

# INHERIT THE WIND



**THEATRE MEMPHIS** presents "INHERIT THE WIND"

By **JEROME LAWRENCE** and **ROBERT E. LEE**

Director **JEFFREY POSSON** ■ Sponsored by **DR. THOMAS RATLIFF**

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY

**BILL ANDREWS** (Matthew Harrison Brady) is particularly proud of appearing at Theatre Memphis in *Ragtime*, *1776*, *Hamlet*, *Cyrano*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *A Christmas Carol*; and at Playhouse on the Square in *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Spamalot!*, *Frost/Nixon*, *Urinetown the Musical*, *The Book of Will*, and for many years as Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*.

**BILL BAKER** (Henry Drummond) has been making theatre in the Memphis community for over fifty years. Favorite roles have included White Rabbit and King Lear at Theatreworks. He was last seen at TM as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* and Big Daddy in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

**KAITLIN BECK** (Mrs. Krebs) recently debuted at Theatre Memphis in *A Christmas Carol* (Mrs. Dilber). Prior credits include *The Crucible* (Abigail Williams), *The Music Man* (Amaryllis), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Crystal). A criminal defense lawyer by day, Kaitlin is particularly happy to help bring this important allegory to the Next Stage.

**MITCHELL BENTLEY** (Rev. Jeremiah Brown) could not have found a more opposite character in this story to how I actually am. My character's dichotomy to myself? Intense. Family relationship? Rocky. My performance? Fire and Brimstone.

**ROSE BLAKEMAN** (Rachel Brown) is thrilled to be making her first appearance in the Next Stage at TM. She was previously seen in *Cinderella*, and more recently in *A Christmas Carol*. Other credits include *Ride the Cyclone* (GCT), *Peter Pan* (BPACC), and *Oliver* (DFT). Rose would like to thank Jeff for the privilege of being able to help tell this story.

**JASEN DURRENCE** (Tom Davenport) is originally from east Tennessee and grew up not far from where the original story behind this play took place. He is excited to be returning to Theatre Memphis for his third show after *A Few Good Men* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

**SHANNON ELSEA** (Judge) This is his first show at Theatre Memphis, but he sure hopes it won't be his last. He is excited to be a part

of this wonderful cast and hopes you all enjoy the show! Thanks to my wife for allowing me the time to follow this hobby. Love you, Graysie.

**JUSTIN E. HENDERSON** (Dunlap) is excited to make his Theatre Memphis debut! His previous credits include *Your Arms Too Short To Box With God* and *The Wizard of Oz* at POTS. He would like to thank Christian Tripp, his friends, and family for their constant support, and most importantly God for gifting him with his talents.

**KATIE HOUSTON** (Assistant Director) holds her BA in Theatre from William Carey University. She has been a part of the Memphis theatre community since 2016 and is incredibly grateful for this opportunity. Many thanks to Jeff, Debbie, Abi, & the TM staff. Love to KJ and her family.

**GABRIEL KESTREL** (Elijah) loves Theatre Memphis. He last performed here in *The Play That Goes Wrong* in the Lohrey Stage in 2023. Before that, he worked with Jeff Posson on *A Few Good Men* in the Next Stage. He dedicates this performance to his dad, George Herbert Gunn.

**LOUISA KOEPPPEL** (Mrs. Blair) is a co-founder of Quark Theatre. Louisa's work has been seen all over Memphis, from site-specific to the Orpheum stage, and she finds great joy as a dance teacher at Hutchison School. Louisa is thrilled to be performing with her husband, Adam, and son, Felix.

**LAUREN LARSON** (Mrs. McLain) is overjoyed to be here! She was last seen as Marmee in GCT's *Little Women*, but has performed in over 25 shows in Michigan. Most lovingly and most often, she stars as an AP Lang teacher at White Station High and as a mom to Jamal and Aziz.

**JOE LEIBOVICH** (Mayor) is an attorney and reformed stand-up comic and improv performer. He formerly directed and performed with The Wiseguys improv troupe, and returns to scripted theatre after a several decade hiatus. He thanks his wife, Christiana, and his son, Marlowe, for their support and inspiration, and the Theatre Memphis family for being so welcoming!

