

# Upcoming Events

## Academy Awards Night

5pm on March 23, 1998

The Rialto Theatre is the setting for the Broadway Center and TLT's 3rd Annual Academy Awards Party! Experience the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat along with your favorite Hollywood stars via the big screen. Included in the price of admission is food provided by The Swiss restaurant. Prizes will be given for the best movie star look-alike and most accurate prediction of the winners.

Tickets are \$15/\$10, and are available only from the Broadway Center box office at 591-5894.

## The Rainmaker

by N. Richard Nash  
April 10 through May 2

In a drought-stricken town, life is bleak for a father, his two sons, and his lonely daughter. Worried about their future as well as their dying cattle, they are easily won over by a silver-tongued con man who one day appears, promising to bring rain for \$100.

Tickets are \$15/\$13, and are available at TLT's box office.

Tacoma Little Theatre's box office  
phone number is 272-2281

Tacoma Little Theatre  
presents



# The Amen Corner

by James Baldwin

Produced by special arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.

## Cast

Margaret Alexander (Church Pastor) ..... Judy Neal  
Odessa (Margaret's older sister) ..... Donna Manier  
Ida Jackson (a young woman) ..... Karine Joy Eckwood  
Sister Moore (Church Elder) ..... Yvonne Rogers  
Sister Boxer (Church Elder) ..... Alonda Lee  
Brother Boxer (Church Elder) ..... Marcus Young  
David (Margaret's 18-year-old son) ..... Darrien Howze  
Luke (Margaret's husband) ..... Early Crosson  
Sister Sally (Congregation member) ..... Stacie Pinkney  
Sister Rice (Congregation member) ..... Audrey Capers-Williams  
Brother Douglas (Congregation member) ..... Willard Loggins  
Sister Douglas (Congregation member) ..... Elaine Perry

Members of the Congregation:

Marla Biggs, Mernetha Rogers,

Charlotte Westbrook, Paulette Frazier, Ekello Harrid, Jr.

Sponsored by

The Ben B. Cheney  
Foundation



# Setting

All of the action takes place in the Storefront Church and home of Margaret Alexander

## Act I

A Sunday morning in Harlem

## Act II

The following Saturday afternoon

## Act III

The next morning

There will be two 12-minute intermissions

For the consideration of our patrons, there will be no actual smoking on stage. Please suspend your disbelief and join in the illusion.

## Director's Notes

Welcome to the service! Tonight, the rituals of the church and the rituals of the theatre join forces in our presentation of *The Amen Corner*. The order of worship is a three-act meditation on the trials and triumphs of love: romantic love, spiritual love and family love.

As Rev. Margaret Alexander wrestles with trinitities holy and unholy, we extend to you, our congregation, the invitation to sing, jump and shout "Amen!"

## Cast & Staff Biographies

**Alan Brown** (*Director*) has been active at TLT for 9 years as an actor, stage manager, director and fireman. He directed *A Raisin In The Sun* in 1996, and last year's special production, *Black and White and In Color*. In a previous decade he was the artistic director of The Eden Theatrical Workshop in Denver. He currently works for Catholic Community Services.

**Marla Biggs** (*Congregation*) Marla has directed and sung in gospel choirs for the past 30 years. She is currently director of the young adult choir at Bethlehem Church, and associate director of the Washington State Chapter of the G.M.W.A. choir. She sang with the South Sound Gospel choir and the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra at the Pantages Theater. Her most memorable occasion was performing in *Gospel at Colonus*.

**Audrey Capers-Williams** (*Sister Rice*) A teacher with a secret passion for theatre. She's a member of St. John Baptist Church and a supporter of her community. She is ecstatic about her debut with TLT.

**Early C. Crosson** (*Luke*) Winner of the 1992-1993 Dickie Award (best actor) for performing "Hoke" in *Driving Miss Daisy*. His most recent professional role was "Reverend Sykes" in TAG's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He is well-known in the local theatre community.

**Karine Joy Eckwood** (*Mrs. Ida Jackson*) Karine is a newcomer to TLT. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Christian Ministries through Oral Roberts University. She is actively involved in the music and drama ministry and is working on her first novel.

**Paulette Frazier** (*Congregation*) A San Francisco transplant to Tacoma, Paulette is testing her theatrical wings in *The Amen Corner*. Paulette is a resident of Tacoma, owner/operator at Coming Attractions Salon/Day Spa and choir member at St. John Baptist Church.

**Chris T. Gildner** (*Stage Manager*) is proud to be working with TLT again. Thanks to all who have become a part of Sister Margaret's Congregation tonight! Please come back again and bring your friends! Help keep TLT a viable part of Tacoma's prestigious arts community.

