



## Our 2013 Season

### The Princess of Rome, Ohio

By Jonathan Joy

June 28, 29 & July 5, 6 at 8pm

Sunday Matinees: June 30 & July 7 at 2pm

### Wind in the Willows

August 23, 24 & 30, 31 at 8pm

Sunday Matinees : August 25 & September 1 at 2 pm

### You're a Good Man Charlie Brown

October 18, 19 & 25, 26 at 8pm

Sunday Matinees: October 20 & 27 at 2pm

### The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus

Adapted from the book by L. Frank Baum

December 13, 14 & 20, 21

Sunday Matinees: December 15 & 22 at 2 pm



## Coming Spring 2014!

### Dracula

Adapted from the novel by Bram Stoker

February 14, 15, 21, 22

Sunday Matinees: February 16 & 23 at 2pm

### Antigone

by Sophocles

April 25, 26 & May 2, 3

Sunday Matinees: April 27 & May 4 at 2pm



### LOST IN YONKERS

by Neil Simon

June 20, 21, 27, 28

Sunday Matinees: June 22 & 29 at 2pm

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PRESENTS

# EDWARD ALBEE'S A DELICATE BALANCE



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**APRIL 26, 27, 28**  
**MAY 3, 4, 5**  
**FRI & SAT 8:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY 2:00 PM**

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## Director's Notes:

"All happy families are alike!" At one point in the second act of 'A Delicate Balance' Claire makes this exclamation to mock the abundant familial discord present in the house. However, I think on some level this statement is true.

As a precocious child of 11, I discovered this obscure script in a play anthology at the library titled 'A Delicate Balance,' and immediately fell in love. Having come from a happy family, I found the cruelty shown by the family in this play unfathomable, and therefore hilarious.

As I have grown older, I look at the generations that came before me, look at the lives, marriages, and relationships of my friends and families; and I begin to see how soon a happy family can turn into a sad family. All it takes is one withholding of grace - be it an act of revenge, infidelity, apathy, or spite.

In a roundabout way, I feel that The Alban Arts Center represents a very happy family. The production you see tonight is the result of the efforts of a small village coming together to reach some sort of truth. Every actor is giving their all to go far beyond their comfort zone to find that truth. I am very fortunate to be surrounded by clearer heads than myself including Kaylen, John, and Adam to help me realize this truth. I am fortunate that Mayor Callaway has continued to support the arts in St. Albans, making it possible for artists such as myself to practice their craft. Finally I am remarkably lucky to have parents who time after time have demonstrated the delicate balance of love and respect that I continue to try and emulate to this day.

Patrick Felton

**Thank you to the Sponsors and Donors of our  
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efforts of the Alban's volunteers, helps bring  
you quality community programming.**

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2013 Dates:  
May 18, July 13,  
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# Edward Albee's A Delicate

**Directed by Patrick Felton**

## The Cast

Agnes.....Susan Marrash-Minnerly  
Tobias.....Mark Felton  
Claire.....Melanie Larch  
Julia.....Stacie Sheppard  
Edna.....TiAnna Toney-Billups  
Harry.....Rob Boone



**ACT ONE  
Friday Night  
ACT TWO  
Saturday Night  
ACT THREE  
Early Sunday Morning**



Produced by special arraignment  
with Samuel French, Inc.

For your own enjoyment, and that of those around you,  
please silence your mobile devices and refrain from  
texting during the performance.

*Photo or video recording of this production is strictly  
prohibited by law.*



## THE CAST:

**Susan Marrash-Minnerly** (Agnes) is a Professor of Theatre at West Virginia State University. She has a BA in Theatre, an MFA in Acting/Directing and also studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in NYC. Prior to moving to WV, she was head of the acting program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She performed her one-woman show about Dorothy Parker, *You Might As Well Live*, regionally and at New York's Third Eye Repertory. In addition to Parker, some of her favorite acting jobs have included Salome (*The Robber Bridegroom*), Claire (*Rumors*), and Sister Hubert (*Nunsense*). She has also made commercials for everything from McDonald's hotcakes to Flintstone vitamins and electric paint strippers! At WVSU she works with a lot of talented students and has directed them in productions of *The African Company Presents Richard III*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Why Torture is Wrong*, *Dead White Males*, *Black Eagles* and *Hairspray*.. She is a member of the loving fellowship of McKinnon Presbyterian Church and gives thanks daily for two amazing men in her life – Doug and Nathan.

