

ACT
AMELIA
COMMUNITY
THEATRE
SEASON 40

PRESENTS

2 Across
by Jerry Mayer

In-Person and Livestream

OCTOBER 2020



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AMELIA COMMUNITY THEATRE
PRESENTS

2 Across
by **Jerry Mayer**

Ron Kurtz
Director

Diana Herman
Stage Manager

October 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17
2020

Main Stage In-Person and Livestream

"2 Across" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
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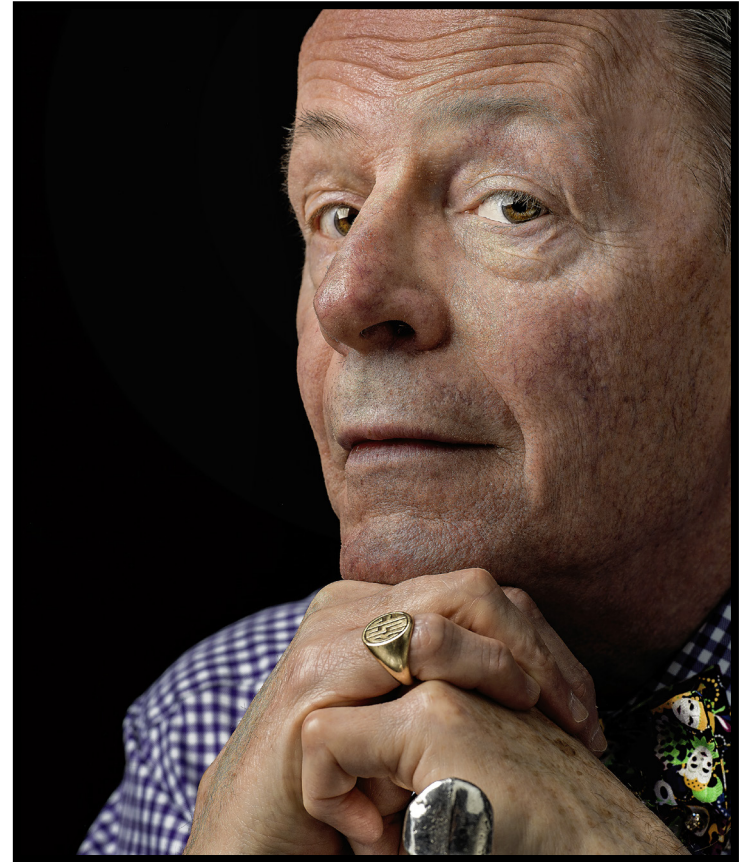
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Notes from the Director...

One of the most positive things we could think of is the redemptive power of love to survive, thrive, and even begin in the midst of a pandemic. Here on the Main Stage, we are presenting *2 Across* by Jerry Mayer.

It was written in safer times, but is eminently adaptive to the current situation. Two strangers meet on a public transit vehicle and, thanks to a wicked crossword puzzle in the New York Times, find that their differences melt away and something wonderful is about to emerge...Or is it?



Ron Kurtz, *Director*

We have used masks, social distancing, and careful contact to tell the story. We have been equally careful throughout the entire rehearsal process. The live audience will be appropriately distanced and masked. Those who are not yet comfortable with enclosed spaces can livestream the show from the comfort and safety of their homes. We are committed to bringing live theatre back to Amelia Island!

It has been a challenge for the actors, the set designer, the stage manager, and the camera operators to join together on this journey. And, oh, did I mention that the director has had an inordinately joyful time in crafting this love letter to local audiences?

Now, before the show begins, be sure your mask is in place and prepare yourself for a journey from here to Bay Point Station in San Francisco.

