



# AND THEN **THEY CAME FOR ME**

REMEMBERING THE WORLD OF ANNE FRANK



**March 1 – 10, 2024**

at the New Hazlett Center for Performing Arts

## **EVA GEIRINGER SCHLOSS**

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After the war, when my mother and I returned to Amsterdam, I found it very hard to accept that my father and brother were never to come back. From that moment I have had a special dream. It was that our family, which had socially been destroyed, would be reunited again, even if it were only in a film, or on the stage.

So, when Susan Kerner approached me out of the blue, to ask whether I would be interested to cooperate in a play about several Holocaust families, I knew that my dream was coming true. Meanwhile, I had become increasingly involved in Holocaust Education. I have spent much time talking to young people especially, mainly in schools. I fear greatly that the lessons of the past may be forgotten, if only because we all tend to push aside what is unpleasant. Therefore, it seems to me very important that the surviving witnesses should continue to testify.

I welcome the success of *And Then They Came for Me* for both these reasons. It allows me to share my family with audiences all over the U.S.A., and in other countries too. Also, the memory of the Holocaust is recreated vividly and convincingly in the play. I have watched very many performances and each time have been very moved by the deeply felt interpretation of the young actors and their portrayal of the humiliation, degradation and pain our families had to endure. The strong impact on the audience, which is visible after each performance, comes as no surprise.

I am very fortunate to have been privileged to work with a playwright as gifted and as sensitive as James Still and with an inspired director as Susan Kerner. Many thanks to them also for having given me the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people involved in various ways with the creation and performance of the play.

- Eva Schloss, 1999

## **ED SILVERBERG**

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*And Then They Came for Me* has given me the opportunity, after fifty years of relative silence, to reflect on and to speak about my experience as a young boy during Hitler's Holocaust years.

In 1942, at the age of 16, I befriended Anne Frank for a few short weeks before she and her family went into hiding. For me she has come to represent the many school friends and childhood playmates who perished at the hands of the Nazis.

It is my hope that this moving play will enable an ever-growing audience the world over to carry on the memory of Anne Frank. It is, after all, the next generation that must keep alive the knowledge of this dark episode in human history, so that it may never be repeated...

- Edmond Silverberg, 1999

## **PLAYWRIGHT**

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This is a play about questions. Some of the questions seem unspeakable. Admittedly, many of the questions are unanswerable. Even so, that doesn't diminish the importance of asking the questions.

Although there are many philosophies and passionate points of view within the field of Holocaust Education please approach this as a play; not as a "Holocaust play" but as a play about people who lived during the Holocaust. It is a subtle yet important distinction. This is not a "history play," it is a play about families and their histories.

I am a writer who vividly remembers reading Anne Frank's diary the first time at the age of 12. Something stirred inside me--still stirred inside me years later as I worked on this project. I hope that as the years continue to faithfully mark all of the anniversaries connected to World War II, that audiences will remember Anne and Ed and Eva and their experiences as young people during the Holocaust. The only way that we will remember the Holocaust is if we hear from the people who were actually there. Then, I'm convinced, we'll never be able to forget.

And thank you to Eva Schloss and Ed Silverberg for talking to a kid from a small town in Kansas who was born years after the war ended, for trusting me with your precious stories, and for teaching me more than you'll ever know.

- James Still

# Prime Stage Theatre

*Presents*

## And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank

**Written by**  
*James Still*

**Directed by**  
*Art DeConciliis*

**Featuring**  
*Collin Bozick*  
*Jackson Frazer*  
*Ayden Freed*  
*Mary Frontz*  
*Sadie Karashin*  
*Eric Leslie*  
*Stacy Rosleck*

**Production Manager**  
*Erin Barnhart*

**Scenic Designer and Technical Director**  
*Alex Barnhart*

**Lighting Designer**  
*Ken Clothier*

**Sound Designer**  
*Samantha Magill*

**Costume Designer**  
*Joe Herr*

**Properties Designer**  
*Alex Keplar*

**Stage Manager**  
*Hazy J*

**Assistant Stage Manager**  
*Jason Kmetic*

"Produced by special arrangement with DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois."

"*And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank* was originally commissioned and produced by the George Street Playhouse, David Saint, Artistic Director, and Young Audiences of New Jersey, Kristin Golden, Executive Director."

"Original George Street Playhouse/Young Audiences of New Jersey video was directed by Susan Kerner and created by Susan Kerner in collaboration with James Still."

