

THE PENNSYLVANIA PLAYHOUSE
PRESENTS OUR 2024 SEASON



Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers*

Adapted from the novel by Alexandre Dumas

Directed by Gary Boyer

Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers* is presented by arrangement with Concord
Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

FRIDAY – SUNDAY
APRIL 5th – APRIL 21st

*Performances begin at 7:30 pm on
Friday & Saturday • 3 pm on Sunday*

TICKETS: 610.865.6665 PAPLAYHOUSE.ORG
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Contact us: webmaster@paplayhouse.org

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to our production of **Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers***! We are thrilled to bring this swashbuckling adventure to life on our stage, and we couldn't be more excited to share it with you.

As you may know, ***The Three Musketeers*** is a tale filled with spirited sword fights and daring escapades. Behind the scenes, our cast has dedicated countless hours to mastering the art of sword fighting and fight choreography. From intricate duels to dramatic skirmishes, each fight sequence has been meticulously crafted to deliver both excitement and authenticity. I am incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication our actors and crew have put into bringing these thrilling moments to life.

In addition to the action-packed adventure, Ken Ludwig's adaptation of this classic story infuses the show with his trademark wit and humor. Ludwig's clever dialogue and comedic timing add depth and charm to the characters, making this production a truly delightful experience for audiences of all ages.

As you watch our talented cast wield their swords and trade witty banter, I hope you'll join us in celebrating the dedication and passion they've brought to this production. Sit back, relax, and prepare to be swept away by the romance, intrigue, and excitement of **Ken Ludwig's *The Three Musketeers***.

Thank you for joining us on this thrilling journey. Enjoy the show!

– Gary Boyer

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Feb 25

February 21-24 7:00pm
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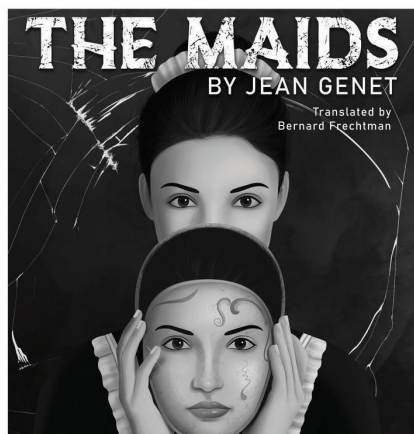


APR 18

SPRING DANCES

Apr 21

April 18-20 7:00pm
April 21 2:00pm



MAR 21

THE MAIDS

Mar 24

March 21-23 7:00pm
March 24 2:00pm



APR 28

V.O.I.C.E.

April 28 6:00pm
FREE



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employed as strengths to parent children and youth with special needs.



PENNSYLVANIA PLAYHOUSE PROUDLY PRESENTS

Ken Ludwig's
The Three Musketeers

Adapted from the novel by Alexandre Dumas

First performed by Bristol Old Vic, December 2006

Directed by **Gary Boyer**

Assistant Director

Parker Ryan

Stage Manager

Corinne Philbin

Fight Captain

James Dennis

Sword Master

Chris Egging

Intimacy Choreographer

Mackenzie Alexander Hall

Set & Lighting Design

Brett Oliveira

Costume Designer

Todd Burkel

Light Board Operator

Emily Kemler

Sound Operator

Nathan C. Kuhns

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

D'Artagnan..... **Salem Perez Torres**

Sabine..... **Caitie Pagonis**

Father / King Louis XIII..... **Matthew Contakes**

Mother / Queen Anne..... **Amy Cramer**

Athos **Ryan Patrick Allen**

Porthos..... **Drake Nester**

Aramis **Stephen Simone**

Cardinal Richelieu **James Dennis**

Rocheftort..... **Michael Sheridan**

Ravanche / Stanley / Fache **Kayli Silimperi**

Milady..... **Jillian Hetsko Shea**

Treville / Duke of Buckingham..... **Tom Mattei**

Adele / Septime / Innkeeper / Old Woman... **Moriah Faith**

Elise / Mother Superior / Abbess..... **Maria Mercedes**

Constance Bonacieux..... **Kaelin Weston**



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SCENE LIST

The whole play takes place in France in the year 1625.

