



FACT SHEET

Waitress

| CAST (in order of appearance) | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| JENNA | MALINDA* |
| CAL | ETHAN WATERMEIER* |
| DAWN | ASHLEY D. NGUYEN |
| BECKY | ALLISON BLACKWELL* |
| JOE | BOBBY SMITH* |
| EARL | GREG TWOMEY* |
| NURSE NORMA | JESSICA BENNETT* |
| DR. POMATTER | DAVID SOCOLAR* |
| OGIE | SAM C. JONES* |
| LULU | IELLA BARR-O'CONNOR or LOU CHUBIN |
| ENSEMBLE | WYNTER NICOLE COOK, JAY FRISBY*, NIKKI KIM, CASEY MARTIN KLEIN*, WOOD VAN METER*, RUSSELL RINKER*, NADJA TOMASZEWSKI |

| UNDERSTUDIES | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Understudies never appear for a listed player unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.</i> | |
| JENNA | NADJA TOMASZEWSKI |
| CAL | CASEY MARTIN KLEIN* |
| DAWN | NIKKI KIM |
| BECKY | JESSICA BENNETT* |
| JOE | ETHAN WATERMEIER* |
| EARL | RUSSELL RINKER* |
| NURSE NORMA | WYNTER NICOLE COOK |
| DR. POMATTER | WOOD VAN METER* |
| OGIE | JAY FRISBY* |
| SWINGS | STELLAMARIS ORELLANA, JAMES B. MERNIN |

* Member, Actors' Equity Association ^Apprentice Alumnus

CREATIVE TEAM

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| BOOK | JESSIE NELSON |
| MUSIC AND LYRICS | SARA BAREILLES |
| ORIGINAL FILM | ADRIENNE SHELLY |
| DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER | MARCIA MILGROM DODGE |
| MUSIC DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF MUSIC THEATER | CHRISTOPHER YOUNG |
| SCENIC DESIGNER | CHEN-WEI LIAO |
| COSTUME DESIGNER | SARAH CUBBAGE |
| LIGHTING DESIGNER | MINJOO KIM |
| SOUND DESIGNER | MATTHEW ROWE |
| CO-WIG DESIGNER | J. JARED JANAS |
| CO-WIG DESIGNER | CASSIE J. WILLIAMS |
| DIALECT COACH | LYNN WATSON |
| PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER | BEN WALSH*^ |
| ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS | KATE KILBANE*, BECKY REED* |

* Member Actors' Equity Association ^Apprentice Alumnus

Previews: **February 13 - 15, 2025**

Invited Press Opening: **Sunday, February 16, 2025**

Runs through March 30, 2025

Regular performances are Wednesday - Saturday at 7:30 PM and matinees on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 1:30 PM. There are also performances on Wednesday, February 19 and March 19 at 1:30 PM, and Sunday, March 2, 16, 23, and 30 at 7:30 PM.

There will be a **sign-interpreted performance on Thursday, March 6 at 7:30 PM** and an **audio-described performance for the blind and visually impaired on Wednesday, March 5 at 7:30 PM**. Audience members who wish to use these services should contact Weldon Brown, Director of Sales and Audience Experience (wbrown@olneytheatre.org) to confirm.

GalaPro captions will be available on your personal digital device. Download the app for IOS or Android.

Tickets are available from \$41 - \$110 and can be purchased at olneytheatre.org/frozen or 301-924-3400. Discounts available for groups, seniors, military and students.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

NEW WORK, NEW VENUE, NEW AMERICAN THEATRE: PETER MARKS IN CONVERSATION WITH JASON LOEWITH

Sunday, February 16 at 5:00 PM

Location: Roberts Mainstage

Tickets: free with RSVP

Livestreamed on Olney Theatre's Facebook and YouTube pages

As our new Bernard Family Theatre nears completion, how is Olney Theatre Center transforming for its evolving and growing community? How might what we produce in the Bernard reflect, or inspire, trends in the American theater? Former *Washington Post* Chief Theatre Critic **Peter Marks** joins Artistic Director **Jason Loewith** to discuss how its mission to create nationally relevant work with deep local impact has evolved along with the changes to the physical campus as part of the Staging the Future capital campaign.

WOMEN IN SWEET BUSINESS

Sunday, February 22 at 5:00 PM

Location: Roberts Mainstage

Tickets: \$10 / Free for members

In *Waitress*, we meet Jenna, a talented pie baker stuck in a difficult marriage, who discovers that a simple change – “Only Takes a Taste” – can set her on a new path to freedom and self-realization. As she bakes her way to a brighter future with the help of her fellow waitresses and a cast of unforgettable characters, Jenna learns that the recipe for happiness has always been within her.

This panel will explore the real-life experiences of women in the baking world, particularly those who run their own businesses in the world of sweets and confections. Our guests will discuss their personal journeys – from the challenges of starting and growing a business to the rewards of success, and the lessons learned along the way. In particular, we'll dive into the unique intersection of baking and entrepreneurship, and how it reflects the themes of *Waitress*.

ONSTAGE TOURS

Following the Matinee Performances on Sunday, February 23; Sunday, March 23

Location: Roberts Mainstage

Tickets: \$10

How does a professional theater bring the magic of a story on stage? We're inviting folks of every age to come on stage and see how we do it. Lighting demonstrations, costume and prop displays, scenery moves... our professional production staff Philip Snider, Stage Operations Manager & Carissa Gilson, Wardrobe Supervisor/Costume Shop Associate will take you on an amazing Onstage Tour. RSVP early; this event tends to sell out fast!

