* (The Culture Project/Temple University). Regional: *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Lantern Theater Company); (Flashpoint Theatre Company); *Death of a Salesman*, *Gint*, *Bluebird*, *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*, *Spring Awakening* (EgoPo Classic Theater); *Andy: A Popera* (The Bearded Ladies Cabaret/Opera Philadelphia); *Spinner* (Delaware Theatre Company); *John* (ArtsWest); *Everything Is Illuminated* (Book-It Repertory Theatre). Education: Temple University, BA Philosophy. Thanks to my family, friends and co-workers for their constant support. And special thanks to my love, Tara!

Who's Who



KISHIA NIXON (*Cowardly Lion/and Others*) Arden: *Good Bones*, *The Mountaintop*, *Holy Grail of Memphis*, *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, *Clyde's*. Regional: *Glitter in the Glass*, *Sing The Body Electric* (Theatre Exile); *Amsterdam* (Theatre Ariel); *Green Eyes*, *The Strange Play* (Tennessee Williams Festival); *Say It Ain't So* (Revolution Shakespeare); *Fabulation or the Re-education of Undine*, *The Comedy of Errors* (Lantern Theater Company); *The Comedy of Errors* (Shakespeare in Clark Park); *Delaware Young Playwrights* (Delaware Theatre Company); *Life is a Dream*, *Three Sisters Two* (EgoPo Classic Theater); *Upon Re-Entry*, *La Ronde* (Die Cast Collective); *A Twist of Water* (Passage Theatre Company); *Spies!! Even More Spying* (Philadelphia Fringe Festival); *Aggy the Adventurer* (Act II Playhouse). Education: BFA in Acting (Arcadia University). Kishia is happy to be back at the Arden! You can catch her at The National Constitution Center in Freedom Rising! As always, this is for you, Dad, RIP.



BRAZIL TAYLOR (*Dorothy*) Arden Debut. Marianne (U/S) in *Girl from the North Country* (Arden). Regional: Young Olivia in *The Color Purple* (The Road Company at the Grand Theater); Lorraine in *All Shook Up* (Music Mountain Theater); Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Musik Haus Studios); Tilly Evans in *She Kills Monsters*, Madame Henri in *The Fantasticks*, Senator Fipp in *Urinetown: The Musical*, Love in *EVERYBODY* (Arcadia University). Film/TV: El in *Fever* (MANY THINGS PRODUCTIONS, LLC). Education: Arcadia University, BFA Musical Theater, Musik Haus Studios. A special thanks to my family, friends, and mentors for their endless support along my journey.



STEVEN ANTHONY WRIGHT (*Uncle Henry/Wizard of Oz/and Others*) Arden: Father/Mrs. Which/Camazotz Man/Ensemble in *A Wrinkle in Time*, John Arable/Gander in *Charlotte's Web*, Dr. Boekman in *Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates*, Eli in *Gem of the Ocean*. Regional: *The Spectacularly Lamentable Trial of Miz Martha Washington* (Wilma Theater), Turner Greystone in *Fraternity* (Theatre in the X); Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Chorus Leader/Odyssey Dog in *Father Come Home from the Wars*, Bellomy in *The Fantasticks*, Philoctetes in *The Cure at Troy*, Mr. Brownlow in *Oliver*, Vanya in *Uncle Vanya* (Quintessence Theatre Group); Peter Austin in *It's Only a Play* (Act II Playhouse); Cecil B. Moore in *RIZZO* (Philadelphia Theatre Company); Martin in *Fool for Love*, Paddy in *Hairy Ape*, Charlie in *Death of a Salesman*, Marat in *Marat/Sade* (EgoPo Classic Theater); Lovin' Al in *Working*, Frederick Douglass in *The Agitators* (Theatre Horizon).