ACT ONE

SCENE 1: Outside a farmhouse in Gascony

SCENE 2: Outside the Cardinal's palace, at night

SCENE 3: Mauriac, the next morning

SCENE 4: The reception room of Monsieur de Treville's house in Paris,
the next day

SCENE 5: The street below

SCENE 6: A garden on the grounds of the royal palace, a few minutes later

SCENE 7: Luxembourg Palace, that night

SCENE 8: A tavern

SCENE 9: Luxembourg Palace, in darkness

SCENE 10: A room in the Cardinal's palace, the next morning

SCENE 11: The courtyard of the Cardinal's palace, immediately following

SCENE 12: The Convent of the Sacred Heart

ACT TWO

SCENE 1: The Royal Palace, a few days later

SCENE 2: The Cardinal's palace

SCENE 3: Various locations

SCENE 4: London. The palace of the Duke of Buckingham, a day later

SCENE 5: The royal ball

SCENE 6: The Siege of La Rochelle

SCENE 7: Inside of the farmhouse

SCENE 8: The Carmelite Convent at Bethune

SCENE 9: The royal garden

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

Gary Boyer (Director) is thrilled to be back in the director's chair and working with this incredibly talented cast and crew. In the past, Gary has directed *Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *The Cemetery Club*, *Leading Ladies*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Biloxi Blues*, and several other shows, all for Pennsylvania Playhouse. Some of Gary's favorite onstage roles are Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Val in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, Vinny in *The Odd Couple*, Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Vice Principal Doug Panch in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He is also proud to be President of the Pennsylvania Playhouse. Love to his wife, Tina, for continuing to let him go play make-believe with his theatre friends!

Parker Ryan he/him (Assistant Director) is excited to be involved with *The Three Musketeers* here at PA Playhouse! Parker has been involved in various theatrical projects around the Lehigh Valley, including acting in *Wedding Singer* and *Clue* at the Pines Dinner Theatre, directing *The Prom* at Star of the Day, and as a board member here at the PA Playhouse. Enjoy the show!

Corinne Philbin she/her (Stage Manager) is thrilled to return to the Playhouse for her eleventh production! Most recently, Corinne was the Stage Manager for *Sweeney Todd* and *Miracle on 34th Street*. She serves as the Production Chair of the Playhouse's Board of Directors. Corinne has been involved in productions with Touchstone Theatre, Pennsylvania Youth Theatre, NCC, and Moravian University. Favorite credits include [title of show] (Heidi), *An Enemy of the People* (Katherine), and *Dog Sees God* (Director). Corinne will be Stage Managing *Kiss Me, Kate* later in the Playhouse season. She is extremely grateful to have worked with such a talented group of people for *The Three Musketeers*!

Emily Kemler (Light Board Operator) is an Occupational Therapist in the North Penn School District and has a special interest in theater. She has previously worked with Alvernia Theatre, NCC Summer Theatre, and is excited to continue at the Pennsylvania Playhouse. Emily has worked on recent shows at PPH including *Sweeney Todd*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Proof*, and now her fourth show, *The Three Musketeers*. She is very excited to be part of another great production and thanks the cast and crew for this amazing opportunity.

Nathan C. Kuhns he/him (Sound Operator) Nathan's theatrical endeavors span the past 28 years having performed and worked behind the scenes in numerous productions throughout PA, NJ, and FL. Here at Pennsylvania Playhouse, he has appeared in *Bright Star*, *Crazy for You*, *Sister Act*, *Into the Woods*, *My Fair Lady*, *Honk!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Welcome to Paradise*, *The King & I*, and *Gypsy* as well as *Steel Magnolias* (Light/Sound Board Operator), *The Obituary I'm Dying to Write* (ASM) and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Costume Designer). Special thanks to family, friends, and especially his fiancé Alberto for their constant love and support!

Chris Egging *he/him* (**Sword Master**) is an actor/director/designer originally from Sidney, NE. Chris moved to Bethlehem in 2014 and is very happy to call the Lehigh Valley home. Chris has worked professionally as an actor with National Players (Olney, MD), The Virginia Shakespeare Festival (Williamsburg, VA), NTC Productions (Omaha, NE), Gaslight Dinner Theatre (Dickson, TN), among others. He has been seen as an actor locally with Touchstone Theatre, Civic Theatre of Allentown, Between the Lines Studio Theatre, Star of the Day, Global ImpACTors Group, Allentown Public Theatre, and the Pennsylvania Playhouse. Areas of focus include Viewpoints and Suzuki training, various American acting styles, and approaches to acting that allow the actor to be less dependent on the need of a director. He is also a working director and adjunct professor at Moravian University. Directing credits include: *The Mousetrap*, *SubUrbia*, *The Pillowman*, *Waiting for Godot*, and *Man of La Mancha*, among others. He received a BFA in Theatre & Dance Performance from the University of Wyoming and an MFA in Acting from the University of Houston Professional Actor Training Program.

