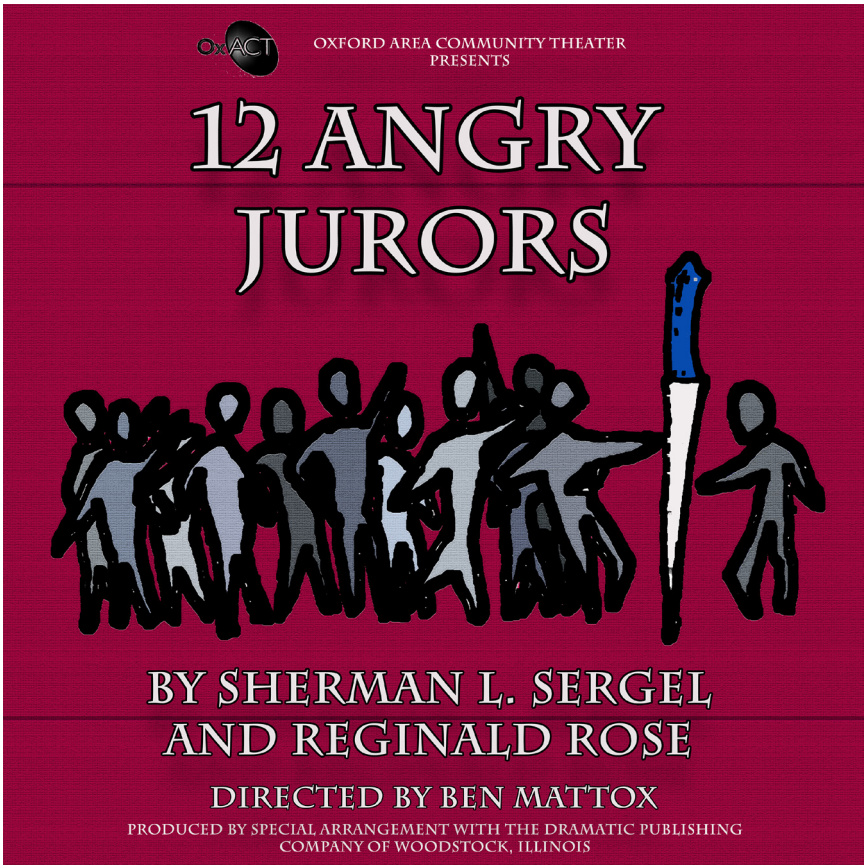
Oxford Area Community Theater

2025-26 Season



Fri. & Sat., Feb. 20 & 21 @ 7:30
Sunday, Feb. 22 @ 2:00
Fri. & Sat., Feb. 27 & 28 @ 7:30
Sunday, Mar. 1 @ 2:00

OxACT's Founding Patrons

Susan Braunig
Bill Brewer
Sgt. David Broxterman, USA
William and Charlotte Bruhn
Allan and Christina Button
Robert and Biz Campbell
Roger and Marilyn DeSoucy
Randy and Bev Devirendt
Edgar Dupont
The General Store/Finishing Touches
John and Kathy Gerberick
Dave and Becky Heckert
Bill and Jane Hollingsworth
Michael Keller
Joe and Janet Kretschmer
Jack Liles
John Lowrey
Marilaine's
Mrs. C. Rollin Niswonger
Jack and Sally Southard
C. E. and Betty Stousland
Dennis and Helen Sullivan
Stephen E. Toney
William and Dixie Utter
Kaye York-Longworth

OxACT Mission Statement

"The mission of the Oxford Area Community Theatre shall be to provide the community with the highest quality amateur theater possible. In order to achieve our goal, OxACT will present a mixture of musicals, dramas, and comedies from the classical and contemporary repertoire. We will do our best to achieve balance between shows that are appealing to the audience, cast, crew, and director, while increasing theatrical knowledge for all involved."

OxACT's 2025-26 Board

Rebecca Howard, president
Kayleigh Swatzell, vice president
Jenny Mattox, treasurer
Susan Meikle, secretary
Bekka Eaton
Ben Mattox
Mike McVey
Cecilia Shore

The OCAC's ADA-compliant restrooms are located down the hall as you leave the theatre to the left (women's) and to the right (men's).

The use of recording devices or cameras is strictly prohibited.

Please silence all electronic devices, such as watches, and

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE!