# And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank

*Immerse yourself in this inspiring multi-media true life story of Eva Geiringer Schloss and Ed Silverberg, who were childhood friends of Anne Frank, and their experiences surviving the Holocaust during World War II.*

## THE CAST

*In Alphabetical Order*

German Youth .....	Colin Bozick
Heinz Geiringer .....	Jackson Frazer
Young Ed Silverberg .....	Ayden Freed
Anne Frank .....	Molly Frontz
Young Eva Geiringer .....	Sadie Karashin
Ed's Father and Pappy .....	Eric Leslie
Ed's Mother and Mutti .....	Stacey Rosleck

### Setting:

Various locations in Europe during the Holocaust

### Run Time:

Approximately 70 minutes and no intermission

## ARTISTIC AND DESIGN STAFF

Director .....	Art DeConciliis
Producing Artistic Director .....	Wayne Brinda, Ed.D.
Production Manager .....	Erin Barnhart
Scenic Designer and Technical Director .....	Alex Barnhart
Lighting & Projection Designer .....	Ken Clothier
Sound Designer .....	Samantha Magill
Costume Designer .....	Joe Herr
Properties Designer .....	Alex Keplar
Fight Choreographer .....	Michael R. Petyak
Stage Manager .....	Hazy J
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Jason Kmetic
Carpenter .....	Michael Boone
Scenic Painter .....	Samantha Kuchta
Master Electrician and Light Board Operator .....	Tony Clayton
Dramaturg .....	Rebecca L. Godlove
Audio Describer .....	Nathan Ruggles
ASL Signed Interpreters .....	Jennifer Flaggs and Heather Gray
Real Time Live Captioner .....	Anna Cillo
Photographer .....	Laura Slovesko
Videographer .....	Brandon Pierce
New Hazlett House Manager .....	Kevin Rabbit
New Hazlett Box Office Manager .....	Nathan Wagner



**Please note:** Please silence all cell phones. The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

## PRIME STAGE THEATRE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

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Kim Brown and Spotlight Costumes  
Ryan Cooper  
Downtown Pittsburgh Lions Club  
Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh  
Beth Lawry  
Little Lake Theatre  
Museum Lab  
Father John Neiman  
New Hazlett Staff & Ushers  
Pittsburgh Children's Museum  
Point Park University Theatre Department  
Prime Stage Staff and Volunteer  
Shaler North Hills Library  
Daniel Shaner  
United State Holocaust Memorial Museum  
Dania Work

*thank you!*

## RECYCLE GLASSES

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Prime Stage Theatre in Partnership with the Downtown Pittsburgh Lions Club will be collecting **usable glasses that give new life** during the run of our productions.

Refractive errors can be easily corrected with eyeglasses, yet millions living in low- and middle-income countries lack access to basic eye care services. Lions have recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and collect usable glasses in their communities to support the Lions Recycle for Sight Program.



The Pittsburgh Lions Club, established in 1920, is the oldest Lions Club in Pennsylvania. Focusing on the Downtown and Uptown neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, the Club is open to any interested persons who live or work in Pittsburgh and want to join the Lions' mission "to serve."

The Pittsburgh Lions Club is actively recruiting for new members who live and/or work in the Downtown and Uptown neighborhoods. Conscious of busy schedules, our club aims to choose strategic service projects and fundraising campaigns that allow busy, civic-minded professionals to participate. We are currently planning for 2024 and open to ideas from new members. Join us and be a part of the Future of The Lions.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.4 million members in approximately 46,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the world.

## EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

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Your donation will enable us to continue bringing great literature to life on stage and support our mission, programs, productions, artists, and staff.

- In the lobby with QR code
- On our website under "Support"
- By mail to Prime Stage Theatre, PO Box 99446, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

# SLB Radio congratulates **Prime Stage Theatre** on Season 27: *Courage and Discovery*

SLB's Youth Media Center on the Northside has free programs for teens from Allegheny County and beyond.

Visit [slbradio.org/openstudio](http://slbradio.org/openstudio)  
for more details.