Anon, Ron



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Synopsis of Scenes

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Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

SHE (JANET)Samantha Hilliker
HE (JOSH)..... Chris Twiggs



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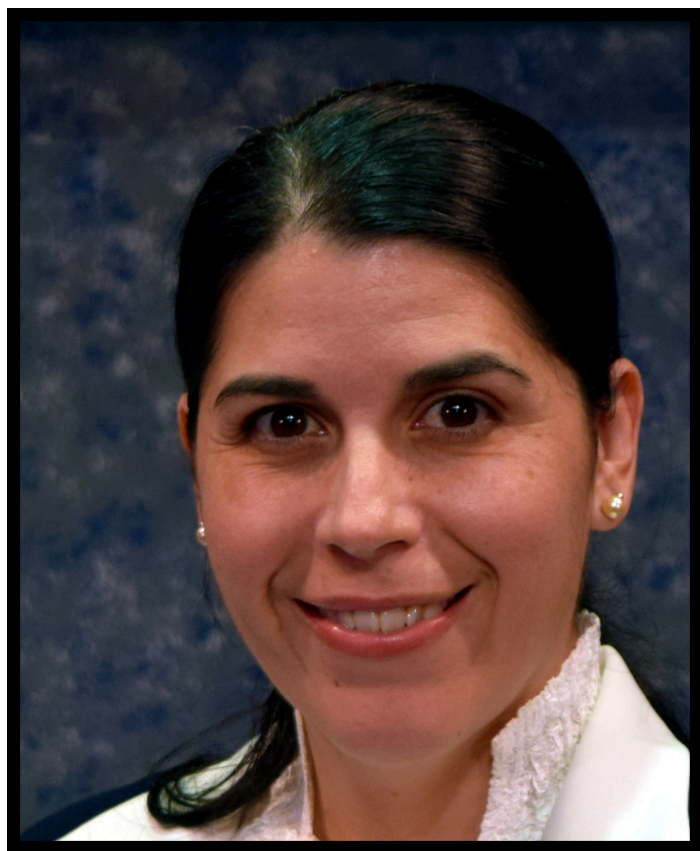
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Cast Biographies



Samantha Hilliker (*Janet*)

Debuting on the ACT stage as the blind woman, Susy Hendrix, in *Wait Until Dark*, Samantha certainly has opened her eyes since then with diverse roles in *Looking* and *The 39 Steps*. She also acted on stage with her mother, Diana Herman, in *Rabbit Hole* at ACT and in *Other Desert Cities* elsewhere. Her job as a teacher at Yulee High School is not the only thing that keeps her busy, since she is

a wife to Michael and mother to Lilly and Avery. Samantha loves both characters' journeys in *2 Across* to become their best selves through their yin and yang dynamic. In this show, opposites truly attract!



Chris Twiggs (*Josh*)

Both as an actor and director, Chris is no stranger to the ACT stage. Favorite shows include directing *Women Playing Hamlet*, and acting in *Leading Ladies* and *Looking*. Chris is a Fernandina Beach native, with an M.A. degree in English Literature from Florida State University. Running is his hobby, and he is a running coach for Galloway Training. He also loves preparing tiki cocktails and sometimes

shares his recipes online. Chris and his wife, Diana, have three grown children, Wesley, Brendan, and Faith. Chris is thrilled to be sharing the stage for the third time with Samantha Hilliker. He says that he loves to present in real-time the beginning (or not) of a sweet relationship in this play.



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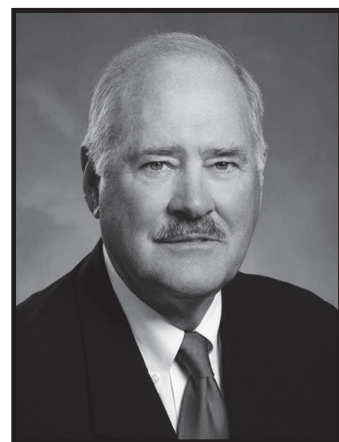
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2020-2021 ACT/Maureen Melugin

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award



Missy Tremblay

Some people have so many gifts; it's difficult to choose only one to highlight. Dedicated volunteer, Missy Tremblay, generously gives all of her gifts that benefit many areas of ACT.

This past season, as a lead costumer, Missy used her sewing and creative talents to outfit the actors in *Leading Ladies* and *The Humans*. Most recently, she worked with the director of *The Book of Will* to build Renaissance costumes for 11 actors, some with multiple changes!

Missy's backstage organizational skills were also welcomed on the props crew for *The Humans*, which had the added challenge of preparing food that was used in various scenes during each performance. Next, she quickly jumped into *The Book of Will* to help with props ... as she also worked on the costumes. And, if that wasn't enough, she helped with set construction and painting for these two shows.

