



Oyster Mill Playhouse - 1001 Oyster Mill Road - Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011 - 717.737.6768 - www.oystermill.com

## “The Cat’s Meow” Opens July 10th

Oyster Mill presents the fifth production of its 2015 season with “The Cat’s Meow”. Come out and support the actors and actresses who are presenting this drama written by Steven Peros. The public performances will be on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00 PM. There will be a Sunday matinee on July 19<sup>th</sup> and July 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. Special thanks (ahead of time) to those cast and crew members (at time of publication) that made this show possible:



### CAST INFORMATION

ELINOR GLYNN	LOIS HEAGY
WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST	JOEL PERSING
MARION DAVIS	MARY MCCLEARY
TOM INCE	CHRISTOPHER GREGORY
CHARLIE CHAPLIN	SAMUEL EISENHUTH
GEORGE THOMAS	MATT KEMENY
LUELLA PARSONS	MARIE DE LA HOZ
MARGARET LIVINGSTON	AMANDA GREGORY
CELIA MOORE	ELAINE KNOX
DIDI DAWSON	KAYLA VAN ORNER
JOE WILLICOMB	JIM “BLUTO” FISHER
DR. GOODMAN	RON NASON
MRS. GOODMAN	LISA GILDEA

### CREW INFORMATION

DIRECTOR	CHRIS KRAHULEC
PRODUCER	WILLIAM O’DONNELL
STAGE MANAGER	CAROL MCDONOUGH
SET DESIGN	CHRIS KRAHULEC, ADAM DUNLAP, & BRIAN MOORE
SET CONSTRUCTION	CHRIS KRAHULEC, ADAM DUNLAP, BRIAN MOORE, CAROL MCDONOUGH, & SUSAN OSOLOWSKI
COSTUME DESIGN	JOYCE O’DONNELL & LINDA-LOUISE BUSH
COSTUME ALTERATIONS	LINDA-LOUISE BUSH, JOYCE O’DONNELL, CHERYL PETROFF, & SAMANTHA WEAVER
HAT DESIGN	JUDY RAZVILLAS
CHARLESTON CHOREOGRAPHY	MARIANNE KRAHULEC

### CREW INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

LIGHTING DESIGN	STEPHEN HENSEL
SOUND DESIGN	CHRIS GREGORY & CHRIS KRAHULEC
LIGHTING TECNICIAN	CAROL MCDONOUGH
MARQUEE DESIGN	MEGAN GRASSO
PHOTOGRAPHY	KRISTA MESSNER
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION	MARTE ENGLE

## Patriotic Musical Trivia

In honor of the month of July and that patriotic musical 1776, can you answer the following questions about the musical without running to your CD or DVD shelf:

1. Who were the five members that made up the committee to draft the Declaration of Independence?
2. What bird did Thomas Jefferson suggest be the national bird?
3. What item did Abigail Adams demand from John in order to receive saltpeter barrels from her various committees?
4. Who broke the tie for Pennsylvania that ended up passing the motion of independence 13-0?
5. What was the major issue that ultimately had to be removed from the document for the Southern colonies to sign it?

## Volunteer for House Staff

If you would like to see *Bus Stop* for free and help out the playhouse at the same time, you can volunteer to be on House Staff for this production. Each performance requires two ushers, one House Manager and one Box Office Manager. (Those who volunteer for House Manager and Box Office Manager require previous experience.)

A huge, “Thank You,” to our past and present House Staff volunteers, and if you’re looking to volunteer as part of our House Staff, we’ve made it very easy by creating an on-line sign-up!

<https://www.timetosignup.com/oystermillplayhouse/view/40051>

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## “Normal” Auditions – July 19th & 20th

Auditions will be held for *Next to Normal* on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM each night at the Oyster Mill Playhouse. The play is directed by S. F. J. Martin and produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International. Production dates for *Next to Normal* are September 25<sup>th</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup>. The book and lyrics for *Next to Normal* are by Brian Yorkey, with music by Tom Kitt. A description of the show is provided below:

*This Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning musical concerns a mother who struggles with worsening bipolar disorder and the effect that her illness and the attempts to alleviate it have on her family. In **Next to Normal**, such issues as grieving a loss, suicide, drug abuse, ethics in modern psychiatry, and the underbelly of suburban life are addressed. Mental illness is portrayed in a realistic, accurate way that illustrates one woman’s struggle with the disease, and the effect that it has on both her and her family’s lives.*

Those planning to audition should come prepared with a well-rehearsed song that shows vocal range and ability to vary dynamics. Strong singing talent is key to the casting of this production; the work is almost entirely sung with very little dialogue; some of the pieces are solos but many are duets and trios and even full cast songs with harmonies and counterpoint. Some of the songs require good strong belting; others are more ballad – like. Natalie and Henry are both also supposed to be able to play keyboard, but we can work around that if the singing is what we are looking for. A pianist will be available to accompany those auditioning. Those wishing to use a CD or tape for accompaniment should either bring their own machine to play the CD or tape, or let us know in advance.

