



STORY IDEAS

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There are many potential stories when writing about the brand new musical comedy “The New World” that is being produced and presented by Bucks County Playhouse. It will run from November 7 through December 2, 2017 with opening night November 11 at 7:30 p.m. Please let us know if you can attend. The producers, creative team and cast are all available to talk about the show and its development.



- **“The New World”** received its first reading at the Playhouse’s Oscar Hammerstein Festival in 2014 and includes a book by Regina DeCicco and L.F. Turner, music by Gary Adler (“Altar Boyz”) and lyrics by Phoebe Kreutz. Stafford Arima (Broadway’s “Allegiance” and newly appointed Artistic Director of Theater Calgary) directs with choreography by Bucks County Playhouse Artistic Associate Lorin Latarro (“Waitress”).

- **“The New World”** reimagines the myth of the first meeting of the Pilgrims and Native Americans. The year is 1620. The Native Americans are enjoying a gluten free, low carb, artisanally happy life when they are invaded by the nation’s first immigrants — Pilgrims! There goes the neighborhood, but in the tradition of all musical comedies, love wins!

(Ginna LeVine, Julius Thomas III, Ana Harada and Jillian Gottlieb. Photo by Josh Lerher)

Story Ideas:

Local story angles:

Bryn Mawr native Ginna LeVine who plays the fiancé in the “Corn” family is an actress, singer, painter and stylist with a significant family history. She is the grand-niece of Oscar-winning actress Grace Kelly, who made her professional stage debut in 1949 at Bucks County Playhouse, where she was a member

of its famed apprentice program and she's involved in the Princess Grace Foundation USA Guild. Ginna played Off-Broadway in "Picnic."

Atlantic City area/Yiddish Theater-- Jillian Gottlieb plays Susanna Standish. She's had many roles in theater including Theater Under the Stars "Into the Woods" and "The Golden Bride" Off-Broadway about which the NY Times wrote ... "Jillian Gottlieb is a revelation." Jillian was born and raised in Linwood, NJ, whose family still resides in the Atlantic City area. She studied at UArts before transferring to Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University studying classical vocal performance. Her hobby is learning Yiddish. Last year, she starred in Di Goldene Kale (The Golden Bride) with the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene and it sparked her love and interest in the language.

UArts and Philadelphia theater history -- Brandon M. Weber, ensemble, is an actor, writer, cinematographer, photographer and more. He has strong roots in the Philadelphia area as he studied at UArts and performed at Arden Theatre Company, People's Light Theatre Company, University of the Arts, Philadelphia Young Playwrights and more. He is filming a TV series that he wrote involving a variety of controversial issues and scenes are being filmed in Philadelphia, New Jersey, and New York.

Broadway Veterans:

Ann Harada plays Chief Massasoit. Ann starred in the role of "Christmas Eve" in the Tony Award-winning "Avenue Q" (Best Musical) and loved being part of the development of a new show as she is with "The New World." She played stepsister Charlotte in "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella"). She was born and raised in Hawaii and now lives in Manhattan. She is thrilled to be working again with Tony-Award winning producer Robyn Goodman, who is the Executive Producer of Bucks County Playhouse and produced both "Avenue Q" and "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella"). A singer, she had a solo concert in Lincoln Center's American Songbook series in 2014. Television audiences will know her for multiple shows that include: "Smash" (as Linda, the Stage Manager), "Lipstick Jungle," "30 Rock," "Doubt," "The Good Wife," "House of Cards." And, amongst her films, she was seen in "Sisters," "Hope Springs," "Feel," "Happiness," and more.

Julius Thomas III as Santuit, is a NAACP Theatre Award nominated actor. Julius was in Broadway's "The Scottsboro Boys," "Motown the Musical," and "Porgy & Bess". He's appeared on TV in "Modern Family," "Odd Mom Out," "GMA," "The Capitol Fourth Celebration," "The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade," "Live with Kelly and Michael," and more. He's a featured vocalist on many recordings including his song of inspiration "I Am Here" benefiting Broadway Cares Equity Fights Aids.

Jennifer Perry as Joan. Jennifer performed in Broadway's "Kinky Boots" and "Mamma Mia!" She's worked Off-Broadway and regional theater in many shows. A singer who has received the Bistro Award, she is the voice of Troll in "Disney's Frozen." Her Tv credits include "Limitless," "The Big C," "True Blood," "Late Night with David Letterman."