Most notably, Missy accepted a new challenge when *The Book of Will*, scheduled to open in March, was delayed until late August due to the pandemic. There were multiple schedule and cast changes over that time period, resulting in the loss of several actors. But what did Missy do? She offered to take on not one, but four, onstage roles! She knew the play must go on and ventured onto the stage for the first time.

As ACT makes adjustments to the traditional in-person, live theatre performances by adding the option for patrons to livestream shows at home, Missy is tackling a new skill. She is learning how to be a camera operator who films the play real-time for patrons watching at home. Whatever she can do, she does. Whatever she doesn't know how to do, she learns. Her determination to promote the excellence of ACT is evident in every task she manages. Her positive energy lights up all who are around her.

The many hours she spent at ACT last season also included ongoing cleaning and sanitizing efforts to protect the actors and crew during *The Book of Will*, which is not one of the most appealing volunteer jobs. But, when she completed that task, Missy quoted Mary Poppins and said, "In every job that must be done, there is an element of fun!" We could not describe Missy and her giving spirit better than that.

Thank you, Missy, and congratulations on being Volunteer of the Year!

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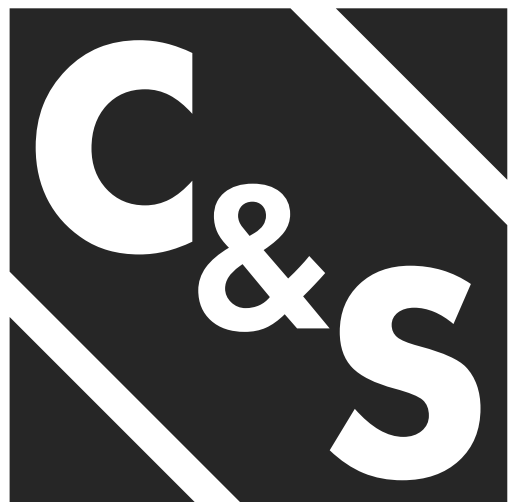
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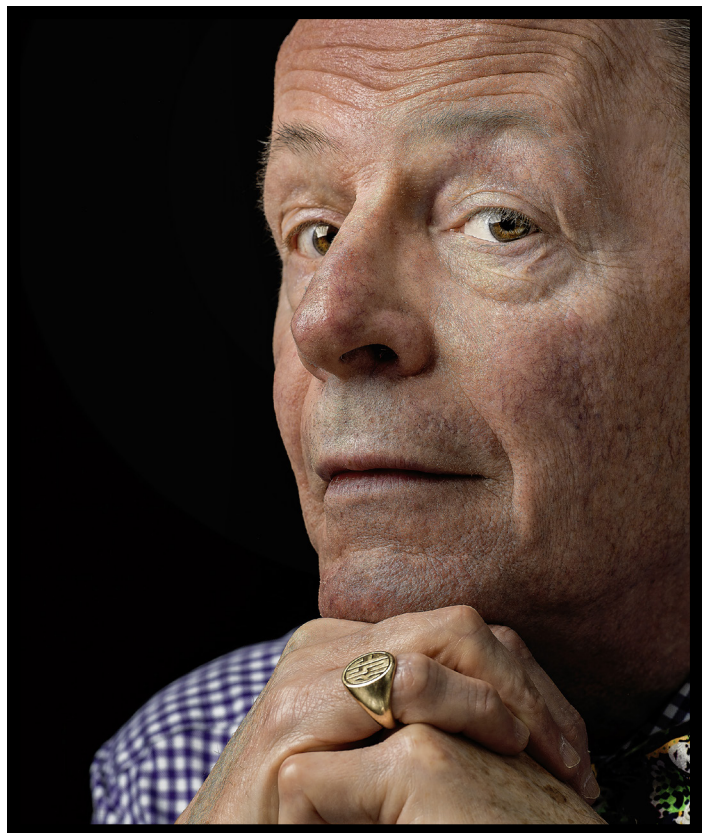
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Production Biographies



Ron Kurtz (*Director*)

Both as an actor and director, Ron is no stranger to local theatre and the ACT stage. His favorite acting roles at ACT include a number of parts in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and playing Morrie in *Tuesdays with Morrie*. He also has directed *Wit*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Our Town*. Ron received a theatre degree from NYU, and has lived and worked around the world. His interests outside ACT also involve some kind of

theatre. In the past, Ron has taught an Amelia Lifelong Learning class named "The Play's the Thing." And, most recently, Ron has found his voice hosting an ongoing, online series at the local bookstore, Story and Song, called "Poetry and Prose with Ron." For Ron, *2 Across* is another look at the many dimensions of love, and where you find it.