Mackenzie Alexander Hall *she/her* (**Intimacy Choreographer**) is delighted to be in the company of swashbucklers and musketeers. Select intimacy choreography credits: *Into the Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Newsies, Jr.*, *Elf, Jr.* Select performance credits: *Into the Woods* (Snow White/Swing), *Sweeney Todd*, *Kinky Boots* (Nicola), *Wonderful Town* (Eileen Sherwood). BA: Elon University. Intimacy training: Theatrical Intimacy Education. Instagram: @mackenziealexanderhall

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Salem Perez Torres *he/him* (D'Artagnan) is excited to perform at the Playhouse for the very first time in his first leading role! Salem has been involved in theatre for over a decade, dabbling in every aspect he can as a Jack of all Trades. He has been involved in productions and film at Cedar Crest, NCC, ASR Media, and around the Lehigh Valley. Favorite credits include *Twelfth Night* (Sir Andrew Augucheeck), *Kimberly Akimbo* (Seth), and *The Scottish King's Play* (McDuff). Salem is very grateful to have worked with and performed alongside such talented and amazing individuals in *The Three Musketeers*!

Caitie Pagonits *they/them* (Sabine) is so excited to be playing Sabine! This is Caitie's first show at the Playhouse. A Long Island native and soon-to-be graduate of Muhlenberg College with a degree in Theatre, Caitie has had the privilege of performing in five productions on campus as well as studying for a semester abroad in London, UK. A recent favorite role they loved playing was Chip in *Spelling Bee*. Caitie hopes you enjoy the show!!

Matthew Contakes (Father/King Louis XIII) feels marvelous to appear in his third show at the Playhouse. Matthew was previously seen playing station master, Saul Hodgkin, in *The Ghost Train*, and most recently as Albert Sawyer, Macy's vocational guidance counselor (and infamous hater of Santa Claus) in *Miracle on 34th Street*. Matthew wants to thank his kids (Christian, Grace, and Lucy) for being so supportive of his love of theater. He is beyond thankful to all the cast and crew for making this such a marvelous experience! Finally, Matthew hopes that everyone here tonight has an absolute ball!

Amy Cramer (Mother/Queen Anne) *The Three Musketeers* marks Amy's return to the Pennsylvania Playhouse, where she last performed as Lane in *The Clean House*. Other favorite roles include Dromio of Syracuse in *The Comedy of Errors*, Claire in *Proof*, First Witch in *Macbeth*, Edith Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Marie in *Calendar Girls*, and Polly Wyeth in *Other Desert Cities*. She has appeared in several films, TV news, and the documentary Out of Sight, but loves the stage best for its adrenaline rush. Thanks to all who support live theatre!

Ryan Patrick Allen (Athos) RPA is honored to be part of *The Three Musketeers*. This is his first show at the Playhouse. Some previous credits include playing Dracula at Cedar Crest College and a Satanic Puppet in *Hand to God* at NCC.



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Drake Nester (Porthos) is very excited to return to the PA Playhouse stage. Drake, a resident of Hellertown, PA, has been acting since grade school. Some recent roles include Anthony Marston in *And Then There Were None*, Peter Hunter in *No Sex Please, We're British*, and King Philip in *The Lion in Winter*. Drake is the Director of Operations for Snif and just can't stop reading/watching the fantasy/sci-fi genre. He would like to thank Gary and Parker for this exciting opportunity, Corinne for holding down the fort, and this amazing cast for putting up with Porthos' ego. He would also like to thank Margaret, Gaia, the Wilsons, and his family for always supporting him. All for one, and even more for Porthos!

Stephen Simone (Aramis) is thrilled to have the honor to portray Aramis in the Playhouse's production of *The Three Musketeers!* This is his first foray into stage combat, and he's hoping you'll have as much fun watching the fights as we've had doing them! His past experience in theater includes many productions at NCC, including shows like *The Pillowman* and *Actor's Nightmare*. More recently, he's done more work at the Pennsylvania Playhouse, portraying Richard in *The Ghost Train*, and appearing in the ensemble for *Kinky Boots*, and most recently playing Dr. Pierce in *Miracle on 34th Street*.

