

# alt ...the place to be!

## The Amarillo Little Theatre

VERY PROUDLY PRESENTS ITS

# 2020-21 SEASON OF SHOWS

**Undoubtedly, the past few months have been a turbulent time in our world. It has been difficult and our lives may never be the same. In these uncertain times, we all need something to look forward to. We invite you to join us for another spectacular season of shows at ALT. We can't predict the future and we aren't certain when we may again be sharing the magic of ALT with you. However, we can assure you that when that time comes, you can count on ALT to be ready!**

### ***We are so proud to announce our spectacular lineup of shows for the coming season!***

As always, ALT will be presenting five fantastic shows at the Mainstage facility and four equally fantastic shows at the ALT Adventure Space. These shows are extraordinarily diverse and most of them are critically acclaimed. They include four Tony Award winners, a New York Drama Critic's Circle winner and a brilliant, new show written by Pulitzer Prize winning playwright David Lindsey-Abaire. This is a remarkable lineup of shows.

ALT will once again open its season at the Adventure Space. We will be presenting the wonderful play ***The Humans*** in this time slot. This show was set to perform during the current season, but was postponed due to the Pandemic Crisis. This show is too good to cancel. It is one of my favorites and it deserves to be done at ALT. We know you will be glad that we are producing it.

The Mainstage season will open in September with the brilliant musical ***Matilda***. In late October, we will present one of the most produced and highly acclaimed plays with ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***. This outstanding show won the Tony Award for Best Play in 2015. The Adventure Space will continue in its tradition of presenting some of the finest, most highly acclaimed shows in the theatre world. These include ***Intimate Apparel***, ***Good People*** and the spell-binding musical ***Once***. This captivating musical holds the distinction of being the only show to have music that has won an Academy Award, a Grammy Award, an Olivier Award and a Tony Award. It promises to be a hit with ALT audiences.

In addition to ***Matilda*** and ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***, the Mainstage will feature the classic, ***Little Women*** in January, 2021. This timeless classic has never been more relevant. In March, ALT will produce ***Always a Bridesmaid***. This hilarious comedy was the overwhelming number one pick in our audience survey! ALT will close its season in May 2021 with the outrageous and gloriously entertaining musical ***Monty Python's Spamalot***.

Of course the best way to ensure that you will have the best seats for these amazing productions is to be a season ticket holder. ALT season ticket packages can be customized to fit your needs and they continue to be the BEST entertainment value in our area.

We encourage you to contact our box office OR go online to [amarillolittletheatre.org](http://amarillolittletheatre.org) to purchase your season ticket package today. If you purchase before July you will get bonus tickets!

We are hopeful that we will be able to quickly overcome this worldwide crisis and begin to do what we do best! That is entertaining you.

We want to thank you for your continued support and commitment to ALT. We will strive daily to be worthy of your support of our organization and our work.

***We look forward to seeing you at the theatre.***

# Director's Notes

**GREETINGS MY FRIENDS!** I hope this issue of *Curtain Call* finds you safe and well. It has certainly been a trying time for all of us. My hope is that we can leave that turmoil behind us and begin living our lives again. Never, in my 35 years as the Director of ALT have we gone so long without producing a show. As promised, ALT is ready to entertain and enlighten you with some of the finest theatre productions available. I can't wait to stand at the front entrance and welcome all of you back to ALT!



Allen Shankles

Officially, the 2020-21 season will be my last as the **Managing/Artistic Director of ALT**. Yes, I said it. It's really happening. We have been slowly implementing our transition plan for the past two years and we will be ready to "pull the trigger" at the conclusion of this new season. I have been tutoring and sharing lots of information with **Jason Crespin** as we prepare him to take over as Managing/Artistic Director for the 2021-22 season. Also, as part of our transition plan, we hired **Mikayla Garren** to take over as Academy Director. We actually brought Mikayla in as a staff member in December of last year. She has been shadowing Jason, teaching classes and learning the ropes so that she will be ready to take over the Academy this year. Mikayla is going to be fantastic in this position. She is a graduate of our Academy program and she understands the culture of this organization. I am certain that the Academy will flourish under her leadership. **I love it when a plan comes together!!**

Don't worry folks, I am not planning to leave just yet. I hope to stay at ALT for another few years as I believe that I still have much to give to ALT. I hope to direct two or three shows next season and I intend to spend some of my time pursuing funding for ALT. I have been very successful at fundraising over the years, and I am confident that with more available time to work on fundraising, I can be very successful.

