Greater Reading Alliance of Community Theaters September 1, 2024 - 2pm at Penn State Berks Perkins Auditorium PRESENTS

"It Can't

Happen Here"

by Sinclair Lewis Adapted by Tony Taccone & Bennett S. Cohen

"It Can't Happen Here" (Taccone, Cohen) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, Servicing the dramatists play service collection (www.dramatists.com)



Greater Reading Alliance of Community Theatres Follow us on Facebook GreaterReadingACT

or visit our website https://greaterreadingact.com/

CREW

Crew Members

Director Patricia Perfect
Producer Greater Reading Alliance of Community Theaters
Roger Levesque
Production Manager Craig Dodge
Stage Manager Patricia Perfect
Costumes and PropsGRACT
Cast Members
BannerRobin Buckwalter
MusicVA Productions
Sound EffectsJewell Brown
Light and Sound TechniciansRalph Thompson
Griffin Yeyna
Facilities ManagerGene Bollman
Box OfficeRuth Martelli
Set & ConceptMaggie Perfect
Patricia Perfect
Stage HandsLeaman Dunning
Fred Perfect
Program and Graphic DesignJennifer Schwegler

WHO'S WHO

Kevin Adams

Kevin was last seen playing "Narrator Josh" in *The Other Josh Cohen* at Genesius Theatre. Other local credits include *Avenue Q, Beauty and the Beast, Rock of Ages, Working, Charlotte's Web,* and *Joseph...* Kevin is a member of the Berks County Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and is one half of The Rhythm Standard, an acoustic pop/ rock duo. <u>instagram.com/TheRhythmStandard</u>

Robert Bara-Popa

Robert is an actor, photographer, and writer who performs and helps in productions in the Reading area. He most recently played the roles of "Finn" in *Banshee* by Adam Richter, as well as "Tate" in *The Storm* by Daniel Egusquiza. He's been acting in plays for the last 7 years and has helped co-direct in two productions in collaboration with Barrio Alegria. Other plays he has been a part of with Barrio Alegria are *Rosa Dances With Wolves* and *Where the Trees Walk*. Another play he has been a part of with RTP is *Hospital Cafeteria*.

Daniel Dempsey

Danny got his start in acting back in 2013, when he played "Young Scrooge" in a production of *A Christmas Carol*. Since then, he's been in several plays, including *Blithe Spirit, Godspell*, and most recently, *12 Angry Jurors*. When he's not on stage or working his regular 9-5, Danny enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Dean Fichthorn

Dean has done productions at Genesius, Reading Community Players, Reading Civic Theater, and Fleetwood Community Theater over many years. He also has done some professional acting gigs. He is a founding board member of GRACT and past chairman of the GRACT board.

Tara Lutz

Tara is typically found behind the scenes and not acting in them. Much of her theatrical endeavors have been directing productions at the high school level. Her most recent directorial effort was *Calendar Girls* staged with Reading Community Players. Tara is a full-time educator, wife, and mom to three lovely girls. She would like to thank all those reading with her today for their interest in this project and the individuals who created this opportunity.

WHO'S WHO

Santo D. Marabella

Santo D. Marabella is a writer, producer and educator. He has written plays, a musical and short-films. His recent play is "Rocky Road Ain't Always Sweet". He was a producer of <u>This Is Reading by Lynn Nottage</u>, and was named <u>2018 Entertainment</u> <u>Newsmaker of the Year</u> by the Reading Eagle.

Ruth Martelli

Ruth's theatrical career began in the EHS class of '63's Senior Class play, *Our Hearts Were Young and Gay.* Almost 45 years passed before Ruth performed again, this time in *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife* at Reading Community Players. In the twenty odd years since her first performance at RCP, she has continued to play mothers, old women and, on occasion, old men. Each experience in the theatre has been a joyful one. *It Can't Happen Here* is a powerful piece demanding our attention and our commitment to vote to uphold our Democracy.

Brian Miller

Brian has been acting through high school, college and current. He has done many productions with several local theater groups. He loves to direct as well. He recently directed *Plaza Suite* with RCP. He is currently rehearsing with AGOSC in *Plaza Suite*. He is also very active with Amore Mortem, a traveling theatrical group in Womelsdorf.

Steve Reazor

Steve has been acting, directing and writing for the Reading Area for the last 25 years. Upcoming roles include "Arthur Birling" in *An Inspector Calls* this Fall at Playcrafters in Skippack and "Officer Welch" in *Rumors* next Winter at 1st Street Players. Steve will also be directing *Arsenic and Old Lace* for Fleetwood Community Theater next Spring. But Summer 2025 is wide open!

Tony Quinones

Tony made his stage debut as "Juror 5" in RCP's production of *12 Angry Jurors*. He will also be joining them again as "Edmund Swettenhan" in *A Murder Is Announced*. He never saw himself doing much theatre, but fell in love with the art form. He is grateful to be joining the cast of It Can't Happen Here and help give life to this intense and poignant story.