The subject matter of this work is bi-polar depression and its devastating effect on a modern family. Although the work ends on a hopeful note, the issues presented throughout are serious and dark; the work is thus more akin to *Rent* than to *Mary Poppins*. The F-word appears in some of the song lyrics and will not be deleted. **No one under the age of eighteen (18) will be cast in this production without parental permission.**

**Diana:** Wife to Dan; Mother to Natalie and Gabe; smart, attractive but suffers from bi-polar depression. (Age: Late 30's to early 40's. Soprano; Vocal range G3 – F#5)

**Dan:** Husband to Diana; Father to Natalie and Gabe; smart, attractive, sincere, constant but tired. (Age: Late 30's to early 40s. Baritone; Vocal range A2 – A4)

**Natalie:** High School daughter of Dan and Diana; smart and musically talented; perfectionist; trying to be perfect in this dysfunctional family. (Age: 16ish. Soprano; Vocal range G3 – G5)

**Henry:** High School boyfriend wannabe to Natalie; smart, musically talented, romantic; a bit of a stoner (weed); a bit of a slacker; philosophical. (Age: 17ish. Tenor; Vocal range G#2 – B4)

**Gabe:** Son of Diana and Dan; smart; attractive; gentle; intuitive. (Age: 18ish. Tenor; Vocal range B2 – C5)

**Doctor(s) Madden/Fine:** Psychoanalyst and psychopharmacologist respectively; appears in fantasy as a rock star; age not important; could be played by different performers. (Age: Any. Baritone; Vocal range A2 – A4)

**Voices:** Anesthesiologists; nurses; other doctors, etc. Provide chorus support on stage and off in several of the musical numbers. Men, women. Chorus may also be asked to function as backstage crew for the many quick seamless scene changes.

Special Thanks to  
Capital Blue Cross for  
sponsoring *Next to Normal*

Capital BLUE 

## Spotlight On: Amanda & Chris Gregory

by Melissa Hurwitz

Chris and Amanda are the husband and wife team portraying Tom Ince and Margaret Livingston in OMP’s production of *The Cat’s Meow*, opening July 10.

Both Chris and Amanda are from California; he grew up in San Jose, and she nearby, just south of San Francisco. Amanda became involved in community theater at the age of six, because it was an activity her entire family participated in. Chris was a musician, learning to play many different instruments, and he often played for the church services where his father was the worship pastor. They both attended the same high school and began dating in their senior year. During high school, Chris and Amanda took drama class together, which Amanda quipped was “good training for marriage”. This was Chris’s first foray into acting, and some of the high school plays he was in include *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *Noises Off*, in the role of Lloyd Dallas, and *My Fair Lady* as Henry Higgins. Amanda had auditioned for the part of Eliza Doolittle, but the director, who knew she and Chris were dating, cast her as his mother.

In Amanda’s senior year, she took a medical mission trip and thought about becoming a dentist. In researching this, it proved to be too expensive an endeavor for her, so she majored in biology and psychology at Santa Clara University. She put theater aside during her college years because she was also working full-time. Chris attended Foothill College as a music technology and video production major. Rather than acting, he focused his attention on his singing and songwriting during this time.

After graduating from college Chris and Amanda got married. When Chris was offered a job four years ago as technical director at the West Shore Free Church, they moved to Mechanicsburg, PA. Chris currently works for Spire AVL, a company that builds theaters for performing arts facilities, churches, and schools. Amanda is a dental assistant and is attending Harrisburg Area Community College in the evenings in order to become a dental hygienist.

Amanda became involved in theater here in PA with the role of Mollie Ralston in *The Mousetrap*, at Little Theater of Mechanicsburg (LTM). She and Chris also did the lights for *Three Viewings* at LTM. And now they are appearing together here at OMP. They are both enjoying their experiences with the director, cast and crew of *The Cat’s Meow*



## Patriotic Musical Trivia -- Answers

1. John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Livingston, Roger Sherman, and Thomas Jefferson
2. The dove.
3. Pins (for sewing)
4. Judge Wilson
5. Slavery

**Congratulations!!!** Kudos to Director Lew Silverman along with the cast and crew for *Bus Stop*. The reviews were very positive and the production managed to fill in 80% of the total seats available.