Diana Herman (*Stage Manager*)

Another talented actor and director at ACT, Diana is the stage manager for this show, guiding her daughter, Samantha Hilliker. Her skills have been seen on the ACT stage in *Clever Little Lies* and *Rabbit Hole*, and she directed *Tiny Beautiful Things*.

Previous stage manager credits include *Avenue Q*, one of many shows she shared her artistic flair as a scenic artist, often with her husband, Arthur.

A retired English and Special

Education high school teacher, Diana

describes her interests as an actor, artist, and activist. Her skill as a storyteller has also been seen locally, and she believes stories make sense of our lives. Commenting on *2 Across*, Diana believes that strangers can connect because some things are just meant to be!

Ovations

We thank the following businesses and individuals who helped us present...

2 Across by Jerry Mayer

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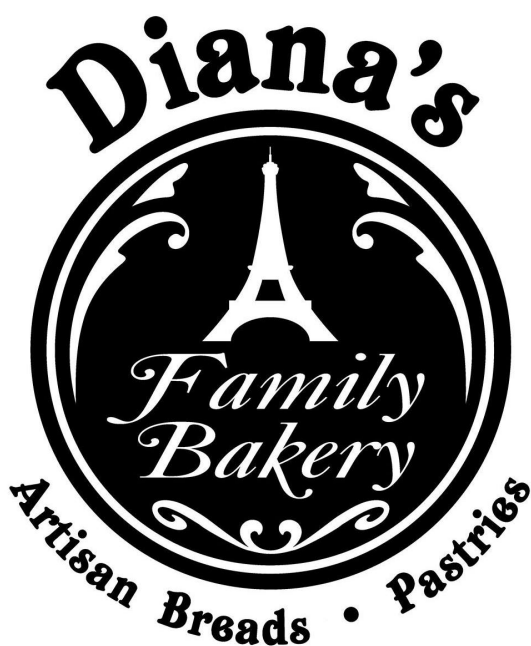
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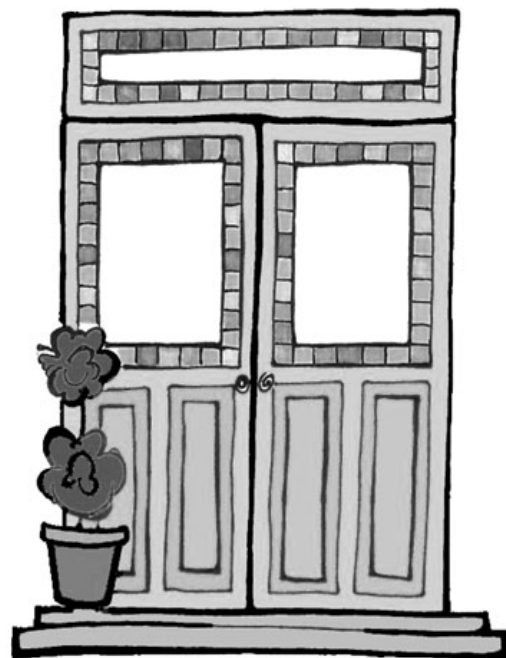
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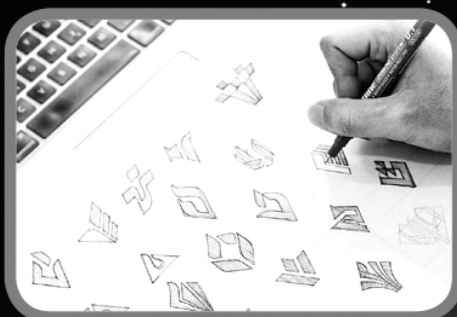
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***The ACT Memorial Fund
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Director Ron Kurtz
Stage Manager Diana Herman
Technical Director Geoffrey Moss
Set Construction Bill Bowler, Chip Lacey,
Ed Sprang, Missy Tremblay
Set Painting Jayne Jeney, Jennifer Webber
Props Diana Herman
Costumes Missy Tremblay
Camera Operators Bob Eberle, Missy Tremblay
Director of Photography Tener Wade
Video and Audio Production Geoffrey Moss

Special Thanks to Everyone in the 39th and 40th Seasons!

