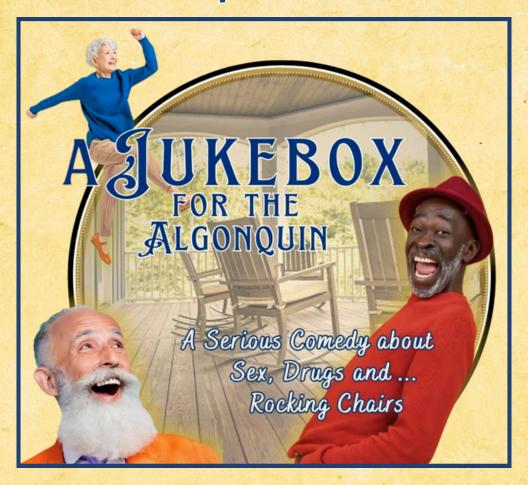
ICTRep Presents



by Paul Stroili

August 15, 16, 22, and 23, 2025 at 7:30 PM August 17 and 24, 2024 at 2:00 PM Welsbacher Theatre



presents

AJUKEBOX FOR THE ALGONQUIN by Paul Stroili

SCENIC DESIGN
JULIE & STAN LONGHOFER

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR & LIGHTING DESIGN

STAN LONGHOFER

COSTUME DESIGN
JULIE LONGHOFER

SOUND DESIGN
KIRK LONGHOFER

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & STAGE MANAGER

BRONWEN BURCH

DIRECTED BY

JULIE LONGHOFER

A JUKEBOX FOR THE ALGONQUIN is presented by arrangement with Paul Stroili/Kaistro, LLC. www.paulstroili.com

The World Premiere of A JUKEBOX FOR THE ALGONQUIN was presented by the Purple Rose Theatre Company. Jeff Daniels - Artistic Director, Katie Hubbard – Managing Director. The production was directed by Suzi Regan.

A Jukebox for the Algonquin

Cast of Characters

in order of appearance

Mrs. McDarren MICHELE JANSSENS

Annie **BETSY DUTTON**

Josefina MAYA ARANA

Dennis SHAUN-MICHAEL MORSE

Johnny DAVID WILLIAMS

Chuck BRYAN WELSBY

Peg MICHELE JANSSENS

Tyler TOREY WILSON

There will be a 10-minute intermission.

SPECIAL THANKS

We are grateful to Cheyla Clawson, Stacy Salters, and the WSU School of Performing Arts for generously allowing us to use the Welsbacher Theatre for this production. Thanks also to Holly & Zach Longhofer, Nina Longhofer, Shaun-Michael Morse, and David Williams.

Finally, a very special thank you to **Star Lumber and Supply** for providing the carpet used in this production.



And thanks to YOU for your support of Wichita Repertory Theater!

CAST



MAYA ARANA (Josephina)

Maya is thrilled to make her ICTRep debut! She was most recently seen as Bailey Gallager in John Proctor is the Villain at Cowley College. Favorite roles include Julia in Two Gentlemen of Verona (Roxy's Downtown), Ensemble/Ulla Understudy in The Producers, and Ella in Life Sucks. (Ponca Playhouse). Maya earned her BFA in Musical Theatre from Southwestern College in 2022. She's excited to work with this star-studded, hilarious cast! Thanks to Julie and ICTRep. All my love to Mom, Dad, Luke, Jarrod, and Bialystock & Bloom!



BETSY DUTTON (Annie)

Betsy recently retired from Sterling High School where she taught theatre and English and coached debate and forensics for 41 years. Favorite acting roles include Rose in *Gypsy*, Estonia Dulworth in *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, and Sister Mary Downey in *Disaster* with the Sterling Community Theatre Troupe. She most recently directed *A Doll's House, Part 2* at Sterling College where she has also taught. She is thankful to Julie and Stan for this Wichita opportunity. Love to Dennis, Will, JoJo, Max, and grandson Davis.