I have had many people ask why I am making this transition when it seems that I am still in good shape and functioning at a fairly high level, despite having Parkinson's Disease. The truth is that my Parkinson's is an evil "beast" that comes and goes at will. I never know when an "OFF" period will occur. During some of those off periods, I can barely function. It can be frightening and very frustrating. All in all, I am doing well. I have a fantastic specialist for my PD and medication generally keeps me on track. However, the last thing I want to have happen is for me to unexpectedly suffer a decline in my health rendering me incapable of doing my job effectively. I would much rather transition out of my leadership position than have to quit due to my health. I have spent over half of my life nurturing and building this organization. I can't just walk away. This is my life's work and I want my legacy, whatever that may be, to be preserved.

Even for a control freak like myself, things don't always go according to plan. ALT was experiencing the most successful season in its history before the Coronavirus pandemic overwhelmed our world. It is sad to think what might have been as ALT was barreling toward the finish line of a spectacular season. Oh well, I am confident that we can regain that momentum soon enough and continue to thrive.

Perhaps the most important element in getting ALT back on track ASAP is for all of you to renew and/or purchase your season tickets. We need that strong base of support for us to be successful. Won't you consider renewing today? You know that ALT is the very best entertainment value in our area. Help us to maintain that stature in our community.

I'm ready to get back to work. Here's hoping our lives are soon closer to "normal." You should plan on me greeting you at the entrance to our theatre with open arms yearning to welcome you back!!

**I look forward to seeing you at the theatre(s).**

Allen Shankles  
Managing/Artistic Director

## Academy Spotlight

I normally would be writing a thank you to our cast and crew of **Anne of Green Gables** in this edition of the *Curtain Call*, but sadly that isn't the case. As all of our worlds have been altered, I am saddened that the story of Anne has yet to be told by our fabulous cast. We were just a week away from performing our show to area school kids before we put the show on hold and all went into our shelter at home status. My hope is that our cast will still get to tell the tale of Anne and her time at Green Gables this season. If that opportunity becomes available, I hope you will join us for a wonderful night at the theatre.



Jason Crespin

I do have to give a big thank you to all our amazing instructors for working on **ALternative Learning** lessons for our students! Our instructors have held live Facebook dance classes, set up online meetings, sent YouTube dance videos, and so much more to keep our students engaged in the arts. I have loved watching all the videos sent to us of our students performing puppet shows, monologues, songs, dances, creating costume renderings, giving show critiques, etc... Truly, it has been inspirational watching all of you perform. Thank you and keep those videos coming!

As you know, we have invited you into our ALT home numerous times for great entertainment and now its time to bring ALT into your home! I want to invite you to tune in every Friday at 7pm for our **ALternative Places** concerts on ALT's Facebook and YouTube pages. I have been reuniting cast members to share stories and songs from past ALT shows in this fun, "talk show" like platform. It has been an absolute blast reconnecting with cast

members and having them share their talent with us again. I hope that you are able to tune in each week and continue to be entertained by our amazing performers. Missed a concert? No worries. You can easily go back and catch any of the past shows we have done. My goal is to help provide some sort of performing outlet for our theatre talent pool and to still provide some sort of entertainment outlet to you, our wonderful ALT patrons.

With our **ALternative Places** concerts, we want you to remember that ALT is STILL the place to be!

**See you all online soon!**

Jason Crespin  
ALT Academy Director

# 2020-2021

## Season of Shows

Presented by **alt**

**MATILDA**  
Family Musical

**THE CURIOUS INCIDENT  
OF THE DOG IN THE  
NIGHT-TIME**  
Mystery Play

**LITTLE WOMEN**  
Dramatic Play

**ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID**  
Comedy

**Monty Python's  
SPAMALOT**  
Musical Comedy

**alt** ★  
**main  
stage**

**AD** **alt**  
**VEN** space  
**TURE**

**THE HUMANS**  
Dramatic Play

**GOOD PEOPLE**  
Humorous Dramatic Play

**ONCE**  
Dramatic Musical

**INTIMATE APPAREL**  
Dramatic Play

*All titles are subject to availability.*

## 2020-21 SEASON TICKET PACKAGES & ORDER FORM

**Same Great Savings! - Advance Reservations Privileges - Easy Exchanges - Other Discounts**

### **FULL SEASON PACKS**

**(9 Admissions)**

Perfect for the Whole Season

**Flex A - \$154.00**

Good Anytime

**Flex B - \$136.00**

Thursday/Sunday Only

### **FIVE PACKS**

**(5 Admissions)**

Perfect for the Mainstage

**Flex A - \$85.00**

Good Anytime

**Flex B - \$75.00**

Thursday/Sunday Only

### **FOUR PACKS**

**(4 Admissions)**

Perfect for the Adventure Space

**Flex A - \$69.00**

Good Anytime

**Flex B - \$61.00**

Thursday/Sunday Only

### **DONATING MEMBERS**

*Donating members receive recognition in ALT Playbill, advance reservations & invitations to opening night receptions.*

