Summer Theatre
DOWNTOWN

PENN STATE
CENTRE STAGE

Penn State’s Professional Theatre • 2020 Summer Season
Please join us this summer as we bring our three-show professional season to the heart of downtown State College!

We’re thrilled to be a part of Summers on Allen and we’ve planned a unique slate of funny, uplifting, and richly entertaining shows for the entire community. Each is unique, each is a gem, and I think you will agree that every generation will find something of delight throughout the entire season.

From the comic mayhem of William Shakespeare’s *Long Lost First Play (abridged)* to the romantic penned memoir of local native Ross Lehman’s *Sentimental Journey* and the hilarious musical comedy *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, we’re excited to showcase a wide variety of enjoyable summer theatre—perfect for a summer’s evening out!

Penn State Centre Stage has historically played a significant role in the cultural life of Centre County during the summer months, and I’m so pleased that we’re bringing it back downtown.

Come and be a part of this exciting season!

Rick Lombardo
Director, School of Theatre
Producing Artistic Director, Penn State Centre Stage

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*Summer deal.*

Subscribe to all three shows and save 10 percent!

Offer expires June 6.

See back for details.
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE’S LONG LOST FIRST PLAY (abridged)

By Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor

Directed by Rick Lombardo

“WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE’S LONG LOST FIRST PLAY (abridged) is the literary holy grail: an actual manuscript in Shakespeare’s own hand showing all his most famous characters and familiar speeches in a brand-new story. But because it’s one 100 hours long and contains multiple unwieldy storylines, it was decided, as a public service, to abridge it down to a brief and palatable ninety-minute performance for this lost masterpiece.”

Discovered in a treasure-filled parking lot in Leicester, England (next to a pile of bones that didn’t look that important), an ancient manuscript proves to be the long-lost first play written by none other than 17-year-old William Shakespeare from Stratford. We are totally not completely making this up.

May 28–June 6
PENN STATE DOWNTOWN THEATRE
Parking validation available at the theatre.

Preview at 8:00 p.m.: May 28
Opening Night Reception at 6:30 p.m. and Show at 8:00 p.m.: May 29
Saturday Matinees at 2 p.m.: May 30, June 6
Sunday Matinee at 2 p.m.: May 31
Opening Night Reception and Show: $60
Evenings at 8:00 p.m.: May 30, June 3, 4, 5, 6
Preview and Matinees: $20
Evenings: $30
Student: $15

814-863-0255 ★ www.theatre.psu.edu
SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY: A STORY OF LOVE AND WAR
By Ross Lehman
Directed by Mark Lococo

“At its big, warm heart, Sentimental Journey—a one-man musical memoir penned and performed by veteran Chicago actor Ross Lehman—is a simple romance, charting his parents’ World War II-era courtship.”

Playing in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Dance and Theatre Festival and Penn State’s WE ARE alumni weekend, Sentimental Journey is an original one-man musical about Lehman’s parents, Ross and Katey, whose courtship and engagement survived the interruption of World War II. The heartfelt production includes popular music of the period such as “We’ll Meet Again,” “Don’t Fence Me In,” and the title song “Sentimental Journey.”

Lehman’s parents met as students at Penn State during the lead-up to the war. They became engaged in January 1944 shortly before his father was sent to Europe, where he served as a bombardier flying B-17’s and was wounded. Ross and Katey wrote a prize-winning Centre Daily Times column, “Open House with Katey and Ross Lehman,” for 26 years.
THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Music and lyrics by William Finn, Book by Rachel Sheinkin
Conceived by Rebecca Feldman with additional material by Jay Reiss
Directed and choreographed by J. Austin Eyer

Winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book

Six spellers enter; one speller leaves the winner! At least the losers get a juice box.

A hilarious tale of six adolescent overachievers in the throes of puberty who are vying to become the spelling bee champion of Putnam County. They are a quirky and charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time. They learn that winning isn’t everything and that losing doesn’t necessarily make you a loser.

(Note: This production is not recommended for children.)

JULY 15–26
PENN STATE DOWNTOWN THEATRE
Parking validation available at the theatre.

Previews at 8:00 p.m.: July 15 & 16
Opening Night Reception at 6:30 p.m. and Show at 8:00 p.m.: July 17
Saturday Matinees at 2 p.m.: July 18, 25
Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m.: July 19, 26
Evenings at 8:00 p.m.: July 18, 22, 23, 24, 25
Previews and Matinees: $20
Opening Night Reception and Show: $60
Evenings: $30
Student: $15
Season Subscriptions
Subscribe to all three shows and save 10 percent! Tickets must be purchased at one time. No other discounts apply.

Perfect for Groups
Buy ten regular tickets at the same time (all to the same show or mix and match) and receive a discount of 10 percent off ticket price. Tickets must be purchased as one transaction (does not apply to previous sales). For more information and ordering assistance, call Len Codispot-Anderson at 814-863-0389 or 800-ARTS-TIX.

Ticket Locations
Arts Ticket Center at Eisenhower Auditorium: M-F 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Penn State Tickets Downtown: M-F 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Bryce Jordan Center Ticket Window: M-F 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Enjoy free parking when you see a SUMMER show at the Downtown Theatre! Park in the Fraser St., Pugh St., or Beaver Ave. garages FREE when you see a show! Dine, shop, enjoy the downtown before and after the show. Just bring your parking stub to the theatre and receive a validation coupon good for up to six hours based on availability.

Support the 2020–21 Theatre Season
GiveTo.psu.edu/PSCentreStage

Become a Patron
Penn State School of Theatre is home to one of the finest theatre training programs in the country. We invite you to have a richer theatre experience by becoming a patron of Penn State Centre Stage.

With your gift, the show can go on. Let our students know that you love the theatre and care about ensuring opportunity for artists by completing the attached form or visiting raise.psu.edu/PSCentreStage

You can make a tax-deductible donation to Penn State Centre Stage by phoning 888-800-9163, or by visiting GiveTo.psu.edu/PSCentreStage.

Specify “Centre Stage–XAFPS” when you make a credit card gift by phone or online. You can also mail a check to: PSCS/Penn State, 116 Theatre Building, University Park, PA 16802.

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www.facebook.com/pennstatecentrestage
We’re on Twitter—follow us! @psutheatre

Tickets: 814-863-0255 ★ www.theatre.psu.edu

Venue & Parking
Penn State Downtown Theatre
146 S. Allen St., State College