L. FRANK BAUM (Author)(May 15, 1856 – May 6, 1919) was an American author of children's books, best known for writing *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, published in 1900. One of the most successful novels in American literature, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* sold out instantly, became a cultural sensation, and sold over three million copies before entering the public domain in 1956. Baum wrote thirteen novel sequels, nine other fantasy novels, and a host of other works, including 83 short stories, over 200 poems, and 55 novels. He made numerous attempts to bring his works to the stage and screen. Baum's writings remarkably anticipated innovations including television, augmented reality, laptop computers (*The Master Key*), wireless telephones (*Tik-Tok of Oz*), women in high-risk, action-heavy occupations (*Mary Louise in the Country*), and the ubiquity of advertising on clothing (*Aunt Jane's Nieces at Work*).

WHIT MACLAUGHLIN (Adaptor and Director) is delighted to be returning to the Arden Theatre for his 29th directing assignment. 25 of which have been for children. Favorites at the Arden: *A Year With Frog and Toad* and *The Dinosaur Musical* (world premiere), *The Snow Queen*, *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, *Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates* (world premiere), *The Syringa Tree*, performed by his wife Catharine Slusar, and three mountings of *Charlotte's Web.* He is also the OBIE and Barrymore Award-winning Artistic Director of New Paradise Laboratories. His original works with NPL include commissions for the Humana Festival of New American Plays and the Tony Award-winning Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis. Recent work: *How To Get To The River*, a science-based art experience created for The Academy of Natural Sciences, *707 Hazardous Moves* - a solo performance written for him to perform, *Avalanche of No - Riffing on Macbeth*, and *A Particle of Dread*, Sam Shepard's final play, for the National Theatre of Turkey. Newparadiselaboratories.com

JACK TAYLOR (Assistant Director) Arden Acting Credits include *Charlotte's Web* and The BFG *(Big Friendly Giant)*. Acting: Mina/Van Helsing in *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* (Curio Theatre Company), Brad Majors in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Iron Crow Theatre), Musidorus (u/s) in *Head Over Heels* (Constellation Theatre Company). Direction: *Head Over Heels*, *Little Women*, *Romeo and Juliet* (OJ Productions). Education: BFA in Acting from Arcadia University. Special thanks to his family, Jeff, Norbert and friends for their endless love and support! www.jcktylor.com

LYNDSEY CONNOLLY (Stage Manager) Arden: Stage Manager for *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Wrinkle in Time, The Hobbit, Peter Pan, The Lehman Trilogy,* and *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, Assistant Stage Manager for *Girl from the North Country, Once on This Island, Assassins*, and *Every Brilliant Thing*, Deck Crew for *Clyde's*. Regional: Stage Manager for *The Real Thing* (Lantern Theater Company) Stage Manager for *the pigeon*. (The Strides Collective); Stage Manager for *Hannah + The Healing Stone* (The terraNOVA Collective). Education: Entertainment and Arts Management with a concentration in Theatre (Drexel University). Love forever to Aaron & Seanie.

DAVID P. GORDON (Scenic Designer) Arden: 50 productions including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Once on This Island*, *Cabaret*, *Freud's Last Session*, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. New York: The Public Theater, Theatre for a New Audience, Classic Stage Company, Ensemble Studio Theatre. Regional: Wilma Theater, Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Hartford Stage, Goodspeed Musicals, The Old Globe, Long Wharf Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, The Kennedy Center. Opera: New York City Opera, LA Opera, Seattle Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Sarasota Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Nashville Opera, Lincoln Center. Awards: 6 Barrymore Awards, Elliot Norton Award. Chair of Theater, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University. www.davidpgordondesign.com.

JILLIAN KEYS (Costume Designer) is stoked to be back at The Arden after previously designing: *Romeo and Juliet*, *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*, *Peter Pan*, *The Light Princess*, *Treasure Island*, and *An Iliad*. A UArts grad (class of 2011), Jillian has worked with many theater companies all over the city, and also does Creative Direction for events and decor installations for hospitality groups in Philadelphia, for more info please visit jkeyscreative.com