IN THE NEXT STAGE AT THEATRE MEMPHIS

# INHERIT THE WIND

Directed by **JEFF POSSON**

Executive Producer **DEBBIE LITCH**

Production Manager/Tech Director

**MICHAEL COMPTON**

Lighting Designer

**NICOLE NORTINGTON**

Sound Designer

**JOE JOHNSON**

Costume Shop Manager

**ASHLEY SELBERG**

Stage Manager

**ABI WIGGINS**

Costume Designer

**AMIE EOFF**

Scenic and Properties Designer

**JACK NETZEL-YATES**

Assistant Technical Director

**MAGGIE JACKSON**

Director of Outreach & Education,

Volunteer Engagement, and

Stage Managers

**BECKY CASPERSEN**

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## CAST

Matthew Harrison Brady	<b>BILL ANDREWS</b>
Henry Drummond	<b>BILL BAKER</b>
Mrs. Krebs	<b>KAITLIN BECK</b>
Rev. Jeremiah Brown	<b>MITCHELL BENTLEY</b>
Rachel Brown	<b>ROSE BLAKEMAN</b>
Tom Davenport	<b>JASEN DURRENCE</b>
Judge	<b>SHANNON ELSEA</b>
Dunlap	<b>JUSTIN E. HENDERSON</b>
Elijah	<b>GABRIEL KESTREL</b>
Mrs. Blair	<b>LOUISA KOEPPPEL</b>
Mrs. McLain	<b>LAUREN LARSON</b>
Mayor	<b>JOE LEIBOVICH</b>
E.K. Hornbeck	<b>DON LOVE</b>
Mrs. Brady	<b>SUSAN MOSKOP</b>
Bertram Cates	<b>CHARLES RATLIFF</b>
Hot Dog Man, Radio Man, Reuters Man	<b>ADAM REMSEN</b>
Howard	<b>FELIX REMSEN</b>
Phil	<b>COLLIN SIDDELL</b>
Meeker	<b>ROBERT SUTTON</b>
Sillers	<b>SIMON SUTTON</b>
Mr. Bannister	<b>MARK WINBURNE</b>
Timmy	<b>OWEN WOODRUFF</b>
Melinda	<b>SHELBY WOODRUFF</b>

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## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Amanda Brewer, James Boyd, Louise Levin, Mac Reece, Arthur Wistock, Samuel Scott, and The Memphis Zoo for lending us Bobo the monkey, and, of course, Bobo the monkey

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY

**DON LOVE** (E.K. Hornbeck) is happy to be making his Theatre Memphis stage debut. Past roles include The Mad Hatter in *Alice and Wonderland*, Jim Casey in *Grapes of Wrath*, Fool in *King Lear*, Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the Old Man in *A Christmas Story*, and Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*.

**SUSAN MOSKOP** (Mrs. Brady) is so proud and excited to be a part of this important production. Credits include: Kudzu Playhouse's *Oklahoma!*, TM's *The Crucible* and *A Christmas Carol*, and Tennessee Shakespeare Company's *The Romeo and Juliet Project*. I could not have (re)embarked on this wonderful journey without the love and support of my friends and family.

**CHARLES RATLIFF** (Bertram Cates) is happy to be reuniting with Theatre Memphis for *Inherit the Wind*! He is a Dallas native and stage/television performer who is cultivating a life in Memphis. Charles is a Speech-Language Pathologist with a focus on the habilitation of the performers' voice.

**ADAM REMSEN** (Hot Dog Man, Radio Man, Reuters Man) is a co-founder of Quark Theatre and won the Best Actor Ostrander, Div 2, in 2023. His last role was Charles Condomine in *Blithe Spirit* at TM. He is elated to be on stage with Louisa and Felix! "Push yourself a little, and go easy on yourself a little."

**FELIX REMSEN** (Howard) This is Felix's first speaking role on stage. He is in fifth grade and has three pets: two cats (Snookie and Verde) and a dog (Lassie). He is exuberant to be here and wants to thank his parents for helping him.

**COLLIN SIDDELL** (Phil) is thrilled to be part of *Inherit the Wind* in a supporting role. As a newcomer to theatre, this is his second play, and he's loving every moment of this creative journey. Collin cherishes the opportunity to learn and grow as an artist while connecting with this powerful story.

**ROBERT SUTTON** (Meeker) last appeared at TM in last season's *A Christmas Carol* followed immediately by multiple roles in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* at GCT. He is very happy to be included in this production with an excellent cast and the very capable direction of Jeff Posson.

**SIMON SUTTON** (Sillers) is ecstatic to be back performing in TM's Next Stage, this time accompanied by his father as well. His most recent appearance in this stage was for TM's *A Few Good Men*, also directed by the talented Jeff Posson, and Simon is beyond happy to be back under his direction.

**ABI WIGGINS** (Stage Manager) is so excited to be working with such an amazing cast, crew, and design team! Even through the hard times remember, "When you lose your power to laugh, you lose your power to think straight."

**MARK WINBURNE** (Mr. Bannister) last appeared as Francis Nurse in *The Crucible* in the Next Stage. Over the years, he has appeared in numerous productions at TM including *Sherlock's Last Case*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *A Christmas Carol*. He dedicates this performance to his wife Peggy, whose love, support, and encouragement, makes it all possible

**OWEN WOODRUFF** (Timmy) is excited to play Timmy in this production! He is a 6th grader and was last seen as Ebby in *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Memphis. Owen loves singing, acting and dancing and would like to thank Rose Blakeman and Emily Chateau. He is thrilled to be a part of this talented cast.

**SHELBY WOODRUFF** (Melinda) is thrilled to make her Theatre Memphis debut in the Next Stage as Melinda. She was last seen as Pepper in *Annie Jr.* at GCT, and she is in the 6th grade. Shelby enjoys singing, acting and dancing and is grateful for the guidance of her mentor and guiding light, Rose Blakeman.