OxACT reserves the right to determine if or when latecomers will be seated, and may request patrons to leave the theatre if they become disruptive.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

~ Shandon Steel

~ The staff of the Oxford Community Arts Center

Thank you for your patronage! If you would like to help keep OxACT thriving and providing quality arts experiences to Oxford and surrounding communities, please consider becoming a donor or season sponsor. Visit our website at oxact.org for more information, or contact us by phone at 513-523-6228 or by email at info@oxact.org, or send a check to OxACT, PO Box 535, Oxford, OH 45056.

1980-81
Mouse Trap
Blithe Spirit
The Boyfriend

1981-82
Barefoot in the Park
Wait Until Dark
The King and I

1982-83
Bus Stop
Harvey
Oliver

1983-84
Prisoner of Second Avenue
Inherit the Wind
Working

1984-85
Ah, Wilderness
Dial "M" for Murder
Pippin

1985-86
Godspell
6 RMS RIV VU
The Dining Room

1986-87
Evita
The Real Inspector Hound
Our Town

1987-88
Fiddler on the Roof
All My Sons
Morning's at Seven

1988-89
Baby
Painting Churches
Skin of Our Teeth

1989-90
Sound of Music
The Glass Menagerie
Arsenic and Old Lace

1990-91
Closer Than Ever
The Diary of Anne Frank
Once Upon a Mattress
Marriage of Figaro

1991-92
The Music Man
Gianni Schicchi and Suor Angelica
The Shadow Box
The Odd Couple

1992-93
Agnes of God
Ten Little Indians
Die Fledermaus
Oklahoma!

1993-94
Annie!
Fefu and Her Friends
The Fantasticks

1994-95
Working
The Miracle Worker
The Boys Next Door

1995-96
Carousel
Nunsense
The Lion in Winter

1996-97
Annie Warbucks
You Can't Take It With You
My Emperor's New Clothes

1997-98
Steel Magnolias
Sylvia
Adventures of
Peter Pan and Wendy
No Fish in the House

1998-99
Stefanie Hero
You're a Good Man
Charlie Brown
Bell, Book & Candle

1999-2000
Forever Plaid
The House of Blue Leaves
Talking With . . .
The Rainmaker

2000-01
E. Hemingway
Nuncrackers:
The Christmas Musical
The Prince and the Pauper
Dames At Sea

2001-02
Parallel Lives
I Do! I Do!

2002-03
Luv
Wizard of Oz

How many of these great OxACT shows have you seen?

2003-04
Cole
A Raisin in the Sun

2004-05
The Search for Signs of
Intelligent Life in the Universe
"Master Harold"...and the boys
Guys and Dolls

2005-06
The Cemetery Club
Between Men and Cattle
Free to Be . . . You and Me

2006-07
An Evening of Improv
Company
Cabin Fever, a Texas Tragicomedy

2007-08
Spoon River Anthology
Into the Woods

2008-09
Fiddler on the Roof
Quilters
Black Comedy

2009-2010
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum
Quake
Pirates of Penzance

2010-2011
Doubt
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
Always, Patsy Cline

2011-2012
The Crucible
Adaptation/Next
Prelude to a Kiss

2012-2013
See How They Run
The Book of Liz
Walter Cronkite is Dead

2013-2014
The Great American Trailer Park Musical
God of Carnage
The Retreat from Moscow

2014-15
The Last Reading of Charlotte Cushman
Seussical
Tuesdays with Morrie

2015-16
The Belle of Amherst
Lost in Yonkers
Always a Bridesmaid

2016-17
Art
Talley's Folly
Four by Two by Four

2017-18
Oh, Coward!
The Gin Game
Rabbit Hole

2018-19
The Other Place
39 Steps
Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

2019-20
True West
Bingo!

2020-21
COVID Called

2021-22
All the Roles I'll Never Have
The Octette Bridge Club
The Edgar Allan Poe Afterlife Radio Show

2022-23
All the Roles I Loved the Most
Two on the Aisle, Three in a Van
Ripcord

2023-24
The Woolgatherer
Educating Rita
Murder at the Howard Johnson's

2024-25
Out Cry
Misery
Every Brilliant Thing

2025-26
Strong Girls, Powerful Women:
Tales of Triumph
12 Angry Jurors
Holy Days

✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻

SHOUT OUT TO OUR SEASON DONORS!