**SLB RADIO**  
PRODUCTIONS



# Coming Up....

A theatrical dance journey  
down the rabbit hole

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by Kontara Morphis



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**MONDAY**  
**prime stage**  
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THEATRE



**PERSEVERANCE**  
**Special Video Showing**

*Experience this special video showing  
of the world premiere production of the  
play that brought a powerful memoir  
of healing and renewal to the stage.*

**March 4, 2024 at 7:00PM**

Located at the New Hazlett Center for Performing Arts - 6 Allegheny Square E, Pittsburgh, PA 15212





## DIRECTOR

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### **Art DeConciliis** Director

Art is honored to return for his fourth directing project with Prime Stage, having previously directed last season's *Perseverance* and performed for the company in both *Twelfth Night* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Art has been acting and directing with several Pittsburgh theater companies, including Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theater, Duquesne University, Stage 62, The Theater Factory, Little Lake Theatre Company, and others for more than 40 years. He was a long-standing Board member and former Artistic Committee Chair for Little Lake, where he has been a part of over 170 productions and was an instructor of that theater's acting class program for 23 years. Art was a 2007 Post-Gazette Performer of the Year and is also an active voice-over artist in both the U.S. and Canada. Other favorite directing projects include *Cabaret*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Urinetown*. Many thanks to an amazing cast and production team for helping to create this inspired story.

The title ***And Then They Came for Me*** refers to the famous 1946 poem "First they came ..." by Pastor Martin Niemöller.

First they came for the Communists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Communist

Then they came for the Socialists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Socialist

Then they came for the trade unionists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a trade unionist

Then they came for the Jews  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Jew

Then they came for me  
And there was no one left  
To speak out for me.

## HONORING OUR HEROS

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**This play is dedicated to Eva Schloss, Ed Silverberg, and their families.**

*And Then They Came for Me* is based on Eva and Ed's experiences as young people during the war...but it was listening to their voices, watching their faces as they told me their stories from fifty years earlier-that continues to inspire me, haunt me and move me. I know that they do not think of themselves as heroes-but to me, that is what they were. And by choosing now to share their stories with young people and their families, Eva Schloss and Ed Silverberg are heroes again.

Prime Stage Theatre in partnership with the Holocaust of Pittsburgh honors local survivors and families of the Holocaust as we continue to remember and bring their stories to life on stage and in the classrooms.



# The Cast of Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Ann Frank



**Sadie Karashin**  
*Young Eva Geringer*



**Ayden Freed**  
*Young Ed Silverberg,*



**Stacey Rosleck**  
*Ed's Mother and Mutti*



**Jackson Frazer**  
*Heinz Geiringer*



**Eric Leslie**  
*Ed's Father and Pappy*



**Molly Frontz**  
*Anne Frank*



**Colin Bozick**  
*German Youth*

## ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Colin Bozick** *German Youth*

Colin is delighted to return to the Prime Stage Theater after having performed with them as Charles Wallace in *A Wrinkle in Time*. Most recently he was seen at the Pittsburgh Public Theater as Flick in *A Christmas Story*. Colin also performs at Little Lake Theater in Canonsburg. A seventh grader at Mellon Middle School in Mt. Lebanon, he is a regular participant in the Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest run by PPT. Colin would like to thank his mom and dad for all of their continued support.

### **Jackson Frazer Heinz**

From a very young age, Jackson Frazer expressed a desire to perform, and that goal was realized with his casting in a major feature film at just six years old. He has had continued success since, booking a variety of film and television roles. *And Then They Came for Me* is his stage debut. When not acting, Jackson attends high school and keeps busy with swim team, piano, and model-making. Additionally, he shoots, edits, and performs in his own films that also feature his friends and family.

### **Ayden Freed** *Young Ed*

Ayden is beyond thrilled to be in his first Prime Stage Theatre production and his second show at the New Hazlett Theatre! From Pittsburgh, Ayden travels all over the region for theatre. His favorite performing credits include Emmett Forest in *Legally Blonde* at West Allegheny, Davey in *Newsies* at the McKeesport Little Theatre, Toby in *Sweeney Todd* at Greensburg Civic Theatre, and Travis in *Footloose* at Stage Right. Ayden is currently pursuing a BFA in Acting at Point Park University. Enjoy the show!

### **Molly Frontz** *Anne Frank*

Molly is a seventh-grade theater student at PPS CAPA. She is honored to be playing the role of Anne Frank, a young girl exactly her age. Molly was on stage last year in Prime Stage's productions of *The Lion*, *The Witch*, and *The Wardrobe* as Lucy and *The Boxcar Children* as Violet. Other recent roles include Belinda Cratchit in CLO's *A Musical Christmas Carol* and she has been studying at CLO Academy since she was 6. Molly would like to thank her teachers at CAPA and CLO Academy and believes Anne Frank's words, "Despite everything, I believe that people are really good at heart."