STORY TIME AT THE OLNEY LIBRARY

Sunday, March 2 at 1:30 PM

Location: Olney Public Library

Tickets: Free, no RSVP required

As part of our celebration of *Waitress*, we're sponsoring a morning of stories at the Olney Public Library. This is a free family event appropriate for all ages, especially toddlers, preschoolers, and young children. Books to be read are chosen with the help of the Olney librarian.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MUSICAL THEATRE TRIVIA

Thursday, March 6 at 6:00 PM

Location: Cafritz Lobby

Tickets: \$10

If your brain is full of random Broadway-related knowledge that you don't know what to do with, put it to the test at our Musical Theatre Trivia Happy Hour! Sign up with a team, or come as a single and make some new friends. Then, take in a performance of *Waitress* (tickets sold separately).

PIE EATING & BAKED PIE CONTEST

Saturday, March 8 at 4:30 PM

Location: Cafritz Lobby

Tickets: Free with RSVP

Show off your pie-eating skills or pie-baking skills! Olney Theatre will host both a pie-baking contest and a pie-eating contest in this sweet fun-packed event.

Are you a pie baking enthusiast? Bring your best baked pie and compete against other amateur bakers in the area!

Are you a pie lover? Olney Theatre will provide contestants with pies and the winner will win two tickets to any of our shows this season! Please note that these are two separate competitions, and the same pies will not be used for both contests! Your delicious homemade pies will be judged and savored while Olney Theatre provided pies will be used for the eating contest!

BOOK CLUB: BIG LITTLE LIES

Tuesday, March 11 at 6:00 PM

Location: Olney Public Library Tickets: Free with RSVP

Join the Olney Theatre Artistic Department staff to discuss "Big Little Lies" in conjunction with our current production of *Waitress*.

FLOWERED BY KATHY LYNN

Sunday, March 16 at 4:00 PM

Location: Cafritz Lobby

Tickets: \$65

Please join us for a fun afternoon filled with flowers and leave with a beautiful floral bouquet! Flowered is thrilled to be hosting this beginner's flower arranging class. This class is a fun way to learn about flowers and basic floral design using locally grown flowers, foraged greenery and store-bought flowers. All materials are provided including flowers, a large mason jar and clippers. Participants take home their finished arrangements. Students are encouraged to explore their own style of design in this hands-on class. Classes typically last about 1 hour. Class size is limited to 20 to allow for plenty of time for hands-on practice, arranging and selection of flowers.

COMMUNITY CHOIRS

Saturday, March 22; Saturday, March 29

Location: Roberts Mainstage Tickets: Free, no RSVP required

We invite local choral groups to perform prior to select performances. For *Waitress*, we're proud to present the following ensembles in the Roberts Mainstage Lobby. These choral performances are free and do not require a ticket.

SongRise

Music of Empowerment

Saturday, March 22 from 6:30 - 7:00 PM

Harmony Express

Songs of Love and Heartbreak

Saturday, March 29 from 6:30 - 7:00 PM

ABOUT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER

Mission

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts produces and curates theatrical performance for the diverse audiences in our community, and educates, learns from, supports and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers.

Vision

We strive to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity of our community.

History

Founded in 1938 as a summer playhouse, Olney Theatre Center (OTC) now produces world and American premieres of plays and musicals, and reimaginations of familiar titles year-round; presents the work of leading companies and artists; tours nationally and locally; teaches students of all ages; and mentors a more inclusive generation of theatremakers. For more than 8 decades, OTC has brought impactful theater performance and education to our community, helping to grow the vibrancy and vitality of our home in the Washington, DC region.

Over the years, some of the biggest names in theater and film have appeared on our stages, including Tallulah Bankhead, Helen Hayes, Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn, Bob Fosse, Phillip Bosco, Eve Arden, Eva Gabor, Burl Ives, Jose Ferrer, Carol Channing, Olivia d'Havilland, Tony Randall, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Jane Seymour, Anne Revere, Frances Sternhagen, Arthur Treacher, James Broderick, Olympia Dukakis, Sir Ian McKellen, Marica Gay Harden, John Colicos, Uzo Aduba, Alan Cumming, Cheyenne Jackson, Robin de Jesus, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, among many, many others.

Olney Theatre is now the cultural anchor of a rapidly changing region and serves one of the most diverse, best educated, and wealthiest counties in the country. Situated on the unceded land of the Piscataway-Conoy people, the Olney area was once a rural farming community with a unique Quaker heritage. Now the area is occupied by every kind of family that makes up 21st Century America, along with major corporations, shopping districts, civic associations, non profit organizations and a diverse collection of houses of worship. Montgomery County's 1 million residents play a dynamic role in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, and are a driving force behind the region's creative economy.

As of September 2021, Olney Theatre Center employed 40 full time staff, 20 part-time positions, 13 early career apprentices, and more than 400 professional artists. The Theatre intends to continue expanding to better meet the needs of our community.

For more information, please visit olneytheatre.org/history

Follow Olney Theatre Center on Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok @olneytheatre and on Facebook at facebook.com/olneytheatre.

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