

City Theater of Independence presents

The Children's Hour

by Lillian Hellman

Directed by Matt Hentges

By special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc.

September 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 2016





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City Theatre of Independence

www.CityTheatreofIndependence.org

ENCORE

www.EncoreTheatreIndepMo.org

Children's Performing Theatre

Facebook: [Childrens-Performing-Theatre-of-Independence-Mo](https://www.facebook.com/Childrens-Performing-Theatre-of-Independence-Mo)

Join CTI

If you enjoy seeing our performances, you might also enjoy being a member of CTI . There are many opportunities to be part of the organization. In addition to acting, there are crew members on each production to run lights or sound, to help with properties and set changes, or costume design and set construction.

CTI is a member-run organization, where you can be part of the decision making process. Questions? Contact citytheatreofindependence@gmail.com.

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Roles for 8th grade through adult

The Children's Hour

By Lillian Hellman

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Cast

Mary – Abigail Becker
 Peggy – Nerrisa Lee
 Evelyn – Kennedy Marks
 Rosalie – Audrey Hentges
 Catherine – Erin Oyster
 Lois – Rhiannon Smith
 Helen – Hannah Bezona
 Lily Mortar – Meghann Deveroux
 Karen Wright – Kim Hentges
 Martha Dobie – Felisha Caldeira
 Mrs. Amelia Tilford – Linda Levin
 Agatha – Laura Burt
 Dr. Joe Cardin – Brandon Stevens
 Grocery Boy – Matthew Silvestri

Crew

Director: Matt Hentges
 Stage Manager: Larry Morris
 Set Design: R.J. Parish
 Properties and Set Dress: Mindi Thompson
 Light Designer and Operator: Chuck Cline
 Sound Designer and Operator: Matt Hentges
 Set Crew: Benjamin Morris, Matthew Silvestri, Nerrisa Lee
 Costumes: Kim Hentges
 Seamstress: Joyce Stone

The Children's Hour

Act 1

April

The living room of a New England farmhouse that Martha Dobie and Karen Wright have converted into the Wright-Dobie School for Girls.

Act 2

Scene 1 - Later that same day. The living room at Mrs. Tilford's home.

Scene 2 - Later that evening.

Act 3

November

The Wright-Dobie School for Girls.

There will be two, 10 minute intermissions between each act.

Set Builders

R.J. Parish, Norita Taylor, Matt Hentges, Mike Masterson, Joyce Stone, Sandy Dempsey, John Dempsey, David Hentges, Kim Hentges, R.J. Taylor, Audrey Hentges, Kennedy Marks

Director's Bio

Matt Hentges has acted on this stage in numerous CTI productions over the last decade and is so excited and glad to finally be directing a show here. He has been active in Kansas City community theatre for over 16 years both as an actor and director. Some of his favorite past productions include *All My Sons* (Chris), *Guys & Dolls* (Benny South-Street), *You Can't Take It With You* (Director), *Barefoot in the Park* (Director), *Proof* (Robert) and *Mercy Seat* (Director). Matt would like congratulate this incredible cast on making this production extraordinary. He feels extremely fortunate for the opportunity to work with them and is so grateful that they decided to share their time and talents with him. Matt would like to thank his parents and in-laws for all of their help and support over the years; his children for helping him remember to laugh and his amazingly talented wife for all of her love, support and inspiration.



Acknowledgements & Special Thanks

Candis Pfaltzgraph, David & Diane Hentges, Heidi & Joshua Stigers,
John & Helen Smith, Cas & Cora's Little Shop of Costumes

Stage Manager Bio.

Larry Morris has been active in several plays on the technical side and was most recently on stage in the CTI production of *The Mousetrap*. If you want to get to know Larry, you need to search an abandoned building and go to the cellar that has no stairs or lights. Then find the disused laboratory with the locked file cabinet with the sign "Beware of Leopard."

Properties Mistress Bio

Melinda Thompson, prop mistress, comes to us from Chicago, where she worked in professional theatre for 20 years. She was assistant properties with the Goodman Theatre and property mistress at Stepwolf Theatre, which was founded by her college classmates from Illinois State University. She has worked with many notable actors, directors and set designers, including Danny Glover, John Maklovich, Joan Allen, Gary Sinise, Robert Falls, Greg Mosher and Tom Waits on his musical *Frank's Wild Years*, to name a few. Melinda's favorite aspect of doing theatre is getting to learn about different time periods, locations and cultures, thereby travelling around the world and through time while remaining in one location. Melinda is an artist and writer and is very pleased to be making her CTI premiere with *The Children's Hour*, as Lillian Hellman is her favorite playwright, with whom she shares the same birthday.