JORGE ARROYO (Lighting Designer) Arden: *Falsettos*, *Into the Woods*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Charlotte's Web*. Regional: *The Book Club Play* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park), *K-I-S-S-I-N-G* (Huntington Theatre Company), *Lend Me A Soprano* (Alley Theatre), *Party People* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* (Baltimore Center Stage), *Unspeakable* (The Apollo Theater), *The Garbologists* (City Theatre), *When Aliens Fall From The Sky* (ASU Gammage), *A Christmas Carol* (Westport Country Playhouse), *The Fantasticks* (People's Light and Theatre Company). Off-Broadway: *Whisper House* (The Civilians), *Southern Promises* (Flea Theatre), *Sawbones, The Diamond*

Who's Who

JORGE ARROYO (cont). *Eater* (HERE Arts Center). Other: Alicia Keys (Jazz @ Lincoln Center), *Eurydice* (Boston Lyric Opera), Gabriel Iglesias, The Wayans Brothers, The Winans, Jackie Mason, Wayne Shorter Quartet, Toshi Reagon, Kenny Garrett, Stanley Jordan, Stephen Schwartz, The Chieftains (New Jersey Performing Arts Center), Mind+Life (TEDx New England), Moments Defined (Stacey Tookey Dance). Education: MFA from New York University. Affiliations: Assistant Professor and Head of the Lighting Design Program at Boston University. Member of USA829. Website: www.jorgearroyo.com

EMORY MACLAUGHLIN (Dramaturg) Arden debut. Emory has spent the last few years in Atlanta, and she is thrilled to be back in Philadelphia and working at the Arden. Regional: Siri in *The Lost Ballad* (reading) (Alliance Theatre) Juliet in *Juliet/Romeo: Reversed* (GerArts), Sister James u/s in *Doubt* (performed!) and Marie u/s in *Marie Antionette* (Actor's Express), Marie u/s in *The Revolutionists* (Theatrical Outfit). Education: Apprentice 2024-25, Actor's Express. Emory University, BA Theater Studies. So many thanks to her amazing family! @emory_maclaughlin

JORDAN MCCREE (Sound Designer & Composer) Arden: *Good Bones*. Regional: *The Most Spectacularly Lamentable Trial of Miz Martha Washington*, *Eternal Life Part 1*, *Fat Ham*, *Good Person of Setzuan* (Wilma Theater); *The Comeuppance* (Woolly Mammoth Theatre/Wilma Theater); *Caesar*, *Cost of Living* (Philadelphia Theatre Company); *The Holy Fool*, *fallawayinto* (Ninth Planet); *we come to collect: a flirtation with capitalism* (Jenn Kidwell); *Grief Hotel* (Clubbed Thumb). Film: *The Karamazovs* (Village Park Productions). Awards: 2022 grant recipient to the 1/52 Project, 2025 Barrymore Award for Outstanding Sound Design. They are also a member of Philly-based, Barrymore Award-winning, hip-hop collective, ILL DOOTS. Their album, Divine Transmission, is available everywhere!

TERRENCE J. NOLEN (Producing Artistic Director) is Co-founder and Producing Artistic Director of Arden Theatre Company. Favorite Arden productions include all-Philadelphia casts of *The Lehman Trilogy*, *August: Osage County*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *Hedda Gabler*; and such musicals as *Next to Normal*, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Violet*, and *Caroline, or Change*. Terry directed the inaugural production of Arden Children's Theatre, *Charlotte's Web*. He has directed eight world-premiere plays by Michael Hollinger, three by Dennis Raymond Smeal, three by Michael Ogborn, two by Rogelio Martinez, and Bruce Graham's *Something Intangible*. Terry has been nominated for 27 Barrymore Awards for his directing work at the Arden and received awards for *The Baker's Wife*; *Sweeney Todd; Opus; Winesburg, Ohio; Assassins; Something Intangible*; and *Fun Home*. He directed Michael Hollinger's *Opus* at Primary Stages in New York and was nominated for a Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Director. His short film *The Personal Touch* was nominated for an Emmy Award.