James Dennis (Cardinal Richelieu/Fight Captain) is beyond excited to have the opportunity to perform at the Pennsylvania Playhouse. His previous roles include pirate, man with socks, and murderer. James dreams of running away and opening a bed and breakfast with his soon-to-be bride and dog. He would like to thank his best friend Jade, Arya, and the amazing cast & crew. Enjoy the show!

Michael Sheridan (Rochefort) This marks Michael's return to the Pennsylvania Playhouse after appearing in the small role of the Bailiff in *12 Angry Jurors* in 2020. That was his first play after a 30-year hiatus since last performing in high school. Since then, he's appeared in several local productions with the Crowded Kitchen Players, as well as at Northampton Community College. He's also appeared in several locally produced films, such as Daniel Roebuck's "Lucky Louie" and the "Fries Rebellion." He's also appeared in several short films and commercials. A New York Emmy Award-winning short documentary producer, he's written and directed more than a dozen short films through his company, Maynard Films. Michael also co-founded the local filmmaking group, Route 22 Filmworks, which is hosting a film festival in August at the Icehouse in Bethlehem. He is grateful to Gary Boyer and the Playhouse for letting him be a part of this great show, and be a member of this wonderful cast.

Kayli Silimperi (Ravanche/Stanley/Fache) is excited to be debuting their first performance at the Playhouse alongside such a talented group of people. Most recently Kayli was an ensemble member in Lehigh University's production of *Rags Parkland Sings the Songs of the Future*, played Barista in *Brown Face*, and Titerys in *Galatea*. Other recent credits include directing Lehigh's productions of *GPS* and *GPS II* as well as stage managing *Spring Awakening*. Additionally, Kayli has been involved in productions at Moravian University, Touchstone Theatre, and the Civic Theater of Allentown. Kayli is an avid dancer taking classes through Lehigh, Moravian, Muhlenberg, and within the general community. Kayli hopes you enjoy the show!

Jillian Hetsko Shea *she/her* (**Milady**) is thrilled to make her PA Playhouse debut! After studying at AMDA and working in NYC, Jillian moved to the Lehigh Valley with her husband, daughter (hi Evelyn!), and their dogs in 2022. Favorite credits include ***Once Upon a Mattress*** (Lady Larken), ***No Exit*** (Estelle Rigault), and ***Little Red Riding Hood*** (Little Red). She's so grateful for the chance to work with such an incredibly talented cast and crew for ***The Three Musketeers!***

Tom Mattei (Treville/Duke of Buckingham) is happy to be part of ***The Three Musketeers***. This is his eighth production with the Pennsylvania Playhouse (Right-on!). Tom has enjoyed rehearsals and the time he has spent with his awesome castmates, the directors and the stage manager. Tom would like to thank Gary Boyer for casting him, the Pennsylvania Playhouse for continuing to be an outlet for locally-produced drama, and (most of all) those who supported local arts by coming to see the show!

Moriah Faith *she/they* (**Adele/Septime/Innkeeper/Old Woman**) is thrilled to be in her third production at the Playhouse. Previously, Moriah has been seen baking people into meat pies as Mrs. Lovett in the cover cast of ***Sweeney Todd*** at the Playhouse, as well as managing Christmas and the Macy's department store as Doris Walker in ***Miracle on 34th Street***. Moriah also recently finished their run as Jack's Mother in MunOpCo's production of ***Into the Woods***. She would like to thank Gary and the rest of this wonderful team for scooping her up on this swashbuckling adventure!

Maria Mercedes (Elise/Mother Superior/Abbess) is new to the Playhouse. She works full-time. Maria has been involved in Theater, Dance, and Massage Therapy while attending NCC. She hopes to be more involved with productions throughout the Playhouse season. She is very grateful to be in ***The Three Musketeers***.

Kaelin Weston *she/her* (**Constance Bonacieux**) is thrilled to be making her PA Playhouse debut alongside the incredibly talented creatives and actors of ***The Three Musketeers***. Previous credits include a performance in ***Trouble in Mind*** (Judy u/s). She would like to thank her family, coaches, and friends for their continued love and support.

SHOW NOTES AND BIOGRAPHIES ARE COMPILED BY
THE PRODUCTION STAFF. PA PLAYHOUSE APOLOGIZES
FOR ANY ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS.