Cast - in alphabetical order



Abigail Becker (Mary)

Abigail is thrilled to be back at CTI and playing the villain. She has acted in shows at CTI (*Pride and Prejudice*), Theatre in the Park, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Alcott Arts Center and Truman High School. She is a senior at Truman High School and plans to study musical theatre in college. She thanks the awesome cast, crew and director for the incredible experience and sends love to her family and friends for supporting her life upon the wicked stage.



Hannah Bezona (Helen Burton)

Hannah is a sophomore at Center Place Restoration School. When she is not on stage she spends her time drawing and making art. This is her first production with CTI. She has been in many productions with her school including *The King and I*, *The Little Mermaid*, *The Music Machine*, *Echos from the Dust*, *Partakers of the Glory* and *Honor Bound*. She would first like to thank God for giving her the talent and courage to perform. She would also like to thank the director Matt for giving her this opportunity as well as her parents for all of their support and for taking her to and from rehearsals.



Laura Burt (Agatha)

Laura would like to thank City Theatre for her first role here. She was last seen on stage as Ada Allen in *The Summerland Project*. Some favorite roles include Poppy in *Noises Off*, Claire in *Proof*, and Miranda in *Expecting Isabel*. She would like to thank Matt for this opportunity to practice some fun character work! To the Superfriends, as always, you rock! And of course her partner Richard and kitty Shylla, thank you for always snuggling up on the off days!



Felisha Caldeira (Martha Dobie)

This is Felisha's first performance at CTI and she is grateful for the opportunity to play such a profound role. She has a B.A. in Theatre Arts and has appeared in several shows all over the KC area. Her most recent performances include Carrie in *Frontiers*, Annie in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and ensemble in *Ragtime*. She would like to thank the director, cast and crew for such a memorable experience. Above all she would like to thank her husband, Travis, for his never ending love and support.



Meghann Deveroux (Lily Mortar)

Meghann is excited to be making her debut at CTI. Recent productions include *Equus* (Barn Players), *Picasso at Lapin Agile* and *All My Sons* (Summit Theatre Group), *The Best Man* and *A Piece of My Heart* (OCTA), and touring Murder Mystery shows with Upstage Productions across the Midwest. She would like to thank her friends and family for always being there, Matt for the wonderful opportunity and the audience for supporting local theatre.



Audrey Hentges (Rosalie Wells)

Audrey is very excited to be returning to the stage at CTI for the third time. Previously, she played young Beth March in *Little Women* and Rooney in *Eat Soap or Die*. She was also in Summit Theatre Group's production of *All My Sons* where she played Bert. Some of her favorite musical shows include *Assassins*, *Wicked* and *Les Miserables*. She would like to thank her parents for always being there and being supportive, no matter the issue, as well as her little brother Leo who is as sweet as honey and always cheering her on. Thanks to her grandparents for all of their love and support. They are all amazing! Thanks to Annie, Molly, Corrine & Chloe for their love, support and encouragement and especially her boyfriend, Regan, who means the world to her.



Kim Hentges (Karen Wright)

Kim is proud to be onstage at CTI again after recently playing Lottie Wilton in *Enchanted April*. Kim has been active in Kansas City theatre for 18 years. Some of her past favorite roles include Catherine in *Proof* and Corie in *Barefoot in the Park*. She also played in *All My Sons*, *The 39 Steps*, *Picnic* and *The Glass Menagerie*. She sends her love to Leo and extra special thanks to Matt and Audrey for their selflessness and support.



Nerrisa Lee (Peggy)

Nerissa is a recent graduate of Missouri Western State University. She has recently been seen in *Into the Woods* (Lucinda) at Western Playhouse, *Urinetown* at MWSU (Little Sally), *Miss Saigon* (ensemble) at Western Playhouse, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Suzanne) at MWSU, *A MidSummers Night Dream* (Hermia) at MWSU and Disney's *Tarzan* (ensemble) at RRT. Nerissa is proud to currently be an Equity Membership Candidate. She would like to thank her family for their endless love and support! Follow her on twitter @NerrisaMarieLee. Philippians 4:13



Linda Levin (Mrs. Tilford)

After a hiatus of forty years during which time she was a high school teacher with captive audiences, Linda jumped back on stage. This is Linda's second production at CTI. She has previously appeared as Mrs. Bennet in last season's *Pride and Prejudice*, for which she received the theater's Best Supporting Actress award. She has also appeared in productions at Union Station, the Just Off Broadway Theater, the Paradise Playhouse Dinner Theater and the Corbin Theatre in Liberty. Thank you audience members for supporting our local community theater. Thank you Lori and Pete for letting me have this "serious fun."