AMY L. MURPHY (Managing Director) A Philadelphia native, Amy co-founded the Arden in 1988 with Terrence J. Nolen and Aaron Posner. She is especially proud of the Arden Professional Apprentice program and its contribution to the Philadelphia cultural community. A graduate of Susquehanna University, Amy received its first-ever Young Alumni Achievement Award. She completed the Executive Program for Non Profit Leaders- Arts which is a joint program of the Stanford Graduate School of Business Center for Social Innovation and National Arts Strategies. Amy has served on the Board of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance and Theatre Philadelphia, as well as the Executive Board of League of Resident Theatres. In addition, she has served on panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey State Arts Council, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Arts & Humanities Arts Council of Montgomery County and Theatre Communications Group. Amy was named a Hepburn Fellow 2008-9 by the Katharine Houghton Hepburn Center at Bryn Mawr College and was the recipient of the Inaugural Betsy Award, at the historic Betsy Ross House in 2025.

ARDEN THEATRE COMPANY Founded in 1988, Arden Theatre Company is dedicated to bringing to life great stories by great storytellers–on the stage, in the classroom, and in the community. We create and produce new work through the Independence Foundation New Play Showcase. The Arden Professional Apprenticeship program trains future theatre leaders, and Arden

Plan Your Oz Adventure!

Create your own trip to Oz by choosing your answers to the questions below!

Who will you bring with you to Oz?

- A family member
- A friend
- A pet

How will you travel to Oz?

- Ride in a tornado!
- Fly with Witch's umbrella!
- Hot air balloon ride!

Where are you most excited to go in Oz?

- The Land of the Munchkins
- The Witch's Castle
- The Emerald City

Who do you want to meet when you're in Oz?

- The Wizard!
- Good Witch of the North!
- A flying monkey!

ARDEN THEATRE COMPANY (cont.) Drama School classes teach children and teens about the craft of making plays. Our access program, Arden For All, makes our work available to the entire community through subsidized tickets and books for economically disadvantaged young people, and our Arden Arts Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for Arden Drama School classes and camps. The Arden has received 13 Philadelphia Magazine "Best of Philly" Awards, the Arts & Business Council's Arts Excellence Award, six City Paper "Reader's Choice" Awards, four Philadelphia Inquirer "Theatre Company of the Year" citations, 96 awards and 479 nominations from the Theatre Philadelphia's Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre, and was named "Best Theatre Company" by Philadelphia Weekly in 2009. Arden Theatre Company, a professional, nonprofit 501(c)(3) theatre company, is a member of the League of Resident Theatres, Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, and Old City Arts Association.

TALL STORIES THEATRE COMPANY

The Gruffalo

FEB 13

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@oldcityvino

Cuba Libre*
10 S 2nd Street
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cubalibrerestaurant.com
@cubalibrephiladelphia

The Franklin Fountain*
116 Market Street
215.627.1899
franklinfountain.com
@franklinfountain

Fork
306 Market Street
215.625.9425
forkrestaurant.com
@forkrestaurant

Fringe Bar*
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@fringebarphilly

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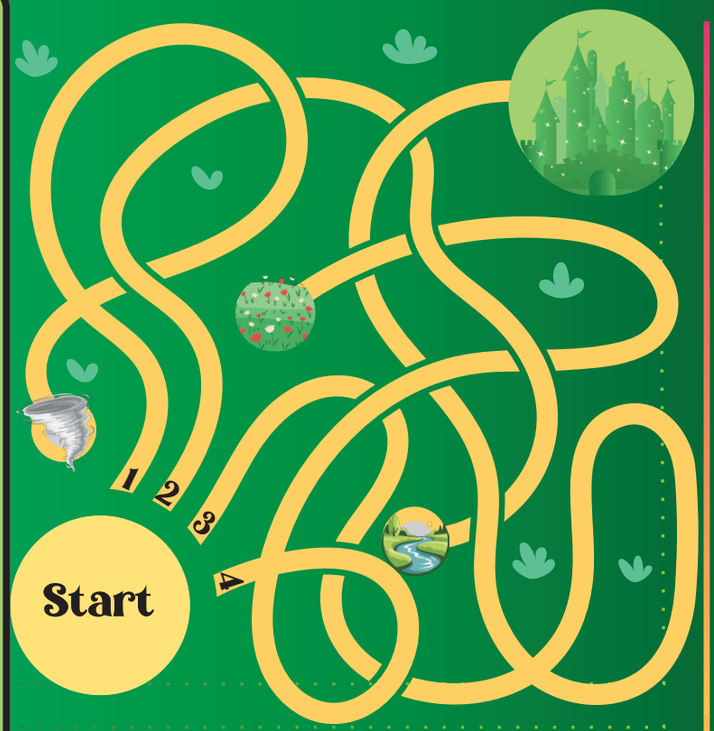
Restaurants with * offer a special promotion to Arden patrons. Please ask your server for details/ scan the QR code for more details.