OxACT has always been supported through the generosity of community members who attend as patrons, or who donate to help us keep the lights on! If you would like to become a donor, you can make a donation through the PayPal portal on our website (oxact.org), or send a check to

OxACT, PO Box 535, Oxford, OH 45056

SHOW SPONSOR

Donald Daiker

BENEFACTOR $250+

Elizabeth Rogers & Ernst Bever
Lisa & Marc Biales
Marilyn & Robert Johnson
Debbie & Jeff MacDonald
Jack & Sally Southard

MARQUEE $50-$99

Pat Brooks
Jane Flueckiger
Bob & Emilie Ratterman
Annie & Randy Ritz
Connie & Patrick Sidley

ANGEL $100-$249

Bill & Nora Ellen Bowers
Barbara Broida
Patricia & Ronald Ellis
Lydia Hofmann
Kathey McMahon-Klosterman
Doug & Susan Meikle
Karen Schilling
Chris & Lydia Skoglind
Ellen Weisman

PATRON $25-$49

Jerome & Josette Stanley

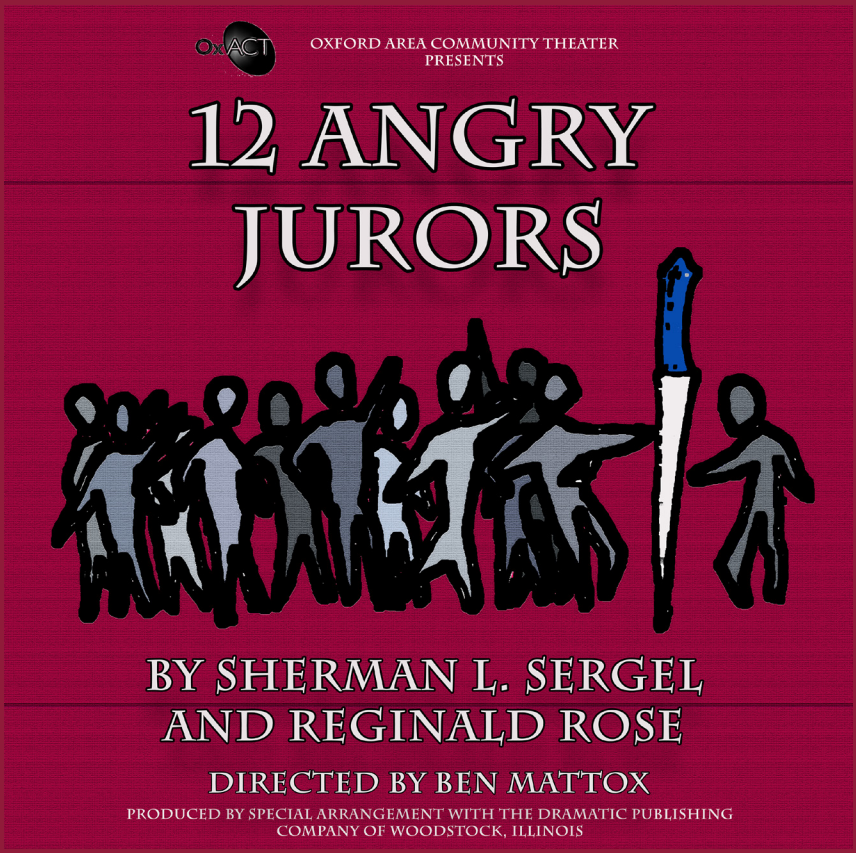
✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻

A Note from the Director

A few years ago I watched the 1997 version of the movie, *12 Angry Men*, and I immediately wanted to direct this play. I could not have guessed how relevant it would have been to our world today. To say I have been fortunate with every aspect of getting this play on stage is an understatement. The cast is nothing short of amazing. Everyone has worked incredibly hard with rehearsals four times a week since the first week of January, but starting with readings in November. Becky Howard came up with a wonderful set design and many of the actors helped with building. My wife Lynne has been a huge help. Her role is "Director Too," and has been by my side the whole time, helping everyone with lines, standing in for people when they can't make rehearsal, and many other things. So, to everyone involved, a huge, heartfelt THANK YOU.