MICHELE JANSSENS (Peg/Mrs. McDarren)

Michele is happy to be back with ICTRep, after having appeared for them as Berthe in *Boeing Boeing* and, most recently, as Helena Myers, Q.C. in *Witness for the Prosecution*, performed at the Historic Sedgwick County Courthouse. Michele has enjoyed performing in various venues around Wichita over the past 25 years. She thanks Julie and Stan for the stimulating opportunities, creative force, and business acumen necessary to provide high-quality live theater to our community.



SHAUN-MICHAEL MORSE (Dennis)

Shaun-Michael is a multi-talented artist whose credits include all aspects of theater and music, including work as a performer, director, designer, composer and musical director. Wichita performance credits include Lun Tha in The King and I (opposite Kristin Chenoweth), Enjolras/Bishop/Bamatabois in Les Miserables, Jester in Once Upon a Mattress, Vittorio in Sweet Charity, Stromboli in My Son Pinocchio (MTWichita); Rothko in RED, Shylock in The Merchant of Venice (Wichita Center for the Arts); John/James in Love, Valour, Compassion!, Bernadette in Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, Molina in Kiss of the Spider Woman (Roxy's Downtown); and more recently the title role in Sweeney Todd (The Forum Theatre).



BRYAN WELSBY (Chuck)

Bryan is happy to be working with ICTRep for the first time. He has worked around Wichita for many years at Center for the Arts, Wichita Community Theatre, Theatre on Consignment, and Signature Theatre. Favorite Roles include Richard III, Hamlet, John Hancock in 1776, Biff in Death of a Salesman, the Rabbi in Fiddler on the Roof, and George in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Many thanks to Julie and Stan for the opportunity!



DAVID WILLIAMS (Johnny)

David's acting has been showcased in a variety of formats. Theatre performances include *Driving Miss Daisy, The Mountain Top, To Kill A Mockingbird, Baby Be Mine,* and *Canaan.* David has also appeared on television as the puppet "Leroy" in *Storytime Village* on KPTS. When David is not performing, he enjoys creating art, along with his daughter Lauryn, in their business, Daddy Daughter Decor.



TOREY WILSON (Tyler)

Torey is a local actor and director here in Wichita. He is excited to join the ICTRep family. You may have seen him performing at Roxy's Downtown and Forum Theatre Company. Torey would like to thank God for giving him the opportunity to perform with these lovely people that he has met in this cast and under the amazing Julie's direction. He would also like to thank Keeley Jean. He has a special thanks to Betsy Dutton who has been an amazing mentor for him since the beginning of his journey in this art and is excited to be doing a show with her! This show is great and is a time to reflect on how we can celebrate life.

ICTRep gratefully acknowledges the City of Wichita and the Kansas Arts Commission for general operational support.





COMING UP IN OUR

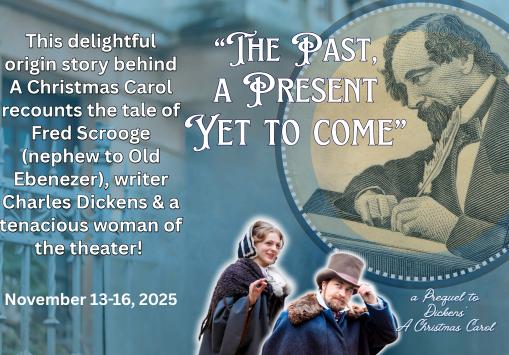
Peter Shaffer's masterpiece about music, mediocrity, secret intrigues and the mysterious genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

October 10-19, 2025

AMADEUS

This delightful origin story behind A Christmas Carol (nephew to Old Ebenezer), writer Charles Dickens & a tenacious woman of the theater!

November 13-16, 2025



2025-2026 SEASON



The luminous story of pioneering scientist Henrietta Leavitt and an all-female team of astronomers whose groundbreaking work changed the way we see our universe.

January 23 -February 1, 2026

SWEAT

Lynn Nottage's prizewinning 2016 drama is an unforgettable lesson in empathy. Friendships among factory workers are destroyed when layoffs, picket lines & racial tension hits the Rust Belt in the 2000s.

March 27 - April 5, 2026

ARTISTIC TEAM



DR. JULIE LONGHOFER, Artistic Director

(Director, Costume & Scenic Designer)

Julie earned her MA/PhD in dramatic literature & theater history from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1995. For almost 40 years, she has served as stage director, costume designer, actor, and dramaturg (literary analyst). Julie has taught hundreds of teenagers and college students how to be stronger theater artists.