### **Sadie Karashin** *Young Eva*

Sadie is honored to be making her Prime Stage Theatre debut! Sadie is in her fifth year of studying musical theater, dance and acting at PMT Conservatory and in her 8th grade year at Archangel Gabriel where she also participates in their Cheer Program. She is thrilled to be back at the New Hazlett Theater. Some of Sadie's past roles include Martha in *A Lyrical Christmas Carol*, Wendy in *Peter Pan Jr.*, Wedding Guest/Nun in *Les Miserables*, and in the Dance Corps with *Pippin*. Sadie would like to thank her family and friends who have been so supportive, also special thanks to her teachers that have played a big part in her growth and her theater career!

### **Eric Leslie** *Ed's Father and Pappy*

Eric is excited to be making his Prime Stage debut with this exceptional group of artists in this important, relevant, powerful piece. A resident of the South Hills, Eric currently serves as Vice President of the board of Little Lake Theatre in Canonsburg, as well as on the management team of Throughline Theatre in Carnegie. He's spent the last decade performing just about wherever in Pittsburgh anyone will let him; recent highlights have included Sydney Bruhl in *Deathtrap* at Little Lake, and Father Flynn in *Doubt* at The Theatre Factory. Looking further back, he performed with Throughline Theatre as Judge Haywood in *Judgment at Nuremberg* in 2016, and he wishes plays about the Holocaust felt less timely now, not more. He extends his gratitude to the family, friends and pets that make up his circle of loved ones, and to you for coming out to share your time with us. He hopes we make you think and inspire you to make a positive difference today.

### **Stacey Rosleck** *Ed's Mother and Mutti*

Stacey is a stage and film actor who has performed with numerous Pittsburgh-area companies/festivals. She is thrilled to be back at Prime Stage for her fourth production. Favorite roles include Charlie's Mom in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*; Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*; Annie Cannon in *Silent Sky*; Elizabeth Condell in *The Book of Will*; Mrs. Bennett/Lady Catherine in *Pride & Prejudice*; and Kate Keller in *The Miracle Worker*. Film credits include *Godless Children* (Rumination Images); *Being Frank* (Carpio Pictures); and *Kelly in House of Stones* (Redwood Media). Much love and gratitude to Art, cast, and crew and, especially, Chris, Roxie, and Murray. @stacey\_lynn\_ros

## ARTISTIC AND DESIGN BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Alexander Barnhart** *Scenic Designer and Technical Director*

Alex is a Theater artist and educator from Pittsburgh, PA. A graduate of Slippery Rock University's BA Theater Design and Technology, class of 2014. Graduate of Kent State University's MFA Theater- Design and Technology, class of 2021. Alex has been working as a Designer, Educator, and Technical Director for various companies and universities in Pittsburgh and beyond including Prime Stage Theater, Kinetic Theatre, 12 Peers Theater Company, Carnegie Mellon University, Kent State, and Wilkes University. Over the years, they've had the opportunity to work on a number of incredible solo and collaborative projects. Thriving on creative challenges and building long-term relationships with artists and students along the way, Alex is always leaving an impactful impression behind.

### **Erin Barnhart** *Production Manager*

Erin is a Pittsburgh based Production Manager and a Theatre Management graduate of Kent State University. She worked as a Resident Stage Manager and Production Stage Manager in Scranton, Pennsylvania before returning back to her hometown of Pittsburgh. Erin is excited to be working as the Production Manager here at Prime Stage Theatre, and as always, she would like to thank her friends and family for their continued support!

### **Wayne Brinda, Ed.D.** *Producing Artistic Director*

Wayne is the Co-founder/Producing Artistic Director of Prime Stage Theatre where he directed *Treasure Island*, *The Outsiders*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* and *The Terezin Promise*, as Producer, Prime Stage has commissioned several world premieres, such as *The Music Lesson*, *The Westing Game*, *Perks of Being a Wallflower*, and *Perseverance*. Locally, Wayne has directed for Apple Hill Playhouse, Duquesne University Red Masquers, Penn State Thespian, Little Lake Theatre, Red Barn Theatre in Allison Park, and South Park Theatre, and was the Director of the Playhouse Jr. As a Museum Teaching Fellow of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC, Wayne produces theatre productions on the Holocaust and conducts presentations on using literature and theatre to teach the Holocaust. He has delivered presentations on adolescent literacy and Holocaust education at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, as well as the National Council of Teachers of English, The Association for Middle-Level Education, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the International Reading Association 21st World Congress on Reading in Budapest, Hungary, and others. Wayne is a retired assistant professor in the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh Bradford, he is currently teaching in the Spirant Division at Duquesne University.