For complete restaurant descriptions visit: ardentheatre.org/dining

Dining Partners as of November 13, 2026

Can you help Dorothy and her friends get to the Emerald City?

Choose the path on the Road of Yellow Brick that leads them there!



Answer: 3

Dorothy and her friends want to ask the Great Wizard of Oz for something. Unscramble the words to find out what they want!

raibn

ehrat

oemh

ocreuag

Answers: brain, heart
home, courage

Silly Toto! Dorothy's dog has run off again!

Count how many times you can find where Toto has been in this Stagebill!

Answer: (8)

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28 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE

In 1998, Arden Children's Theatre was founded on the dual premises that children's theatre must maintain the same high production values as our nationally respected Mainstage shows, and that theatre should be affordable for children and their families.

28 years on, we are proud to continue delivering on that mission. Each year, we produce two Children's Theatre shows. The artistic teams used on our Children's Theatre productions work with us throughout the season on shows presented for our adult audiences. This means that children have access to exciting theatre created by award-winning artists.

We're so excited that you could join us for our 50th production: *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, directed and adapted by our longtime collaborator, Whit MacLaughlin. This is Whit's 25th time directing an Arden Children's Theatre show!





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Arden Theatre Company

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The Sylvan Society recognizes individuals who support the Arden's work by making annual gifts of $1,000 or more.

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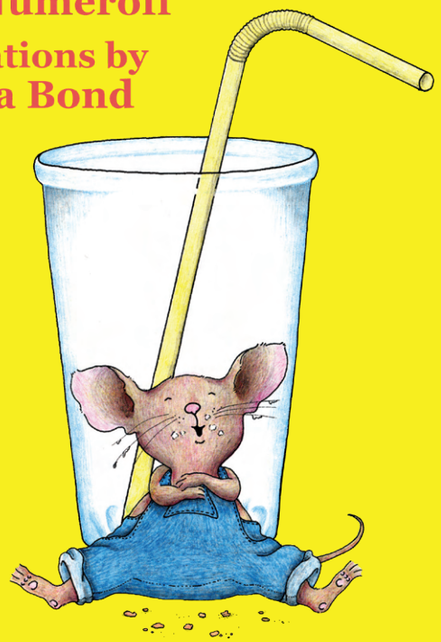

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Robert Elfant
Jennifer Harmelin
Dr. Valerie Harrison
Holly Kinser
Michael MacFarland
Richard L. Maimon
Genvieve Shields
Lee van de Velde

Finance Committee
Michael MacFarland, *Chair*
Juan De León Domenech
Ann Marie Horner
Dan Hilferty
Harvey Swedloff
Katherine Tracy

Board Development Committee
Dr. Valerie Harrison, *Chair*
Michael Donato
Robert Elfant
Holly Kinser
Saifuddin T. Mama
Lee van de Velde
Diane Dalto Woosnam

Personnel Committee
Michael Donato
Richard Harris
Michael S. MacFarland
Charles H. Rose

Engagement Committee
Jennifer Harmelin, *Chair*
Genvieve Shields, *Chair*
Lee van de Velde
Anne Cook
Elizabeth Fernández-Viña
Camille Rosenberg
Hope Yursa

Facilities Committee
Richard L. Maimon, *Chair*
Mike Green
James Kronzer
John J. McCawley
H. Hetherington Smith
Chris van de Velde

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)
Rayenne Chen
Anne Cook
Joy L. De Jesús
Robert Elfant
Kash Goins
Richard Harris
Dr. Valerie Harrison
Zuhairah McGill
Amy L. Murphy
Bi Jean Ngo
Terrence J. Nolen
Hon. Judge Rosalyn K. Robinson
Clayton Tejada
Orelí Uzdavinis