Usher Coordinator Debbie L. Price
Beverage Bar Coordinators Paul Condit, Rob Hull
Box Office Manager Meghan Maranto
Crew Ruth Carter, Shelia Davidson,
Nancy Inboden, Maria Iuliano,
Linda McClane, Denise McDonald,
Tabitha Mudd, Cindy Nelson,
Alice Payne, Esther Schindler,
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Lobby Art Show Coordinators Elizabeth Dion, Annie Hall

We also thank our volunteers who serve as ushers and bartenders, and other volunteers whose names were provided after the printing deadline.

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*John & Michele
Holbrook*

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BRING YOUR TALENTS TO ACT!

ACT is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization that depends on our hundreds of dedicated volunteers to help us present shows. Your safety is our highest priority. Talk to a staff member about ways to volunteer from home!

What Do ACT Volunteers Do? Direct and act in shows, stage manage, work on lights and sound in the tech booth, costume the actors, work in the box office, build sets, and much more!

How to Volunteer: Simply visit AmeliaCommunityTheatre.org and click on the "I Want to Volunteer!" link to get started. Minors are welcome to become volunteers along with a guardian.

LIVESTREAM FAQ

How do I buy/book/receive my livestream ticket?

Season members book tickets online using the code you use for your Flex Tickets. Your unique season member code will be automatically approved for your household for the livestream performance you have booked. If you would like to give or share a livestream ticket to another individual or household, you will need to call the box office to receive an additional one-time use unique ticket code.

Non-members book tickets online and when the box office processes your ticket purchase, you will be emailed your unique code for that performance. The latest you might receive your code is 24 hours before the livestream.

What are livestream ticket prices and when can I buy?

Advanced livestreaming tickets are available online until 48 hours before the performance. These tickets are available by calling the box office until 60 minutes before the performance.

Advance Individual \$15
Advance Household \$30
Advance Group \$90

"At-The-Door" livestreaming tickets are available beginning 60 minutes before the performance, online only. These livestream tickets "admit" you to the show automatically when you purchase them. No code is required when you purchase an "At-The-Door" ticket.

"At-The-Door" Individual \$20
"At-The-Door" Household \$35
"At-The-Door" Group \$95

More information and FAQs are available online at
AmeliaCommunityTheatre.org/Livestream.

Supporting Our Community

ACT is pleased to have donated show tickets to many local organizations, including:

- AIFBY Chamber of Commerce
- Amelia Island Book Festival
- Amelia Island Jazz Festival
- Amelia Island Museum of History
- American Business Women's Association
- American Cancer Society's Relay for Life
- Blackrock Baptist Church
- Douglas Anderson School for the Arts
- FBMS Desserts of Amelia
- Fernandina Beach High School Foundation
- Girl Scouts of Gateway Council
- Katelyn's Ride for Autism
- Kings Bay Submarine Officers' Spouses' Association
- Kiwanis Club of Fernandina Beach
- Leadership Nassau
- Nassau County Council on Aging
- Nassau Humane Society
- Nassau Sport Fishing Association
- Nassau Teachers Association
- National Alliance on Mental Illness, Nassau County
- Newcomers Club of Amelia Island
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YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS ACT

Through your continued support, ACT is producing live theatre here on Amelia Island. Your generosity is essential to ACT's success and ability to adapt to new challenges. A special thank you goes to those lovers of theatre who donated during this past summer.

ACT is a 501(c)(3), member-supported organization founded in 1981. Our donors enable ACT to thrive and create live theatre in our community. Please consider giving a (100% tax-deductible!) charitable gift and becoming one of our SEASON40 donors.

You can become a donor in-person at the theatre, over the phone by calling (904) 261-6749, or online by visiting AmeliaCommunityTheatre.org.



209 Cedar Street, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034
(904) 261-6749 and info@AmeliaCommunityTheatre.org

ACT was chartered by the State of Florida
in 1981 as a not-for-profit corporation.
Auditions and memberships are open to all.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*“To provide quality theater and artistic experiences to the
community through participation and presentation”*

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