In 2023, Julie took on the role of Artistic Director for Wichita Repertory Theater (ICTRep). Her vision is for a regional theater company which (1) finds the best comedies, serious plays and thrillers of literary merit, (2) uses regional talent to produce the highest quality plays in terms of acting and production values, and (3) connects deeply with Wichita audience members from all walks of life.

This is her philosophical approach in all she does:

- Live theater is a love letter from The Playwright to The Actors for The Audience.
- Live theater should be a cohesive and thought-provoking experience for its community.
- "Dramatically Good" is more than just a tagline for us. Our creative teams are doing their best work while challenging themselves to a new level of artistic excellence so that our audiences are emotionally moved in a memorable way.



DR. STAN LONGHOFER, Managing Director (Technical Director; Scenic & Lighting Design)

As Managing Director, Stan oversees all of ICTRep's business operations. He is also the company's resident technical director and frequent lighting and scenic designer. By day, Stan is a professor of real estate and finance at WSU. He was Director of the WSU Center for Real Estate for 25 years. On weekends and evenings, he

has variously served as psychotherapist and cheerleader on dozens of Julie's productions.

In 2023, Stan finally convinced his wife to take a leap of faith into running a theater company. "We took the reins at ICTRep because we saw a need in Wichita for great plays produced at the highest levels of excellence. Several amateur are well established here, as are other semi-professional companies focused on musicals. But there was a professional void when it came to plays."

As a lifelong lover and participant in the Wichita theatre scene, Stan "trod the boards" at the Crown Uptown Dinner Theatre, Wichita Children's Theatre and Music Theatre Wichita, and has vibrant memories of roles in *Oliver!*, *Bye*, *Bye*, *Birdie*, *Shenandoah*, and *The Sound of Music among others*. He met his wife in Wilner Auditorium while a Theater major at WSU, asking her out when they crossed paths at an experimental Samuel Beckett play. (She said no. He didn't give up. The rest is history.)



PAUL STROILI (Playwright)

Playwright Paul Stroili is a resident artist at Jeff Daniels' Purple Rose Theatre where A Jukebox for The Algonquin celebrated its World Premiere. The recipient of a Wilde Award for Best New Play of 2023, Jukebox was also a finalist in the Austin Film Festival Playwrighting competition. Stroili's other plays include My Mother and the Michigan/Ohio War, My Dinner with Arlecchino, and Last Call at The Aardvark which is currently available through Next Stage Press. Stroili's autobiographical solo show, Straight Up with a Twist, toured the U.S. for nearly nine years, culminating in a twice extended Off Broadway run. His writing has also appeared in Los Angeles Magazine and The Chicago Tribune. As an actor, producer and director, Paul has enjoyed a career spanning four decades in theatre, film and television.



BRONWEN BURCH (Assistant Director & Stage Manager)

Bronwen was last seen at ICTRep onstage in *Travesties* (Nadya) and unseen backstage during *War Horse in Concert*. Bronwen is a student at Butler Community College where she has appeared in productions including *No Exit* (Inez) and *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Kate). She has interned at MTWichita and worked at local theaters including Wichita Community Theatre and Guild Hall Players. Many thanks to her ever-supportive partner and friends.



KIRK LONGHOFER (Sound Design)

Kirk is a sound designer, editor, producer, and live sound. His theatrical designs are heard regularly in educational, community, and professional theaters across the country. Recent theatrical work includes the world premiere of Tree of Life and Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (White Theatre at the J, Overland Park), Travesties, Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson, Apt.2B, and Sleuth (ICTRep), Blithe Spirit (Guild Hall Players), and Proof (Olathe Civic Theatre Association).

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GREAT THEATER DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN!

Ticket sales cover less than a quarter of ICTRep's production expenses. As a result, the memorable theatrical experiences we create wouldn't be possible without the support of generous individuals, corporations, foundations, and governmental arts programs.