Kennedy Marks (Evelyn Munn)

Kennedy is making her debut with CTI. Kennedy's previous plays were at Nowlin Middle school in *The Night of January 16th*, and *Annie Jr.* In *Annie Jr.* she played Annie. She is very thankful for her supportive family. Kennedy has loved the experience and is glad to have been a part of this production.

Erin Oyster (Catherine)

Erin was so glad to get an email about auditions for a play with an adult cast. Her first ever CTI audition came soon and she was excited to dive right into it. When Erin isn't acting she is tending to her nine pets, volunteering in an exotic animal center, making comical videos or playing musical instruments. Erin first got involved in theater with Coterie Theatre, followed by Children's Performance Theatre and Camp Shakespeare. The plays she has been in include *Babes in Toyland*, *King Lear*, *Dragon Tale* and *Christmas Tree from Outer Space*. Erin would like to give a big thanks to her second grade teacher, Mrs. Hotson for first recognizing her love for acting. Also thanks to the director, Matt Hentges, Tara her Coterie teacher, and Sandy Dempsey, her CPT director for many shows.



Mathew Silvestri (Grocery Boy)

Mathew has done theatre throughout his entire high school career and this is his seventh production. He enjoys acting, writing and being funny. He finds a huge interest in video making, including making videos on YouTube. His dream is to become a Hollywood producer, actor, writer, and director. Right now, he is a part of the Coterie Playwright's Roundtable and Shocking Arts Productions. He is very excited for the future to come.



Brandon Stevens (Dr. Joe Cardin)



Brandon has been acting in Kansas City since 2008, both on stage and on camera. After focusing his acting career on camera, *The Children's Hour* marks Brandon's first stage play since his last theatrical performance three years ago. On top of that, this is his first time performing at the City Theatre of Independence. In addition to acting on stage and on camera, he is also beginning his journey in voice acting. Outside of acting, Brandon is very passionate about Tai Chi Chuan and martial arts in general. He is learning his third form in Tai Chi Chuan and hopes to one day teach others. Brandon would like to thank his fellow cast and crew for their dedication and talent as well as all of his family and friends who have supported him and his path in the performing arts.



Rhiannon Smith (Lois Fisher)

Rhiannon is excited to do her second play here at the City Theater of Independence. She has acted in numerous other plays and musicals including *Annie*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Jungle Book*. When she's not on stage she likes to dance around to music and watch YouTube.

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Visit this funky URL address and you will find an easy form to fill out and get updates on auditions, shows and other events. <http://eepurl.com/KFHnN>

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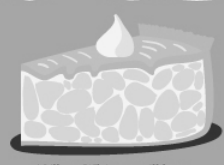
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<p><u>1983-84</u> You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, The Rainmaker, Alice In Wonderland, J.B., Life With Father, The Importance of Being Earnest</p>	<p><u>1984-85</u> On Golden Pond, 1776, The Emperor's New Clothes, Our Town, The Mousetrap, You Can't Take It With You</p>	<p><u>1985-86</u> Barefoot In The Park, The Glass Menagerie, Cinderella, Two By Two, Wait Until Dark, Shadowbox</p>
<p><u>1986-87</u> Bell, Book and Candle, Laura, Snow White, Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, The Buck Stops Here, Bus Stop</p>	<p><u>1987-88</u> Dial M For Murder, Happy Birthday Wanda June, Sleeping Beauty, God's Favorite, Side By Side By Sondheim, Enemy Of The People</p>	<p><u>1988-89</u> Tom Sawyer, Charlotte's Web, I Remember Mama, Close Ties, The Mystery of Edwin Drood</p>
<p><u>1989-90</u> Hay Fever, The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow, Cradle Song, Pippin, The Foreigner</p>	<p><u>1990-91</u> Death By Chocolate, Beauty & The Beast, Guy's & Dolls, Crimes Of The Heart, Noises Off</p>	<p><u>1991-92</u> Play It Again Sam, Winnie The Pooh, Blithe Spirit, Steel Magnolias, Oliver</p>
<p><u>1992-93</u> Arsenic & Old Lace, The Nerd, The Unexpected Guest, Odd Couple (female version), Fiddler On The Roof</p>	<p><u>1993-94</u> Rehearsal For Murder, Lend Me A Tenor, Anything Goes, Come Blow Your Horn, The Royal Family</p>	<p><u>1994-95</u> Born Yesterday, The Cemetery Club, Harvey, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, Witness For The Prosecution</p>
<p><u>1995-96</u> Forty Carats, The Rainmaker, Night Watch, Little Shop Of Horrors, I Hate Hamlet</p>	<p><u>1996-97</u> Something's Afoot, The Lion In Winter, Heaven Can Wait, Mame, Corpse</p>	<p><u>1997-98</u> Lost In Yonkers, Darkside, Greetings, Annie Get Your Gun, Cat's Cradle</p>

