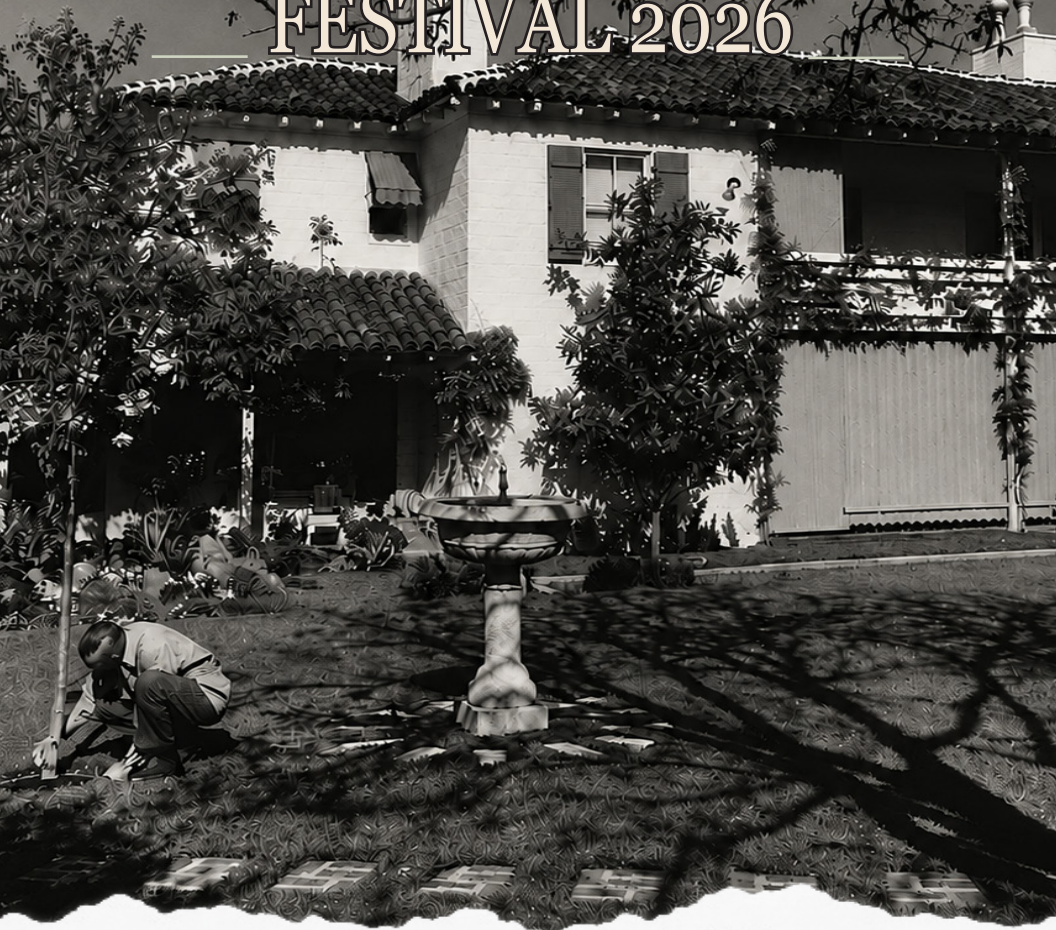


Kingen O'Neill.
FOUNDATION, TAO HOUSE
50th ANNIVERSARY



50th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL 2026



**FEATURING *TEDDY*
& *AH, WILDERNESS!***

Live Performances
Sep 12–26
2026

Welcome!

Welcome to Festival 2026 in this 50th anniversary of the Foundation acquiring the deed to Tao House and partnering with NPS to restore and “open the gates of Tao House.” This feat was made possible by three remarkable visionaries—Thalia Brewer, Lois Sizoo, Darlene Blair — who worked tirelessly with the help of East Bay Regional Parks and NPS leadership, state and federal lawmakers, celebrities and citizen champions. These founders envisioned a cultural arts center on the West Coast welcoming creatives and theatre makers to, in the words of Artistic Director and Scholar Travis Bogard, create and “touch where genius prevailed.”