Oxford Area Community Theatre

2025-26 Season



Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of
Woodstock, Illinois

CAST

Jeff Douglass ..... Juror #1

Julie Robinson ..... Juror #2

Tom Cooke ..... Juror #3

Chris Skoglind ..... Juror #4

Annie Watson ..... Juror #5

Beth Fryer ..... Juror #6

Deb Richardson ..... Juror #7

Elena Jackson Albarrán ..... Juror #8

Karl Mattox ..... Juror #9

Paul Allen ..... Juror #10

Mark Radlinski ..... Juror #11

Mike Robinson ..... Juror #12

Jay Fry ..... Bailiff

Katie Mattox ..... Judge

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director:
Ben Mattox

Set/Light Design
Rebecca Howard

Director Too:
Lynne Mattox

Light Board Operator:
Thea Holley

Build/Light Crew:
Noel Albarrán, Kay Bussell, Corinne Felt,
Thea Holley, Rebecca Howard, Joe Kretschmer,
Ben Mattox, Lynne Mattox, Kayleigh Swatzell, cast

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

Elena Jackson Albarrán (Juror #8) is grateful for another opportunity to share the stage with community members from greater Oxford. Her past shows with OxACT include *The Octette Bridge Club; Two in the Aisle, Three in the Van; The Woolgatherer*; and *Outcry*. As a professor at Miami, this semester she teaches Ancient Aztec and Maya history and the history of craft, and loves advocating for her colleagues as a proud member of the Faculty Alliance of Miami union.

Paul Allen (Juror #10) returns to the OxACT stage after a 23-year hiatus, having last appeared as Uncle Henry/Guard in the production of *The Wizard of Oz*, which also featured his son, Michael and his dog, Dipsy. Paul and his wife Mary K. Have lived in Oxford for 33 years. A retired U.S. Navy Commander and civil servant, Paul is also active in the Kiwanis Club of Oxford, The Institute for Learning in Retirement and Veterans organizations.

Tom Cooke (Juror #3) has thrown himself into the Oxford Community since retiring from federal service in 2021 and leaving the chaos of Northern Virginia. A retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, he continues to serve as an Oxford Township Trustee and returns to community theatre after a 34-year hiatus.

Jeff Douglass (Juror #1) has been involved with OxACT since its inception and inaugural season in 1980. He has served in various capacities for numerous productions including acting, stage managing and directing. He has also served as a board member and president of OxACT. You may recall seeing him in recent productions such as *True West* and *The 39 Steps*. Jeff has never been selected to serve on a jury in real life and is honored to have been called to serve on this jury.

Jay Fry (Bailiff) retired from teaching 9 years ago and began a new hobby as a background actor, supernumerary for Cincinnati Opera, and character actor in Independent Films. He is thrilled to be on stage with the fantastic actors of OxACT for the first time.

Beth Fryer (Juror #6) is excited to step out of her comfort zone and step onto the stage in her first production ever with OxACT. She has learned a lot from her fellow cast members and directors and has enjoyed portraying Juror 6. She would like to thank her family and friends for attending and for their support.

Thea Holley (light crew) was previously seen on stage as Stephano in Talawanda High School's production of *The Tempest*, and was the lightboard controller for *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Thea is excited to once again be backstage for *12 Angry Jurors*! She would like to thank everyone who made this play possible.

Rebecca Howard (Set/Light Design) has been active with OxACT for several decades (let's stop counting, shall we?) as an actor, set designer, lighting designer, props diva, and board member. Last season, she appeared on stage as the psychotic killer, Annie Wilkes, in *Misery*, in which she got to attempt to murder Ben's character every night. On the other extreme, she was the terminally perky Marilyn in OxACT's production of *Ripcord*. She likes to think that she exists somewhere comfortably between those two in real life. She is a writer, an educator, and an advocate for children, for the arts, and for community. She is also, most importantly, a spouse and a parent--thank you Annie and Kaili for keeping me grounded and surrounded by love!

Ben Mattox (Director) has been involved in OxACT for over 20 years, starting with *Cole*, in 2004. Though mostly participating as an actor or singer, this is his second time directing. "This has been a fascinating play to work on and the cast is simply outstanding. Everyone is working at 100% every rehearsal. I know our audiences will be thrilled with their performances."

Karl Mattox (Juror #9) made his acting debut in the Spring of 1954, playing the role of Grandpa in *Meet Me in St. Louis*. "Now, I am making my acting swan song, in the role of an old man. It has been a fun career, especially this production. I am grateful beyond words to my family for being so supportive."

Katie Mattox (Judge) has worked as a figure skating coach, preschool teacher, and in multiple law offices. She loves spending time with her kids, family, and friends. She enthusiastically supports anything relating to books, theater, and hopes to have some stories published someday. This is her first play and she is thrilled to be performing with her father, Karl, and under the direction of Ben and Lynne.