WHO'S WHO

Dave Renninger

Dave is retired from real estate and lives in Douglassville with his wife, Carole. Dave was the foreman in *12 Angry Jurors* earlier this year and is thrilled to be included in *It Can't Happen Here*. Thanks to Pat for choosing me for this role and to Carole for all her support!

Debbi Silas

Debbi is a retired teacher, working her entire career in the Exeter Township School District. She has been involved in community theater since 1995, performing or choreographing with all of the Berks County theater groups. She began directing in 1999, focusing on teaching young actors about the theater. Debbi has recently finished directing her 60th show. She spent the summer of 2009 performing and directing at Gretna Theater. She is a founding member of GRACT and is presently their secretary. Debbi teaches a dance class for young adults at the Yocum Institute and sings with the Opus One Berks Chamber Choir.

Susan Sneeringer

Sue is an alum of Penn State University and the American Film Institute. A published playwright, she has appeared in 1776 and Watch On The Rhine for Reading's Fall Festival of the Arts. Sue has also acted in productions of *Sweat, Angels in America, August: Osage County* and *The Humans* among many others. Her newest play, *Holy Orders*, was included in the Reading Theater Project's spring "Wonder" play reading series with a staged reading at Goggleworks in April. She is most grateful to be asked to participate here!

Laura Diann Stewart

Laura is excited to join Pat Perfect in another "radio" production with *It Can't Happen Here*, as she had so much fun working on *A Christmas Carol* radio-style production a few years back. She was last seen as "Woman #1" in the original work, *Rocky Road Ain't Always Sweet* and just prior to that, "Juror #11" in RCP's production of *12 Angry Jurors*. Laura would like to thank Pat for giving her the opportunity to be onstage to "play" with all of her friends as this is truly her "happy place."

Kevin Wade

Kevin is excited to be a part of this important production with this wonderful cast. He has been involved in the Reading Theater scene for the last twenty years, both onstage and back stage. Thanks to Pat for her energy and efforts to make this production happen and thanks to Toni for her endless patience and love.





Mission:

GRACT is a member-based nonprofit that supports and unifies artists and organizations to foster a vibrant theatrical community in Berks County.

G.R.A.C.T. Members







Story-Telling for Good!

Santo D. Marabella Writer - Producer - Director

MarabellaLLC.com

>> Let's uncover >> THE RIGHT ANGLE << for your business or nonprofit</pre>

Discover a tested approach to strategize a Public Relations Plan that compels and sells!

Leverage the powerful tool of storytelling to drive connection, visibility, loyalty, and sales. Contact The Right Angle to get started. >>>>





Visit rightangle.us.com/contact Consult with me to assess your business or nonprofit storytelling strategies.



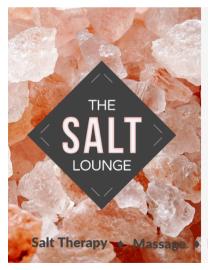
Scan the QR Code to learn more about our services.



CONNECT f YourRtAngle **in** Lori Donofrio-Galley



ROYERS.COM • 1-888-2ROYERS



Himalayan Salt Spa **Relax and Breathe**



610.646.1733







4 Wellington Blvd. Suite 110 Wyomissing, PA 19610

Reflexology + Reiki + Meditation

Program Note

Mr. Lewis wrote his book in 1935, several years before Hitler's takeover of Germany as a Dictator: this book was a cautionary dark satire about the fragility of democracy. It is the story of a family. The father, Doremus Jessup, is a liberal, middle-class newspaper editor from an imaginary town in Vermont. He witnesses the rise of a demagoque who becomes president of the United States, promising to return the country to greatness. He trusts the system will fix itself --- until he sees firsthand the tyranny perpetrated on his family and others and ends up in a prison camp for expressing an opposing view to the administration. His life changes radically and he becomes someone else to survive, giving up much of his life and losing his family.

PRACTICE DEMOCRACYVOTE.



THANK YOU!!

Thanks to Penn State Berks Staff and Administration for this opportunity for GRACT members to be in their theater. Special thanks to Kimberly Schittler, Donna Marie Chambers, Todd Migliaccio, Melissa Edwards, and James Brown.

GRACT Board of Directors

Chairwoman - Patricia Perfect Vice-Chairwoman - Vicki Haller Graff Secretary - Debbi Silas Treasurer - Roger Levesque



<u>What is GRACT?</u>

GRACT is governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of members of the involved theatres and leaders in the community. The Alliance will focus on creating and managing strategies to: sustain professionalism and transparency across all aspects of theatre production; promote and market community theatre; acquire and allocate financial resources; support planning; develop audiences; operate profitably and with fiscal responsibility; identify and acquire appealing performance and rehearsal venues; sustain intra-Alliance member professionalism and communications; and, enhance artistic quality among all member theatre groups.

This is a special presentation from GRACT, we are not a performing entity. All money brought in from the play reading will go to support GRACT and the members benefits.