Young Friends Committee
Chelsea Beytas
Kathleen Johnson
Alexa Josaphouitch
Meredith McGovern
Jenny Morrison
Mandie Spindler
Diana Zalewski







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Staff

Artistic
Producing Artistic Director.....Terrence J. Nolen
Associate Artistic Director.....Jonathan Silver
Artistic Assistant.....Nick Hatcher
Commissioned Playwrights.....Lorene Cary, Kash Goins, Robi Hager, Rogelio Martinez, Iraisa Ann Reilly, James Ijames

Administrative Management
Managing Director.....Amy L. Murphy
General Manager.....Clayton Tejada
Business Manager.....Paola Cruz
Associate General Manager.....Jeffrey Mason
General Management Assistant.....Fable Rowell
Arden Professional Apprentices.....Olivia Burrows, Jared DeShields, Grace Haskell, Liam Snead, Camden Stankus, Dylan Stevens, Cinnamon Stoner

Marketing
Director of Marketing and Communications.....Mike Hogue
Communications Manager.....Ciera Thomas
Marketing Manager.....Alexa Perillo
Marketing and Group Sales Associate.....TJ Harris
Archivist.....Emily Lathers
Publicist.....En Route Marketing

Development
Director of Development.....Jessica Abel
Manager of Individual Giving.....Tylar Benedetto
Manager of Institutional Giving.....Gwyn Garrison
Major Gift Officer and Campaign Manager.....Orelí B. Uzdavinis Nazario

Education
Director of Education.....Elise D'Avella
Education Outreach Manager.....Josh Thorps
Education Associate.....Francine Odri
Teaching Artists.....TJ Harris, Jessica Money, Julianna Babb, Cindy Paul, Andrea Rose Cardoni, Zoe Hollander, Katherine Perry, Eliana Pinckney, Gina Giachero, Jake Collins, Jordan Hunter-Fidalgo, Lexi Schreiber, William Daniels, Lydia Hassell, Abby Weissman, Leah Cohen, Campbell O'Hare, Ryan Touhey, Lize Meisenzahl, Curtis Harris, MK Prophett, Gabe Moses, Kevin Muchetti, Maddy Gillespie, Aurelien Eulert, Evan Hilborn, Jack Krukiel, Ryan Colbert, Charlie Barney, Christen Mandracchia, Dave Allison, Jayson Brown, Brooke Shilling

Front of House
Box Office Manager.....Jason Blacketer
Assistant Box Office Manager.....Cam Adams
House Manager.....Skyler Gonzalez
Front of House Associate.....Catey Midla
Front of House Assistants.....Em Brandon, Margaux Cattelona, Leanna Dankel-Paylor, Alister De Mets, Matthew Falance, Becky Fleckner, Chelsey Gaskins, Liv Hershey, Emily Hernandez, Adiah Hicks, Kyle Lee, Madison Luckey, Jacob Marder, Glynnis Nadel, Madeline Rodriguez, Lizzie Rutkevich

Production
Production Manager.....Kate Nelson
Technical Director.....Evan Lewis
Assistant Technical Director.....John Winter
Electrics Supervisor.....Martin Stutzman
Sound Supervisor.....John Kolbinski
Costume Shop Manager.....Bridget Brennan
Assistant Costume Shop Manager.....Mae Merkle
Wardrobe Supervisor.....Ryn Smith
Properties Supervisor.....Kelly McLaughlan
Charge Scenic Artist.....Brit Bannon
Assistants to the Stage Manager.....Cinnamon Stoner, Liam Snead
Production Assistant.....Ta'Liyah Thomas
Audio Engineer.....John Kolbinski
Company Safety Managers.....Clayton Tejada, Jonathan Silver
Programmer.....Zivia Lichtenberg

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The CCSJ Team is proud to continue our *Support the Arts Initiative*, donating to local performing arts organizations for every closing. Whether you're on-stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience, choose the REALTOR®s who support our arts community.



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