<p><u>1998-99</u></p> <p>Rumors, A Lie Of The Mind, The Importance Of Being Earnest, Camelot, The Crucifer Of Blood</p>	<p><u>1999-2000</u></p> <p>Moon Over Buffalo, Cole, Talley's Folly/Talley & Son, A Little Night Music, Amadeus</p>	<p><u>2000-01</u></p> <p>A Midsummer's Night Dream, My Three Angels, Nunsense, An Ideal Husband, Marriage Of Figaro</p>
<p><u>2001-02</u></p> <p>Catch Me If You Can, The Diary Of Anne Frank, Murder At The Howard Johnson's, The Sound Of Music, The Sunshine Boys</p>	<p><u>2002-03</u></p> <p>Squabbles, Dracula, Hedda Gabler, The Wizard Of Oz, The Company Of Wayward Saints</p>	<p><u>2003-04</u></p> <p>You Can't Take It With You, A Murder Is Announced, The Man Of La Mancha, All My Sons, The School For Scandal</p>
<p><u>2004-05</u></p> <p>The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, Death-trap, Private Lives, Hello Dolly, Picnic</p>	<p><u>2005-06</u></p> <p>Plaza Suite, An Inspector Calls, The Delany Sisters, Pirates of Penzance, Dear-ly Departed</p>	<p><u>2006-07</u></p> <p>Noises Off, Sleuth, Inventing Van Gogh, Nothing But The Truth, The Music Man</p>
<p><u>2007-08</u></p> <p>Funny Money, A Shot In The Dark, Kiss Me Kate, The Lilies Of The Field, Social Security</p>	<p><u>2008-09</u></p> <p>To Kill A Mockingbird, I'll Be Back Before Midnight, Over The Tavern, Marcus Is Walking, The King & I</p>	<p><u>2009-10</u></p> <p>Escanaba In Da Moonlight, Chain Of Circumstances, King O' The Moon, Chicago, Arcadia</p>
<p><u>2010-11</u></p> <p>The Boys Next Door Death Of A Salesman Last Mass At St.Casimir's Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella;Almost, Maine</p>	<p><u>2011-12</u></p> <p>The Foreigner, Suburb, A Streetcar Named Desire, Working A Nice Family Gathering</p>	<p><u>2012-13</u></p> <p>Little Women, The Nerd, Proof, Once Upon A Mattress, On Golden Pond</p>
<p><u>2013-14</u></p> <p>The Miss Firecracker Contest, The Mousetrap The Complete Works of Wm Shakespeare – Abridged, Little Shop Of Horrors , Pride and Prejudice</p>	<p><u>2014-15</u></p> <p>The Taming of the Shrew Jekyll & Hyde, The Last Night of Ballyhoo Enchanted April Seussical</p>	<p><u>This Season!</u></p> <p>The Children's Hour Blithe Spirit The Trip to Bountiful Young Frankenstein Play It Again, Sam</p>



Important Dates

Auditions

Blithe Spirit
Sept. 8, 9 at 7 p.m.
Sermon Center

This Season!

Blithe Spirit - November 2015

The Trip to Bountiful - January 2016

Young Frankenstein - March 2016

Play It Again, Sam - June 2016

Visit our website for performance dates

Next CTI Business Meeting
Saturday, Oct. 3, 12-2 p.m.

www.CityTheatreofIndependence.org

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