**Mark Felton** (Tobias) is making his second appearance at the Alban Arts Center. The other was an encore performance of the Kanawha Players production of *Courting Disaster* in 2010. Mark has appeared in many productions with local theatre groups. Recent roles have included Thomas Weaver in the Charleston Stage Company's production of *The Story of My Life* and the Judge in *Hello Dolly* with the Charleston Light Opera Guild. Other favorite roles have included the King in *Cinderella* and Samuel in *Pirates of Penzance*, both with CLOG, as well as Giles Corey in *The Crucible* with the Kanawha Players. He is a member, chorister, cantor and hand bell choir member at Kanawha United Presbyterian Church. Mark is on the Board of Directors of the Charleston Light Opera Guild. He is the Executive Director of the Regional Intergovernmental Council in South Charleston. He lives in South Charleston with his wife Kerry. They have two grown children, Patrick (29) and Erin (27).

**Melanie Larch** (Claire) is a veteran of the Charleston theatreverse who made her Alban Arts Center debut as Queen Margaret in *Richard III*. Recent performances include the World Premiere of *Courting Disaster* as Judge I.M. Fair, Lady Capulet in *Romeo & Juliet*, Elizabeth in *MARY*, Ann Putnam in *The Crucible* and Mercedes in *Carmen*. She originated the role of Mary Kelly in *Jack The Ripper* and appeared as Matilda in the show's 2011 revival. A graduate of WVSU with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education, Mel is a talented vocalist who has performed the National Anthem for the WV Power and appeared as a soloist with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. As the Resident Diva of the web show *Radio Free Charleston*, she has lent vocals to such acts as WATT 4, The Diablo Blues Band, and Hellblink. When not performing onstage, Mel can usually be found out and about with her trusty video camera in tow, filming bands and other performers for RFC. Special thanks to Patrick, Marlette and Adam for the amazing opportunities and most of all, to her fiancé, Rudy for his love, support, and encouragement.

**Stacie Sheppard** (Julia) This is Stacie's second time performing at The Alban. In 2011 she was in *Much Ado About Nothing* along with her husband, Aaron. Prior to that, Stacie has performed in *Cinderella* (2007) and *Lil Abner* (1998) with CLOG. She also appeared in *The Clouds*, *MacBeth*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at the University of Charleston and a myriad of shows with Capital High School while a student there between 1996-1999. Currently, Stacie works as a Customer Service Representative with Roebuck Agency, LLC in Dunbar. She and her husband have a very active 3 year old daughter named Loyal, whom they hope will share their love for the arts as she gets older.

**Rob Boone** (Harry) is a writer of who's fascinated with the art of storytelling. After a ten-year sales career, he's turned his love of stories into a successful freelance career. He uses this love of storytelling to fuel his passion for theater. Edward Albee is one of his favorite playwrights, and exemplifies the type of humanity, drama, and bitter truth that strikes at the heart of the human experience. This is his sixth show in the Charleston community including *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *God of Carnage*, *Much Ado about Nothing* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

**TiAnna Toney-Billups** (Edna) TiAnna is a native of Boone County, but currently resides in Lincoln County with her husband Steve. She graduated from Marshall University in 2004 with her BFA in Theatre, and spent several years touring with Missoula Children's Theatre, Theatre West Virginia, and American Family Theatre. Now back home to the beautiful West Virginia hills and settled into domestication, she is ecstatic to be working with the Alban Arts Center for the first time. TiAnna's favorite roles include Eleanor in *The Lion in Winter*, Penny in *You Can't Take it With You*, and Passionella in *The Apple Tree*. TiAnna would like to thank her amazingly talented fellow cast members, as well as her supportive and wonderful family and friends.

### The Crew:

Director .....	Patrick Felton
Stage Manager.....	Kaylen Surface
Set Designer.....	John Halstead
Props Master.....	Adam Bryan
Sound and Lightboard Operator.....	Kaylen Surface
Set Construction.....	John Halstead, Adam Bryan
Special Thanks to; Box Five Theatre Club, David Stephen Skeen Theatre, Mark Scarpelli, West Virginia Music Hall of Fame, Radio Free Charleston, Charleston Newspapers, Charles Minsker, Margaret Lieberman, Ric Cochran and Larry Groce, Charleston Newspapers WVSU Yellow Jacket, Aila Accad, Jim Strawn & Highland Hospital.	