Dahlias. Planted at Oyster Mill Playhouse in memory of Ellen Hughes, who performed the role of (Aunt) Dahlia Travers in the 2014 Oyster Mill production of *Jeeves in Bloom*

## In Memorium – Ellen Brody Hughes

by Stephen F. J. Martin

The arts community in the Harrisburg area lost one of its greatest patrons and champions on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, when Ellen Hughes succumbed to devastating illness. Known as a radio host of classical music, newspaper columnist, community volunteer, actress and friend to many, Ellen was best known to the Oyster Mill Playhouse community for her contribution as a British accent coach for several Oyster Mill Playhouse productions. Just last year, before the diagnosis of her illness, Ellen graced the Oyster Mill stage as Dahlia Travers, aunt to the hapless Bertie Wooster, in the Oyster Mill Playhouse production of *Jeeves in Bloom*, a comedy adapted by Margaret Raether from the Jeeves and Wooster stories of P.G. Wodehouse. Nick Hughes, Ellen’s devoted husband of 43 years, played opposite her as husband, Tom Travers. She will be well remembered for her clever portrayal of the imperious and scheming, but loving, Aunt Dahlia. She will be remembered as well by the casts and crews of *Spider’s Web*, *Jeeves in Bloom*, and *An Inspector Calls*, for graciously hosting the cast parties for those productions.

In addition to performing at Oyster Mill, Ellen performed at Harrisburg Community Theatre, York Little Theatre, and with the improv troupes, "T.M.I." at Gamut Theatre and the all-female "No Artificial Sweeteners". And her other contributions to the arts in the Capital Region are numerous. Ellen’s distinctive elegant voice will long be remembered by listeners of WITF-FM as she served as host of "Desert Island Discs" and her insightful commentary survives in her aptly self-titled "Art and Soul" column for PennLive and The Patriot News

Numerous organizations benefited from Ellen’s participation, leadership, advice, and expertise. Among those is New York-based Music at the Anthology, where she was board President. She also served on the board of San Francisco-based Cypress String Quartet; local boards, including Market Square Concerts (Executive Director 2008-2011), Harrisburg Symphony, Theatre Harrisburg, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, Harrisburg Academy, Junior League and Art Association of Harrisburg; and on countless committees of many other organizations. For ten years, she was director of the annual Next Generation Festival, presented under the auspices of WITF.

At Oyster Mill, even though ill, Ellen participated this year as an important member the Oyster Mill Play Reading/Selection Committee, contributing her dedication, expertise and knowledge of theatre to the selection of the shows for the OMP 2016. The 2016 Season will be informally dedicated to her memory.

## Volunteers Needed Behind the Scenes

Oyster Mill puts on eight quality productions a year. The audiences come and mostly have only positive comments to say about the experiences they have at the playhouse. The actors do a fine job of portraying the characters, but they just make up part of the equation that makes a successful production.

We are in need of individuals to volunteer behind-the-scenes in all capacities. Oyster Mill has been fortunate to get a few new faces to volunteer and help out with productions, but we need to keep that volunteer effort flowing. Of the eight shows left this season, we are missing key roles in Directors, Producers and Stage Managers. In addition, there is a need to beef up those volunteers that can design lights and sound as well.

Without adding new volunteers to take on these roles, it will force those who have been doing the roles in the past to fill in and possibly cause "burnout", thus possibly losing a volunteer for future efforts.

The goal is to have any volunteers for these "roles" mentioned above partner up with someone who has done the job in the past and serve as a mentor to the volunteer. The more people we can train to do these jobs, the less pressure it puts on everyone involved. The end result would be to distribute the work among more people, and not have someone have to do the same job over and over again for each production.

If you are interested in learning some of these "behind-the-scenes" roles, please contact Lois Heagy at [lecb56@yahoo.com](mailto:lecb56@yahoo.com). These jobs make up the rest of the equation that makes our productions a success.



## Oyster Mill Fundraising Committee

As with most theatrical organizations, all of the monies needed to run the playhouse does not come directly from ticket sales. Oyster Mill has formed a Fundraising Committee in order to finding other ways to make the playhouse profitable.

The Fundraising Committee is seeking interested volunteers to help with a variety of tasks aimed at benefitting the financial health of Oyster Mill Playhouse. For more information, please feel free to contact Committee Chair, Liz Reusswig at [liz@emrstrategies.com](mailto:liz@emrstrategies.com) or 717.592.9983.



The editions of ENCORE go out approximately the first of every month. If you have anything you would like to contribute to future editions, kids’ info, etc... please send them to [smjahn@comcast.net](mailto:smjahn@comcast.net).