Clyde Aves, Tago, is the tap-dancing star of "The New World". A multi-award-winning performer, he received the Helen Hayes Award for his role of Bill Calhoun in "Kiss Me, Kate" at Shakespeare Theatre Company and the Astaire Award for his role on Broadway of Tommy Djilas in "The Music Man" which he reprised on ABC's production of the show. He has a long list of impressive credits for roles on Broadway, Off-Broadway (Altar Boyz) and regional theater.

Terry Maynard, Carl, the Turkey. – Imagine playing a turkey at Thanksgiving!

Tyler has been in the Broadway original companies of Mamma Mia!, Disney's Mary Poppins (Valentine), Disney's The Little Mermaid (Flotsam), Altar Boyz (Theater World Award, Lortel and Drama Desk nominations), and On a clear Day you Can See Forever. Film and television credits include "Ugly Betty," "The Big C," and "Gravity."

Yael Rizoway plays Abstinence in the ensemble. Born in Chicago, raised in New York, she is third generation of a Holocaust survivor, whose mother passed when she was seven years old. I went to LaGuardia High School and studied at The Boston Conservatory.

Kiet Tai Cao is a member of the ensemble. He is a singer/songwriter, a hip-hop dancer and a member of the National Asian Artist Project (NAAP) *run by Original Chorus Line cast member Baayork Lee*

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Bucks County Playhouse Artistic Associate Anna Louizos (Broadway's "School of Rock" and BCP's "Guys and Dolls") is Scenic Designer. Jen Caprio is Costume Designer and J. Jared Janas is Wig, Hair and Makeup Designer. Kirk Bookman is lighting designer and Joshua D. Reid is sound designer. Musical Director is Paul Masse. Orchestrations are by Danny Troob with dance arrangements are by Sam Davis. Casting is by Tara Rubin Casting.

"The New World" is the third of four world premiere productions presented at Bucks County Playhouse this year. The summer season launched in May with the debut of "Clue: On Stage." Last month, the Playhouse hosted a world-premiere musical, "Rock and Roll Man: The Alan Freed Story." The year will end with a new comedy by Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen, "Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Playhouse Christmas Show," which resets Dickens' classic tale "A Christmas Carol" in New Hope.

Tickets to "The New World" are on sale now and 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.

ABOUT BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE

Bucks County Playhouse, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, is the oldest and largest professional Equity performing arts center in Bucks County. Under the direction of Tony Award-winning producers Alexander Fraser and Robyn Goodman, the Playhouse provides first class professional theatrical entertainment as well as community events, partnerships and arts education programming for visitors and residents of New Hope, Doylestown, Lambertville and the Delaware Valley.

Located between Philadelphia and New York, Bucks County Playhouse opened in 1939 in a converted 1790 gristmill after a group of community activists, led by Broadway orchestrator Don Walker and playwright Moss Hart, rallied to save the building. The Playhouse quickly became one of the country's most famous regional theaters, featuring a roster of American theatrical royalty including Helen Hayes, Kitty Carlisle, George S. Kaufman, Grace Kelly, Robert Redford, Bert Lahr, Walter Matthau, Angela Lansbury, Bernadette Peters, Alan Alda, Tyne Daly, Liza Minnelli and Audra McDonald and remained in continuous operation until December 2010.

In 2012, the Playhouse re-opened thanks to the efforts of the Bridge Street Foundation, the nonprofit family foundation of Kevin and Sherri Daugherty, and Broadway producer Jed Bernstein.

Since its renovation, significant productions include Terrence McNally's "Mothers and Sons" starring Tyne Daly, which moved to Broadway and was nominated for two Tony Awards, and "Misery" by William Goldman based on the Stephen King novel which also went on to a Broadway run in the 2015-16 season. Two of the Playhouse's recent productions -- "Company" starring Justin Guarini, and William Finn's "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" -- were named by Wall Street Journal to its "Best of Theatre" list for 2015. The Playhouse's productions of "Steel Magnolias" and "Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story" broke box office records in 2016. Thanks to the Bridge Street Foundation and its vision for the New Hope waterfront, the Playhouse is currently in construction as it adds a 4,000-square foot riverfront cafe and bar that will open in 2018.

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