### **Ken Clothier** *Lighting Designer*

Ken is excited to return to Prime Stage Theatre after designing *The Miracle Worker* this past fall. He has created designs and performed technical work for Mountain Playhouse, the Montgomery Theatre, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center, the New Hazlett Theatre, and CMU's Schools of Music and Drama. Ken is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, PA. In addition to teaching in the design and technology curriculum, he has served as Technical Director and designed sets, lights, media & sound on nearly a hundred productions. Ken earned his MFA in Scenic Design from Boston University. His work may be found at <https://www.kgclothier-design.com/>

### **Jo(e) Herr** *Costume Designer*

This is Joe's first production with Prime Stage Theatre. They graduated from Point Park University in 2021. Since graduating they have worked constantly in both theater and film and are a proud member of local 797. Some of their design credits include: PMT's *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (2019) Point Park University's *Our Better Angels* (2019) Pittsburgh Playhouse's *Dance Nation* (2021). Other non-design credits include: Freevee's *Sprung* (2021) Tuacahn Center for the Arts' world premiere of *Wonderland* (2022) Pittsburgh Opera's *Marriage of Figaro* (2023) *Ariadne* (2023) *the Flying Dutchman* (2023) *Iphigenie* (2024) *Ethan Coen's Drive Away Dolls* (2024). Joe hopes you enjoy this production of *And Then They Came for Me*.

### **Alex Keplar** *Resident Properties Designer*

Alex is a Pittsburgh based scenic and properties designer. She is a graduate of Point Park University's Conservatory of Performing Arts and is excited to be working with Prime Stage again as their Resident Properties Designer! Some of her recent credits include *Rosa Parks & the Montgomery Bus Boycott* (Scenic Designer, Prime Stage Theatre), *The Prom* (Scenic Designer, Pittsburgh CAPA), *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Properties Master, Prime Stage Theatre), *39 Steps* (Properties Master, Prime Stage Theatre), *The Sunshine Boys* (Scenic Designer, South Park Theatre), *The Amazing Lemonade Girl* (Properties Master, Prime Stage Theatre), *Angels in America* (Properties Master, The Pittsburgh Playhouse), and *Little Children Dream of God* (Scenic Designer, The Pittsburgh Playhouse). She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support!

## ARTISTIC AND DESIGN BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Jason Kmetc** *Assistant Stage Manager*

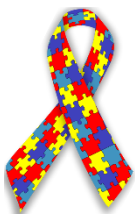
Jason has been working in theater for 20 years. He started with Prime Stage Theatre in 2005, and has worked with them on and off for the last 19 years. He has also worked for Disney, and production companies in California. Jason has recently returned to Pittsburgh to go back to his passion of theater! Some of Jason's credits include: *The Long Road Today/ El Largo Camino Del Hoy* (Lighting Technician/First Assistant Stage Manager), *Apsis Requiem* (Lighting Designer/Stage Manager), *Gypsy* (Master Carpenter/Stage Manager), *Of Mice and Men* (Assistant Stage Manager), *15 Min of Fame* (Assistant Director/Stage Manager), *1984* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Animal Farm* (Assistant Stage Manager/Master Electrician), *The Mousetrap* (Assistant Stage Manager/Master Electrician), *The Boxcar Children* (Stage Manager), *The Miracle Worker* (Stage Manager), and most recently *Prime Stage High School Drama Awards* (Production Stage Manager). Jason is proud to have worked on this production and would like to thank his parents for their continued support. A special thanks to Shannon, for attending every show Jason has worked!

### **Samantha Magill** *Sound Designer*

Samantha is thrilled to be a part of another Prime Stage Theatre production! Her previous works include: *The Amazing Lemonade Girl* (Sound Designer), *The White Rose* (Sound Designer), *The Boxcar Children* (Sound Designer), *The 39 Steps* (Sound Designer), *The Lion*, *The Witch*, and *The Wardrobe* (Sound Designer), and *The Miracle Worker* (Sound Designer) with Prime Stage Theater. She has also designed for the New Hazlett CSA program, South Park Theater, and Pittsburgh Public Theater. She is a proud IUP graduate (class of 2021) and a member of the SoundGirls' Pittsburgh chapter which promotes and inspires the next generation of women in audio. When she is not in the theater, she spends her time working as a full-time producer for KDKA News radio. She is extremely thankful for Prime Stage and her friends, family, and cat for their support.