Our Promise: When you give to ICTRep, you can be confident that your money will be going directly to support great theater in Wichita. We guarantee you that:

- Our artistic and administrative staff are volunteers and never paid, even when they work in other roles on productions.
- On the other hand, all of the actors and creative artists involved in our productions are paid. By supporting ICTRep you are helping aspiring young artists get a start on their professional careers.
- We strive to be good stewards of our resources and the environment, repurposing and reusing materials whenever possible. Of course, we always love a good "tree-lawn find."
- We want to make quality live theater affordable. Your donations allow us to keep our ticket prices low and offer special programs and discounts for those who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Donate online now at https://ictrep.org/support-ictrep.

SUPPORTERS

May 2024 - August 2025

DIAMOND (\$5,000+)

Kansas Arts Commission Julie & Stan Longhofer Colby Sandlian

GOLD (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Adam Jones Law Firm, P.A. Depew, Gillen, Rathbun & McInteer, LC Builders Incorporated Star Lumber

PLATINUM (\$2,500-\$4,999)

City of Wichita Mike & Lanny Garvey Charitable Trust

SILVER (\$500-\$999)

The Spice Merchant
The Trust Company of Kansas

BRONZE (\$100-\$499)

BLUE RIBBON (UP TO \$100)

Hannah Bakewell

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I discovered Paul Stroili's *A Jukebox for the Algonquin* in a roundabout way, but my life has been the richer for the journey. So, I'll share the story:

ICTRep was approached by a local actor with a fabulous script about Will Shakespeare and Kit Marlowe called *Born with Teeth* by Liz Duffy Adams. Because it was a perfectly pitched, intelligent and intriguing play, we chose *Born with Teeth* as our season opener – but wait! The playwright suspended licensing rights in North America while she workshopped the play for its U.K. debut via the Royal Shakespeare Company. RSC Co-Artistic Director and two-time Olivier Award winner Daniel Evans directs Ncuti Gatwa (BBC's <u>Doctor Who</u>, <u>Sex Education</u>) as Kit Marlowe and Edward Bluemel (<u>Killing Eve</u>, <u>My Lady Jane</u>) as Will Shakespeare in this explosively entertaining duel of wits, words, and power plays! (**If you know these names, you are currently wishing you were in London this week for their opening night.)**

It is here that the story takes a delightful turn. While Julie is doggedly browsing the interwebs to find a replacement play to open our 3rd season, Stan keeps mentioning a play he's read about in marketing emails from Miners Alley Playhouse (Golden, CO) – where we saw a show more than a decade ago. Stan has described the play several times. Julie has rejected the idea every single time, saying something dismissive like "I don't want to do a play about old people." (She is now VERY embarrassed.)

But a quick look at the reviews, trailers and interviews about *A Jukebox* for the Algonquin productions at Purple Rose Theater Company (MI) and Miners Alley (CO), and it was clear that *Jukebox* was an amazing find. An ensemble piece which beautifully balances comedy with serious themes, Stroili's play takes 7 vibrantly drawn humans from diverse age groups and backgrounds, drops them into the distinctive "fish bowl" life of a senior living facility, spices the plot up with an unexpectedly hilarious drug-dealing adventure, and gently draws the veil back to reveal a multilayered understanding of friendship, aging, cross-generational connections, and grief.

So, who needs Ncuti Gatwa and Edward Bluemel when you've got this slam-dunk ensemble of Wichita actors?! A Jukebox for the Algonquin is the best American play about aging since Driving Miss Daisy (1987) and On Golden Pond (1979), and it's about time! It is a celebratory story. It is so good that you might want to come see it a second time. Bring along a friend who hasn't yet been to an ICTRep play, and we'll buy your ticket!



ICTRep (Wichita Repertory Theater) is a semi-professional company that produces comedies, dramas, and thrillers. Our productions provide challenging roles and design opportunities for young actors and creatives to hone their crafts. In addition, we bring Wichita audiences together to enjoy high-quality, vibrant theatrical experiences that provide more than simply an evening's entertainment. We want our audiences to continue to reflect on and be moved by the plays we produce, long after the "curtain falls."

ICTRep: Dramatically Good!

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ICTRep - Wichita Repertory Theater