**Deneen Grant** (*Music Director*) Deneen is a musician at Allen A.M.E. Church in Tacoma. She has studied music at Pacific Lutheran University and is an accomplished vocalist and pianist.

**Ekello Harrid, Jr.** (Brother Henry) Ekello is happy to be working at TLT again. Last year he directed *Born Yesterday* and *Lend Me A Tenor*, and acted in *Black and White and In Color* at TLT. He loves his wife very much.

**Darrien Howze** (*David*) A newcomer to Tacoma and to the stage, this is Darrien's first major role. His hobbies include playing the piano, singing and producing music.

**Myrna J. Key** (*Asst. Director*) No stranger to the TLT family, Myrna also assisted in directing *Black, White and In Color* last season. She was "Ruth" in the TLT production of *A Raisin in the Sun* and "Evilene" in *The Wiz*. Her favorite role is that of mother to 18-month-old Nia.

**Alonda R. Lee** (*Sister Boxer*) This is her second production for TLT. When not acting for TLT, she enjoys spending time with her six year old daughter, Zakayla.

**Willard Loggins** (*Brother Douglas*) Willard has appeared in several plays: *Showboat, Working, Cotton Patch Gospel, and Gospel at Colonus*. For the past seventeen years, he has been the director of the Gospel Choir at Allen A.M.E. Church. His biggest thrill was singing at the Worlds Fair in Vancouver, B.C.

**Donna S. Manier** (*Odessa*) This is Donna's acting debut. However, she is not a stranger to theater. Donna produced the first Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday celebration, featuring TV star Clifton Davis. She is also working on a photo essay of jazz legends.

**Judy R. Neal** (*Margaret*) What a blessing! Her second performance at TLT (*Raisin* was the first). Again, a great story, great director, super cast, plus she gets to say Amen!!!

**Elaine Perry** (*Sister Douglas*) Born in Detroit MI; Tacoma resident since 1985; active in community and church; employed as registrar at Faith Seminary; makes stage debut in this performance.

**Stacie Pinkney** (*Sister Sally*) This is Stacie's fifth show with TLT. She is very excited to be part of this production.

**Mernetha Rogers** (*Congregation/Choir*) This member of the congregation/choir has played "Lena" in *A Raisin in the Sun*. She enjoys writing skits and plays, as well as singing gospel music. She would like to thank her husband and son for their support.

**Yvonne 'Bunny' Rogers** (*Sister Moore*) Newcomer to TLT and worked in church activities since youth. She enjoys dancing, singing, and plays which glorify the Lord. She feels the Lord has blessed her with different gifts of interpretation, and will continue to uplift his Holy name.

**Marcus Young** (*Brother Boxer*) Born and raised in Tacoma, WA, Marcus graduated from Stadium High School and attended Pierce College for Music Education. He sang professionally for two years, is 20 years old and single.

**Charlotte Westbrook** (*Congregation*) Born and raised in the Tacoma community, she is an active soloist and youth volunteer at her local church. Charlotte also loves to sing and to read.

# Production Staff

Director .....	Alan Marshall Brown
Assistant Director .....	Myrna J. Key
Musical Director .....	Deneen Grant
Stage Manager .....	Chris Gyldner
Scenic Designer .....	Terry Wooldrige
Costume Designer .....	JD Cullen
Lighting Designer .....	Stephen D. Kramer
Stage Crew .....	Loren Osier
Light Operator .....	Deborah Brooks
Sound Operator .....	Matthew Osier
Master Carpenter .....	Richard Collum
Scenic Construction .....	Carl Ritting, Dean Lapin, Robbie Lapin, Chevi Chung, Jay Grenard
Painting .....	Cindy Taylor, Dean Lapin, Robbie Lapin, Chevi Chung, Carolyn Burt
Properties .....	JD Cullen, Cindy Taylor, Robbie Lapin
Costume Construction .....	JD Cullen, Robbie Lapin
Light Hanging & Focusing .....	Brian Rink, Sam Izenman, Warren Crain, Mike Leach
House Manager .....	Michael Osier

## TLC for TLT

Loren Osier, Lauren James, Maura Cullen, Betty Cullen, Robbie Lapin, Cindy Taylor

## Special Thanks

Tacoma Actors Guild, Rebecca Switzer, Tracy Berryman, Ted Brown  
Music, First Congregational Church, Annie Wright School

There will be a post-performance discussion  
with members of the cast after the Sunday  
matinees on February 22 and March 1.