## ACCESSIBILITY

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### **SENSORY INCLUSIVE PERFORMANCE**

#### **The last Saturday of each production at 2:30 PM.**

Our Sensory Inclusive Performance is a family experience. For all performances, our patrons have access to Sensory bags designed to assist the needs of adults and children. The bags are filled with items that may help lessen sensory overload and engage. The bag items are also easily cleaned and sterilized for multiple uses.

*Prime Stage Theatre staff is certified for Sensory Inclusive with KultureCity*



### **AUDIO DESCRIPTION PERFORMANCE**

#### **The last Sunday of each production with On-Stage Pre-Show, Actor Voice ID, and/or Touch Tour at 1:30 PM, Audio Pre-Show at 2:15 PM, and Performance at 2:30 PM**

**Audio Description (or AD)** helps to make visual imagery accessible to people who are blind, with low vision, or vision loss. Visual elements can include costumes, sets, and character appearances, along with action, gestures, facial expressions, and other visually important images. It's used to enhance understanding and enjoyment of the live performance.

*This equipment was made available to the community thanks to the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council through a grant from the Allegheny Regional Asset District.*



### **ASL SIGNED INTERPRETED PERFORMANCE**

#### **The last Sunday of each production at 2:30 PM**

We are pleased to offer American Sign Language interpreted performances with two certified interpreters. We also encourage students studying sign language to attend for observation.



### **REALTIME LIVE CAPTION**

#### **The last Sunday of each production at 2:30 PM**

We are pleased to offer Realtime live captions to our patrons by Anna Cillo, of Advance Realtime Captioning Solutions.

## **ACCESSIBILITY STAFF BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **Nathan Ruggles** *Audio Describer*

Nathan has provided Audio Description (AD) services for Prime Stage patrons who are blind and visually impaired since 2017. Together they received the 2022 Award for Achievement in Audio Description for Theater from The American Council of the Blind (ACB). Founder and Principal of Audio Describe Pittsburgh!, he provides AD for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Broadway Series and Pittsburgh CLO, and serves theaters and venues in the greater Pittsburgh area and beyond. He has also worked with organizations such as Film Pittsburgh, the Children's Museum, Andy Warhol Museum, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. He has trained through the Audio Description Institute, Audio Description Access, Audio Description Coalition, VSA Pennsylvania, and the Kennedy Center Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD). Beyond writing and narration, he furnishes comprehensive services that include recording, consulting, and technical support, bringing his unique background in professional stage acting, voice over, broadcast radio, podcast production, arts administration, political advocacy, and radio reading services. Learn more about Nathan and his work at [nathanruggles.org](http://nathanruggles.org).

### **Jennifer Flagg** M.Ed., MMP, NIC-Adv, SC:L, Ed:K-12 *Signed Interpreter*

Jennifer has been interpreting since 1996. She currently serves as the program coordinator at the Community College of Allegheny County, where she has taught interpreting since 2012. She has worked in a wide variety of interpreting settings that include theater, court, and the educational field. She currently splits her time between Pittsburgh and the New River Gorge in West Virginia where she enjoys rock climbing and hiking with her two dogs.

### **Heather Gray** *Signed Interpreter*

Heather is a certified American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter, with nearly 30 years of experience. She has interpreted over 300 theater performances, Joe Biden's presidential candidacy announcement, and movies at the Cinemark Theaters for DeafBlind patrons (using tactile interpretation.) Heather's most memorable performance interpreting assignment was Kevin Smith's live podcast, after which he tweeted about "Silent Heather." She recently filmed an 11 episode season of "SignTasTic," as the cohost of a gameshow, in ASL. Heather has what the community calls "A Deaf Heart", and aims to elevate the Deaf perspective through representation in media, through her work as Executive Producer of Silent Visual Media, a Deaf led production company (more at [www.silentvisualmedia.com](http://www.silentvisualmedia.com)). Heather was the 1997 homecoming queen at the University of Pittsburgh and has been awarded Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress awards with the Pittsburgh New Works Festival. She was a finalist in the 2013 Steeltown Film Factory screenplay competition, and her creative writing has been featured in PLAYGIRL magazine (under a nom de porn). Heather's photography has been seen in the Carnegie Library, The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Pittsburgh City Paper, and Fangoria Magazine. Heather is an avid lover of gratitude and tries to snail mail a dozen thank you cards a week. She lives in Moon Township, Pennsylvania with her dog and her men (one older, one younger, two feline, and two rodent.)