PLAYWRIGHT'S BIOGRAPHY

Ken Ludwig has had six productions on Broadway and eight in London's West End. His 34 plays and musicals are staged around the world and throughout the United States every night of the year.

His first play, ***Lend Me a Tenor***, won two Tony Awards and was called "one of the classic comedies of the 20th century" by The Washington Post. ***Crazy For You*** is currently running on London's West End. It was previously on Broadway for five years, on the West End for three, and won the Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Musical.

In addition, he has won the Edwin Forrest Award for Contributions to the American Theatre, two Laurence Olivier Awards, two Helen Hayes Awards, the Charles MacArthur Award, and the Edgar Award for Best Mystery of the Year. His other plays include ***Moon Over Buffalo***, ***Leading Ladies***, ***Baskerville***, ***Sherwood***, ***Twentieth Century***, ***Dear Jack***, ***Dear Louise***, ***A Fox on the Fairway***, ***A Comedy of Tenors***, ***The Game's Afoot***, ***Shakespeare in Hollywood*** and ***Murder on the Orient Express***. They have starred, among others, Alec Baldwin, Carol Burnett, Kristen Bell, Tony Shaloub, Joan Collins and Henry Goodman.

His book ***How to Teach Your Children Shakespeare***, published by Penguin Random House, won the Falstaff Award for Best Shakespeare Book of the Year, and his essays on theatre are published in the Yale Review. He gives the Annual Ken Ludwig Playwriting Scholarship at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and he served on the Board of Governors for the Folger Shakespeare Library for ten years. His first opera, ***Tenor Overboard***, opened at the Glimmerglass Festival in July 2022. His most recent world premieres were ***Lend Me A Soprano*** and ***Moriarty***, and his newest plays and musicals include ***Pride and Prejudice Part 2: Napoleon at Pemberley*** and ***Lady Molly of Scotland Yard***.

His plays include commissions from the Agatha Christie Estate, the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Old Globe Theatre, and the Bristol Old Vic. For more information visit www.kenludwig.com.



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AUTOGRAPHS

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AUGUST 28, 1963 – MARCH 6, 2024

A TRIBUTE TO **BILL MUTIMER**

The Lehigh Valley Theater community lost a vital part of its heart last month. Bill Mutimer was a director, actor, Board Member, volunteer and patron of the Playhouse and so many other local theaters and he will be dearly missed.

To say that the show must go on is certainly a cliché, but it's also a good motto for Bill's life. The best way that we can all honor and remember him is to keep acting, creating, singing, painting, dancing, directing, or going to see a show. Theater is about connection and building a community, and so was Bill. His NCC and high school students were his kids, the larger theater community was his family, the stage was his home, and our theater patrons were his friends and neighbors.

One of our Board Members writes, "I've seen Bill on good days, bad days, and everything in-between, but no matter what was going on in life, or behind the scenes, the minute that he stepped onto a stage, whether as an actor or just to deliver a preshow speech, he came alive and transformed into the Showman. Nothing gave him greater pride or joy than walking into a crowded theater, introducing his performance, and then standing back and giving his students and actors a chance to shine. It's easy to for an actor to be in the spotlight, it's a lot harder and takes a strong person like Bill to devote yourself to always putting others into the spotlight. His life's work was about giving others a chance to shine, a chance to perform, a chance to create."

We've all lost a dear friend, a mentor, a collaborator, a comedian, a performer and artist.

Northampton Community College have announced the details for Bill Mutimer's "Celebration of Life" to be held on May 9th at 7:30 PM at NCC's Lipkin Theatre. Doors will open at 7:00 PM and all are welcome/encouraged to attend.

Bill would want songs, music, and laughter at this event. Remember his booming laugh and contagious smile? Therefore, it will be a cabaret style celebration with performances by students, alumni, friends, etc.

COMING UP NEXT AT
THE PENNSYLVANIA PLAYHOUSE

MAY 31 – JUNE 16

At a Berlin nightclub in the late 1920s, the flamboyant Master of Ceremonies promises an escape at the **Cabaret**. Through bawdy songs, **Cabaret** explores the tumultuous lives of Berlin's residents as Germany transitions to the Third Reich. The story follows Cliff, an American writer, enchanted by singer Sally Bowles, and the romance

between boarding house owner Fräulein Schneider and Herr Schultz, a Jewish fruit seller. Musical numbers like "Willkommen" and "Cabaret" capture the decadence of the era amidst the looming political changes.



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