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Photo Flash: Bucks County Playhouse Previews ROCK AND ROLL MAN: THE ALAN FREED STORY

by [BWW News Desk](#) Sep. 8, 2017

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On September 6, members of the cast of "Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story" held a special preview for the press at [Bucks County Playhouse](#) in New Hope, PA. BroadwayWorld has photos from the event below!

Tony-nominee [Alan Campbell](#) ("Sunset Blvd.") who plays Alan Freed and multiple Emmy nominee [George Wendt](#) ("Cheers") who plays J. Edgar Hoover were in attendance along with the "Rock and Roll Man's" quartet (Early Clover, A. [J. Davis](#), Jerome Jackson and Dr. Eric B. Turner), who performed an excerpt from the show.

[Bucks County Playhouse](#) Producing Director [Alexander Fraser](#) introduced [Rose Caiola](#), writer and producer of the new musical, which makes its world premiere at [Bucks County Playhouse](#) on September 12. The show runs through October 1 with an official opening night on September 16.

The talented cast of the show also includes: [Bob Ari](#), William Louis Bailey, [Whitney Bashor](#), [Richard Crandle](#), [John Dewey](#), [Brian Mathis](#), Matthew Sean Morgan, [Heather Parcels](#), [Soara-Joye Ross](#), [Melissa van Der Schyff](#), [Michael Siktberg](#) and [James Scheider](#). The musical includes a book by [Gary Kupper](#), Larry Marshak and [Rose Caiola](#). Original music and lyrics are by [Gary Kupper](#). Tony Award Nominee [Randal Myler](#) will direct with choreography by [Brian Reeder](#). Music supervision and arrangements are by [Dave Keyes](#) and [Gary Kupper](#). [Dave Keyes](#) is also the production's Musical Director. [Tim Mackabee](#) is Scenic Designer and [Jen Caprio](#) is Costume Designer. [Rui Rita](#) is Lighting Designer, Rafe Carolotto is Sound Designer, with Christopher Ash as Projections Designer, and [J. Jared Janas](#) as Wig and Hair Designer. "Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story" is being produced at the Playhouse in association with Caiola Productions.

The high energy musical drama, Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story, uncovers the true story of Alan Freed - the Father of Rock and Roll. It's the 1950s and a cocky young DJ discovers the music that all America wants to hear - except no radio station will play it.

Pursued by the notorious J. Edgar Hoover for promoting this unwholesome genre, Alan perseveres - unearthing the sound of a new generation through pure guts, grit, and determination. Featuring original songs and Rock and Roll hits of the 1950s, by legends like [Little Richard](#), [Chuck Berry](#) and [Jerry Lee Lewis](#), audiences will be rocking around the clock to such songs as "Sh-Boom," "Good Golly Miss Molly," "Ain't that a Shame," "Rock and Roll is Here to Stay," "Great Balls of Fire," "Peggy Sue" and more!

This is the third world premiere production scheduled for [Bucks County Playhouse](#) this year. The summer season launched in May with the debut of "Clue: On Stage." The Playhouse's traditional subscription season also includes "The New World," a world premiere musical comedy by the producers and co-creators of "Altar Boyz."

"Rock and Roll is here to stay at [Bucks County Playhouse](#). We are delighted to present this moving tale of the father of Rock and Roll and to welcome a new creative team to the Playhouse," says [Bucks County Playhouse](#) Producing Director [Alexander Fraser](#). "We know our audiences love Rock and Roll given the success of our encore production of 'Buddy'. We look forward to sharing with them another side of the early days of this truly American art form."

Campbell has appeared on Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theater. He made his Broadway debut in [The New York](#) premiere of [Andrew Lloyd Webber's](#) musical "Sunset Boulevard" starring opposite [Glenn Close](#) and [Alice Ripley](#), and received a Best Actor in a Musical Tony Award nomination for his performance as Joe Gillis. He also starred in [Susan Stroman's](#) 2000 Tony Award-winning musical "Contact" and was seen on Broadway as Sam Carmichael in the hit musical "Mamma Mia!"

Known worldwide for his iconic, six-time Emmy-nominated role of Norm on the long-running sitcom "Cheers!" as well as "oodles of film and television credits," Wendt has appeared on Broadway in "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "Art" (also in London), "Elf" and "Hairspray." He played Juror #1 in the national tour of "Twelve Angry Men," and is a veteran of Chicago's Second City.

Tickets to "Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story" range from \$40 - \$75. Special rates for groups of 10 or more. For complete details, and to purchase tickets, please visit buckscountyplyhouse.org, call 215-862-2121, or visit the box office at 70 South Main Street, New Hope, PA.

Photo Credit: [Hope Horwitz](#)



The Quartet in ROCK AND ROLL MAN



George Wendt and Alan Campbell



Larry Marshak, [Dave Keyes](#), [Gary Kupper](#), [George Wendt](#), [Alan Campbell](#), [A.J. Davis](#), Dr. Eric B. Turner, [Rose Caiola](#), Early Clover and Jerome Jackson



[Alexander Fraser](#) and [Rose Caiola](#)