INTERESTING FACT ABOUT 12 ANGRY JURORS:

It was inspired by a real jury duty experience.

Reginald Rose, one of the most respected writers during the early days of television, served as a juror in a manslaughter case in early 1954. Naturally, as a dramatist, he noticed the drama inherent in the situation. He also realized that while there were many courtroom dramas, there were few (if any) set after the trial, in the jury room. He wrote *12 Angry Men* as a one-hour teleplay for CBS' Studio One anthology series. It aired—live—on September 20, 1954.

Lynne Mattox (Director Too) recently retired from Talawanda Schools, teaching special needs students for 34 years. Working on this play by helping the cast with lines, guidance, and keeping everyone from taking Ben too seriously, has been a fun and exciting change from the teaching world.

Mark Radlinski (Juror #11) is the Lead Upper Elementary Teacher and PE instructor at McGuffey Montessori. This is Mark's third production with OxACT and his second under the direction of Ben Mattox. After a long year away from the stage, Mark is excited to get the opportunity to work with such a talented group of people in *12 Angry Jurors.* Mark is married with one daughter who is currently attending Georgia Tech. He enjoys reading comic books and cosplay as well as riding and working on the family's seven Vespa scooters. Mark also serves on the board of Oxford Area PFLAG and is the Membership Director for the Vespa Club of America.

Deb Richardson (Juror #7) has enjoyed working with this talented cast & crew to bring our show to life. She is grateful for all the opportunities OxACT and other area groups have given her to help tell entertaining stories. Some favorite past shows: *Ripcord; Bingo! The Winning Musical; Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike; Always a Bridesmaid;* and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. Deb has been singing with Sirenz, a women's quartet who share timeless harmonies, for over 20 years. Since she retired from Miami's Health Center, some other favorite hobbies have been travel, grandchildren, and good food. Enjoy the show!

Julie Robinson (Juror #2) makes her theatrical debut as Juror #2, where she faithfully times reenactments and waits for "the hand to get to 60." By day, she works in research compliance at Miami University, which means she has extensive experience monitoring procedures, enforcing regulations, and documenting infractions — making the jury room feel oddly familiar. She enjoys quilting and spending time with the three grandchildren she shares with Mike (Juror #12), her husband of nearly 37 years.

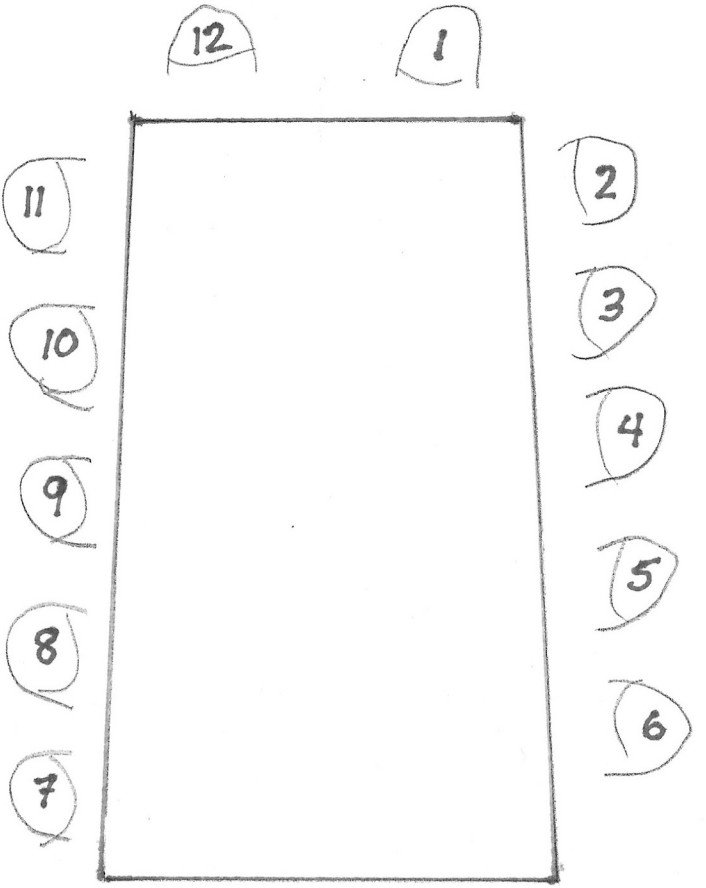
Mike Robinson (Juror #12) returns to the OxACT stage for the first time since *Bingo! The Winning Musical* in 2020- a production that ended in a pandemic. Previous roles include Danforth in *The Crucible*, Senex in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,* and many others. Mike and his wife Julie (Juror #2) are proud parents of four children and three grandchildren. By day, he teaches genetics and directs a developmental genetics research lab at Miami University-proving that whether in advertising or academia, he's comfortable selling complicated ideas.