### **Anna Cillo** *Realtime Captioner*

Advanced Realtime Captioning Solutions is owned and operated by Anna Cillo, who has been providing captions and real-time court reporting in western Pennsylvania and the surrounding states since 2009. Anna Cillo is a member of the NCRA, the Association of Court Reporters and Captioners, and a graduate of CCAC. She worked as the staff captioner for the Pittsburgh Pirates from 2014-2022 and has provided captions for the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association throughout her career. Advanced Realtime Captioning Solutions was founded in 2018 in response to the demand for captioning in and around the City of Pittsburgh. We have provided captions and consulting to many organizations and individuals within the City of Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas. Some organizations we have worked with include Carnegie Mellon University, The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Duquesne University, City Theater, The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Temple Sinai, The Heinz History Center, and have been working with the Center for Hearing and Deaf Services for many years.

### **Conrad Calhoon** *Accessibility Dog*

Conrad is happy to be a part of Prime Stage Theatre and their Accessibility Outreach since he needs assistance with walkin' wheels. He has appeared in the production of Big Fish at the Theatre Factory and helped with Prime Stage's production Of Mice and Men. For the past seven years he has attended rehearsals as a visitor, critic, and dog consultant. Conrad loves theatre and being with his owner, Scott.

*Prime Stage Theatre is committed to providing an environment that is inclusive and welcoming to all patrons.*



SAVE-THE-DATE

DINNER WITH  
THE QUEEN  
OF CRIME

OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

APRIL 18TH

6:00PM

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AT REVIVAL ON LINCOLN

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# **ICEBOX CREAMERY**



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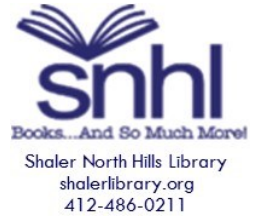
5843 BROWNSVILLE ROAD,  
PITTSBURGH PA 15236

HOURS: TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10AM-7PM,  
SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

## SUGGESTED READING LIST

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If this play has piqued your interest, we invite you to check out a book or movie and explore more. Your public libraries have many online resources you can access from home through Libby or Hoopla. Check your library's website for help in getting started.



### **Children's Books**

#### ***Anne Frank* by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara**

Part of the "Little People, Big Dreams" series – presents information about Anne Frank, including her childhood in Holland, her years in hiding, her death, and her legacy.

#### ***Who Was Anne Frank?* by Ann Abramson**

Part of the "Who, What, Where" series – this story series looks closely at Anne Frank's life before the secret annex, what life was like in hiding from the Nazis, and the legacy of her diary.

#### ***Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry**

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

#### ***Lisa of Willesden Lane* by Mona Golabek**

The true story of a girl who traveled on the Kindertransport during World War II and her experiences during a time of war.

#### ***Hidden (Graphic Novel)* by Loic Dauvillier**

A grandmother shares the story of her experiences in WWII with her grandchild in this graphic novel for young readers.

### **Teen Books**

#### ***American Shoes* by Rosemarie Lengsfeld Turke**

Recounts the tumultuous childhood of a young American girl growing up in the clutches of Nazi Germany.

#### ***This Rebel Heart* by Katherine Locke**

A tumultuous tale of the student-led 1956 Hungarian revolution – and an all too timely look at the impact of Communism and the USSR in Eastern Europe post WWII.

#### ***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of WWII, Death relates the story of Liesel- a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding.

#### ***Maus* by Art Spiegelman (Graphic Novel)**

A brutally moving work of art—widely hailed as the greatest graphic novel ever written—Maus recounts the chilling experiences of the author's father during the Holocaust.

#### ***Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank**

The journal of a Jewish girl in her early teens describes both the joys and torments of daily life, as well as typical adolescent thoughts, throughout two years spent in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of Holland.

#### ***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler* by Phillip M. Hoose**

The true story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark during Nazi occupation during WWII.

### **Adult Books**

#### ***The Betrayal of Anne Frank* by Rosemary Sullivan**

Using new technology, recently discovered documents, and sophisticated investigative techniques, an international team has finally solved the mystery that has haunted generations since WWII: who betrayed Anne Frank and her family-and why? Rosemary Sullivan introduces us to the investigators, explains the behavior of both the captives and their captors and profiles a group of suspects. All the while, she vividly brings to life wartime Amsterdam: a place where no matter how wealthy, educated, or careful you were, you never knew whom you could trust.

## SUGGESTED READING LIST

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### ***Anne Frank's Family* by Mirjam Pressler**

Traces the discovery by Frank's aunt's daughter-in-law of numerous family correspondences and keepsakes and what they revealed about the Frank family and the forces that shaped the famous young diarist.