**Patron - \$1000.00** - 40 Admissions  
(plus \$400 Tax Deductible Contribution)

**Sponsor - \$500.00** - 30 Admissions  
(plus \$50 Tax Deductible Contribution)

**Angel - \$350.00** - 20 Admissions  
(plus \$50 Tax Deductible Contribution)

## YES! I WANT TO BE AN ALT SEASON TICKET HOLDER

### SEASON TICKET OPTIONS 2020-2021

**Patron - \$1000.00** — 40 Admissions (plus \$400 Tax Deductible Contribution) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor - \$500.00** — 30 Admissions (plus \$50 Tax Deductible Contribution) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Angel - \$350.00** — 20 Admissions (plus \$50 Tax Deductible Contribution) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

● **Full Season -** \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Packs Type Number Price Per Pack

● **Five Packs -** \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Type Number Price Per Pack

● **Four Packs -** \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Type Number Price Per Pack

● **Keep the magic alive!** — DONATE..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **Join ALT's Family of donors!**

*Ticket sales only cover a portion of producing live theatre at ALT.*

**Please consider making a tax deductible contribution!**

**Donors of \$50 or more will be recognized in ALT's Playbill.**

## RENEW EARLY GET FREE TICKETS!!!!

*Purchase season tickets before July 1 and get one bonus ticket or purchase a combination of 9 or more tickets before July 1 and get two bonus tickets.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed amt. \_\_\_\_\_  Charge to My Visa, MC, AmEx, Disc

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: ALT • 2019 Civic Circle • Amarillo, TX 79109**

**Purchase online: [amarillolittletheatre.org](http://amarillolittletheatre.org)**

**alt** 806-355-9991

Monty Python's  
SPAMALOT

THE  
HUMANS

LITTLE  
WOMEN

Once

Intimate  
APPAREL

Always a  
Bridesmaid

THE  
CURIOUS  
INCIDENT  
OF THE  
DOG  
IN THE  
NIGHT-TIME

Matilda  
THE MUSICAL

GOOD  
PEOPLE  
A PLAY BY  
DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE

1 666-553-908

← Curtain Call

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to be!

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Dear ALT Friends and Patrons:

**For ALT to be most successful, we know that we have to communicate effectively with as many people as possible.**

We use a variety of methods to “talk” to you including emails and printed items like regular letters, our Curtain Call newsletter, and postcards. We currently mail about 2,500 printed newsletters and postcards at least ten times per year. **The printing and mailing costs are significant.**

These printed items go out to people who would prefer to get a printed item that they can hold in their hand. Our email mail list totals almost 7,000 email addresses. We can send an email to all 7,000 people in what we refer to as an email blast. The beauty of an email blast is that it eliminates or reduces our printing costs and it allows us to send an important notice or breaking news with the push of a button.

**Why is this important?** Here is a good example: in the past couple of weeks, Director Allen Shankles has sent out very important information regarding ALT’s experiences with the CoronaVirus and the effects it is having on ALT. He is also keeping patrons informed about specific shows and programs as well as the challenges we are facing. Unfortunately, over 2,500 of you are not seeing these messages.

**We would like for you to consider one of two choices that will dramatically help us to better communicate with you.**

First, please consider changing your preference and allow us to send you all ALT correspondence via email rather than by mail. As a second option, please consider allowing us to include you in a limited number of specific email blasts that are time sensitive or important breaking news. By agreeing to this option, we would promise not to send you any superfluous emails and you would still receive your Curtain Call newsletter and postcards by regular mail.

Without a doubt, emails are the most convenient, cost effective and timely way for ALT to communicate with our patrons. Please consider making the change.

**To update your email address, please contact our Box Office Manager, Lissa Garren at [lissa@amarillolittletheatre.org](mailto:lissa@amarillolittletheatre.org).**