Chris Skoglind (Juror #4) is in his first performance on stage after many years being in the audience for many OxACT performances. He enjoys serving on the Board for Miami University's Institute for Learning in Retirement as treasurer, being engaged in the City of Oxford Boards and Commissions, and helping set up the monthly book sale at the Oxford Lane Library. "I very much appreciate the help and guidance from Ben Mattox as Director, and from my fellow cast mates and crew on my first attempt performing before a live audience."

Annie Watson (Juror #5) (they/them) is an Oxford native and 2022 Miami University (OH) graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre & Creative Writing. They are extremely excited to be performing again after 4 years of working in costumes! Annie would like to thank their family for their unconditional love and unwavering support.

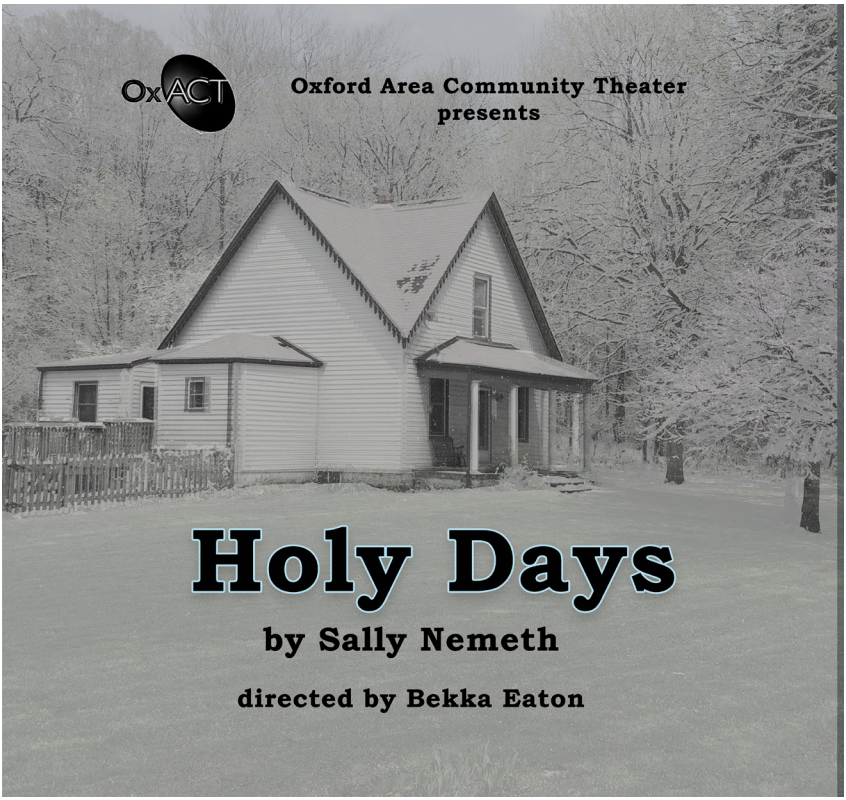
INTERESTING FACT ABOUT 12 ANGRY JURORS:
It inspired Sonia Sotomayor to go into law.
The Supreme Court justice selected the film for a screening at Fordham University in 2010, and told the audience it had really spoken to her when she first saw it as a college student, when she was considering going into law. The scene where a juror speaks reverently of the American jury system particularly grabbed her. "It sold me that I was on the right path," she said.

Where is each angry juror sitting?



****

AUDITIONS
FOR OUR FINAL PRODUCTION
OF THE 2025-26 SEASON!



Saturday Mar. 7th from 11:00am-1:00pm
Wdnesday, Mar. 11 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
at the Oxford Community Arts Center

Performance dates are
Apr. 24, 25, 26 and May. 1, 2, 3

Parts available for 2M & 2W, mid-twenties to mid-thirties

For more information, contact the director, Bekka Eaton, at

****