### ***Hidden Like Anne Frank* by Marcel Prins**

A collection of eye-opening first-person accounts that share what it was like to go into hiding during WWII. All know the pain of losing their homes, their families, even their own names. They describe the secret network of brave people who kept them safe. And they share the coincidences and close escapes that made all the difference.

### ***The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris**

A vivid, harrowing, and ultimately hopeful recreation of Lale Sokolov's experiences as the man who tattooed the arms of thousands of prisoners in Auschwitz with what would become one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust.

### **Check Out These Movies...**

#### ***The Devil's Arithmetic* (1999)**

Sixteen-year-old Hanna Stern was a typical American teenager who ignored her family's heritage until a mystical Passover Seder takes her back in time to German-occupied Poland on an emotional journey of life, death, and survival. *(Rated TV-PG)*

#### ***The Great Escape* (1963)**

One of the most exciting adventure tales ever told, this action epic recounts the planning, execution and aftermath of a daring true-life escape from a German prisoner-of-war camp during World War II, in which 250 men attempted to tunnel their way to freedom. *(Rated TV-PG)*

#### ***The Diary of Anne Frank* (2009)**

Adapted for the BBC, one of the most powerful, personal accounts of World War II ever recorded- based on the novel of the same name. *(Rated TV-PG)*

#### ***Everything is Illuminated* (2006)**

A young American man, with the help of a local guide who speaks broken English, journeys to find the women who saved his grandfather during WWII in a Ukrainian village that had been raided by the Nazis. *(Rated PG-13)*

#### ***The Zookeeper's Wife* (2017)**

The real-life story of one working wife and mother who became a hero to hundreds during World War II. *(Rated PG-13)*

#### ***The Book Thief* (2013)**

Based upon the best-selling novel. The profoundly moving story of a girl who transforms the lives of those around her during World War II, Germany. *(Rated PG-13)*

(Descriptions condensed from Amazon.com, Wikipedia, and GoodReads)



# *Our Education Outreach Programs*



*Literacy in  
ACTION*

*Resource Guides*

*Act-48 Workshops*

*Global Class Room*

*and Much More!*

*Student Matinee  
Field Trips*





**PRIME STAGE THEATRE**  
**Teen Advisory Board**

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT THE ARTS? WE ARE TOO!**

The Teen Advisory Board is a group of young adults who are passionate about theatre and the arts, who have the desire to uphold the mission of Prime Stage, to serve and engage the Pittsburgh community, to connect to and encourage the minds of youth, and to prioritize social relevance in the arts.

**For more information about joining the board, email [pst@primestage.com](mailto:pst@primestage.com)!**



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## PRIME STAGE THEATRE

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Connie Brinda .....	General Manager
Linda Haston .....	Education Director
John Dolphin.....	Education Consultant and Drama Awards Director
Cindy West .....	Education Box Office Manager
Lawrence McCullough, Ph.D.....	Public Relations Director
Matt Henderson .....	Social Media Director
Sophie McClung .....	Marketing Coordinator
Bob Neu.....	Fundraiser Consultant
Jason Kmetic .....	Prime Stage Rehearsal Studio Manager
Veda Laine .....	Data Base Manager
Michael R. Petyak.....	Intimacy Coordinator
Nathan Ruggles.....	Audio Describer
John Clark .....	Web Designer

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### THE MISSION OF PRIME STAGE THEATRE

*To bring great literature to life through the transformative process of live theatre – to entertain, inform, enrich and inspire audiences with engaging programs that deliver long-lasting benefits to the students, educators, youth, families and theatregoers of our region.*

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

*The Prime Stage Teen Advisory Board is a group of young adults who are passionate about theatre and the arts, who have the desire to uphold the mission of Prime Stage, to serve and engage the Pittsburgh community, to connect to and encourage the minds of youth, and prioritize social relevance in the arts.*

### TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL

*We believe that literacy and the theatre can lift people up, inspire opportunities, and present new ways of seeing the world in positive ways. Effective teachers help students connect literature to their own world. Students discover literature, enjoy reading and vicariously "live in" the literature. Talented artists bring stories from the pages to life by providing multi-sensory experiences. Our adaptations of literature and historical figures and programs are selected and produced to meet those goals.*

### AMBASSADORS

*They encourage conversations with patrons which will result in continued patronage and support and promote Prime Stage Theatre throughout the Pittsburgh region.*

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