## Silent Movies Night a Success

Congratulations for all those involved for putting together an evening of "silent" comedy with a Charlie Chaplin movie night, hosted by our own Chaplin (**Sam Eisenhuth**) with accompaniment by **Lindy Mack**. The laughs were plentiful, the popcorn was flowing, and the organization made \$225 for one evening.



### Cast Announced for “First Baptist of Ivy Gap”



Congratulations to the following actors who were recently cast in *First Baptist of Ivy Gap* at open auditions on May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>. Director Mike Stubbs and the cast are beginning rehearsals for this play by Ron Osborne. The show is being produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. The production dates are August 21<sup>st</sup> – September 6<sup>th</sup>. The cast list for the show is as follows:

<b>LUBY MOORE</b>	<b>ALIZA BARDFIELD</b>
<b>OLENE WIFFER</b>	<b>EMILY JOYCE</b>
<b>EDITH ELLINGTON</b>	<b>MARCIE WARNER</b>
<b>SAMMY PORTER</b>	<b>CRESSION SONI</b>
<b>VERA REYNOLDS</b>	<b>NANCY PARSONS</b>
<b>MAE ELLEN RAFFERTY</b>	<b>MARIE JOY HUNT</b>
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>MIKE STUBBS</b>
<b>PRODUCER</b>	<b>CHRIS HOLBERT</b>
<b>STAGE MANAGER</b>	<b>PAM ROHRBACH</b>



### General Elections Recap

The members of the Oyster Mill Playhouse met on Sunday June 14th for the election of officers to the OMP Board of Directors and the announcement for the 2016 season. The elections were run by Stephen Martin. The table below contains the results of the election and our new 2015-2016 Board of Directors. (The term started on 1 July 2015.)

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>CHRIS HOLBERT</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>STEPHEN F. J. MARTIN</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>MARTE ENGLE</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>GREG MERKEL</b>
<b>PRODUCTION COODINATOR</b>	<b>LOIS HEAGY</b>
<b>BUSINESS MANAGER</b>	<b>CAROL MCDONOUGH</b>
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER</b>	<b>KEITH BOWERMAN</b>
<b>MEMBERS AT LARGE</b>	<b>ALIZA BARDFIELD</b>
	<b>LINDA-LOUISE BUSH</b>
	<b>ADAM DUNLAP</b>
	<b>MARIANNE KRAHULEC</b>
	<b>KATHY LUFT</b>
	<b>TOM MOORE</b>
	<b>ELIZABETH REUSSWIG</b>
	<b>ROBERT ZACCANO</b>

NOTE: THOSE NAMES IN GREY WILL BE SERVING THE SECOND YEAR OF THEIR TWO YEAR TERMS AND WERE NOT UP FOR ELECTION THIS YEAR.

The other big news is the announcement of the 2016 season, named “One ‘Eil of a Season” as a tribute to Ellen Hughes who served on the committee. The information is on the next page. The preview is scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup>. Those interested in helping should contact Aliza Bardfield ([mikealiza@yahoo.com](mailto:mikealiza@yahoo.com)) for more information.

### July Calendar of Events

JULY 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

#### “The Cat’s Meow” – Public Performances

★ 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25 – 8:00 PM | 19, 26 – 2:00 PM

#### OMP Executive Board Meeting

★ 11 – 10:30 AM



#### “Next to Normal” -- Auditions

★ 19 & 20 – 7:00 PM



### Kids Theatre News



We congratulated **Lydia Dekok** and **Madison Youch** as they just graduated from the Capital Area School for the Arts last month. ENCORE just learned that they are about to welcome **Emily Reusswig** into the school this coming fall!

Kudos to **Hannah Hess** will be appearing in her first movie. She is playing the teen doppelgänger of the character Robin played by Rebel Wilson in the movie *How To Be Single* to be released in February 2016. She spent the day filming in Brooklyn, NY. It will be a short 30 seconds of fame, but everyone needs to start somewhere. Hannah even got her first SAG waiver.



There are several young actors who have appeared on the Oyster Mill Stage that will be performing in LTM’s production of **Hairspray, Jr.** The show runs the first full weekend of August. (Specific names were not available at the time of publication.)

A young lady was a theater major applying for fall semester classes. At the end of the busy day, she goes back to her dorm and enters in a huff of anger. “What’s wrong?” asked her roommate. “Well, all the acting classes are filled. I couldn’t even get into mime class.” “Why not?” asked the roommate. “How should I know? You can’t get a word out of those people!”

For all our H.S. graduated going off to college, may your classes not be filled and your future exciting.



