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**Newtown Patch**

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March 23, 2017

## Bucks County Playhouse Hosting Oscar Hammerstein Festival

The festival in New Hope will feature special events all devoted to musical theatre.



By Kara Seymour (Patch National Staff)

*A previous version of this story incorrectly stated the festival dates. The story has been updated. Patch regrets the error.*

The Bucks County Playhouse has released details about its upcoming Oscar Hammerstein Festival. The festival will feature special events all devoted to musical theatre.

The Third Oscar Hammerstein Festival will feature a benefit concert, "Hammerstein in Hollywood," at Bucks County Playhouse on Saturday, April 22 at 8:00 pm.

The benefit concert cast features Ashley Brown ("Mary Poppins"), Max von Essen ("An American in Paris"), Malcom Gets ("A New Brain") and Carmen Cusack ("Bright Star"). They join previously announced Bucks County Playhouse Hall of Fame honoree, Shirley Jones. It will be hosted by Ted Chapin,

President and Chief Creative Officer of the Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization, with Josh Rhodes as director and choreographer and musical direction by David Dabbon.

The Playhouse will offer Festival Passes for attendees to enjoy all events that can be purchased online or at the box office. Other workshops and seminars are planned.

Single tickets may also be purchased for the “Hammerstein in Hollywood” benefit concert. Tickets for the Benefit Concert and Post-Show Reception are \$150. Concert-only tickets are \$75 for orchestra and \$45 for rear orchestra. Passes are also available. Passholders receive admission to all of the weekend events.

*Here are more festival details, according to the playhouse:*

A workshop featuring excerpts from “The New World,” an outrageously funny new musical that will debut at the Playhouse this fall. Composer Gary Adler (“Altar Boyz”) and lyricist Phoebe Kreutz (“Awesomer & Awesomer”) will take Festival pass holders into the evolution of their new musical and chat about some of the changes as they ready the musical for production. New York Post theater columnist, Michael Riedel, will also present at the festival — giving insight into the current and past state of Broadway with a talk based on his book, “Razzle Dazzle: The Battle for Broadway.” Additional seminars featuring artists and experts within the musical theater field.

Networking opportunities with other passholders and presenters at an informal farewell brunch on Sunday at the historic home of Bucks County Playhouse Producing Director Alexander Fraser.

For more information or to purchase a Festival Pass, visit: [www.buckscountyplyhouse.org](http://www.buckscountyplyhouse.org) or call 215-862-2121. The playhouse is located at 70 South Main Street, New Hope.