The Foundation Board has always been a volunteer organization fueled by passion and “roll up the sleeves and make it happen” grit. In this spirit we acknowledge the many Foundation Board members, Advisory Board members, volunteers, scholars, artistic and education program participants, performers, partners, and patrons like you who have shown up and been a part of this 50-year journey! THANK YOU and “Here’s How!”

The Foundation Board of Directors



Fifty years ago, President Gerald Ford signed Public Law 94-539, creating the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site to commemorate Eugene O'Neill's contributions to American literature and drama. Here we are, 50 years later! We are excited to partner with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation to bring two unique plays to this year's Festival: the US premiere of the Irish play *Teddy* (O'Neill did remark that the most important thing about him was his Irishness) and his idealized non-autobiographical non-tragedy *Ah, Wilderness!*



“A Book of Verses underneath the Bough,
A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread—and Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness—
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow!”

Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám

We hope you enjoy the paradise that O'Neill found here at Tao House!

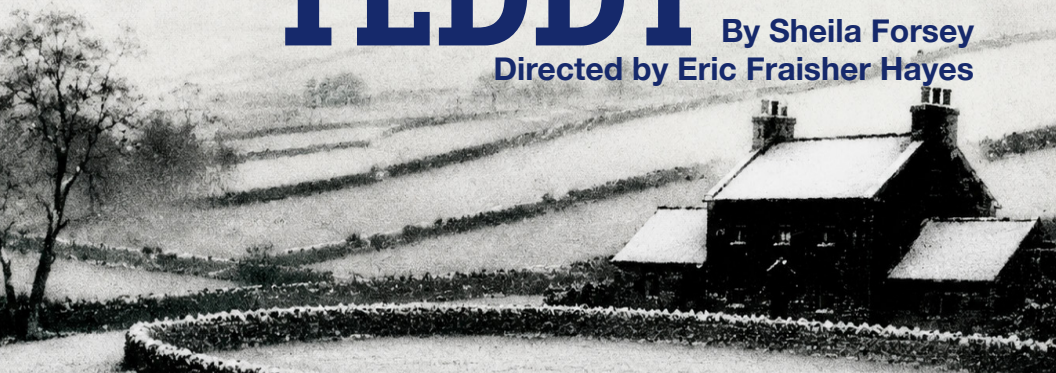
National Historic Site Park Rangers

Hear Gerald Ford's
statement, read by
Ranger Matt Bayless



TEDDY

By Sheila Forsey
Directed by Eric Fraisher Hayes



CAST

Rose Harris-----Sarah Liller
Jim, *her father*-----Andy Doyle
Lily, *her mother*-----Margaret Rossiter
Bobby, *her brother*-----Seán O'Brien
Teddy-----Kevin Phelan

SETTING

The main part of the play is in the Harris Family living room, Ireland, Christmas, 1987. There are also short scenes in the dark place in which Rose inhabits.

SCENES

Act I, Scene 1: Rose's mind

Act I, Scene 2: Harris Family home, 3 days before Christmas

Act I, Scene 3: Same, the next morning

Intermission

Act II, Scene 1: Rose's mind

Act II, Scene 2: Harris Family home, the morning of
Christmas Eve

Act II, Scene 3: Same, that afternoon

Act II, Scene 4: That night

Act II, Scene 5: Christmas morning

Act II, Scene 6: Rose's mind

Run time approximately 120 minutes.

Director's Note

On the surface, *Teddy* is the story of a boy, turning into a man, who will forever stay a boy, and the debate over who should take care of him and how it should be done. Ultimately, the story is about how difficult decisions reveal family resentments, aspirations, and fears. This struggle brings secrets to light as a daughter and mother fight over the future as well as the past. Teddy's fate becomes the catalyst for a battle over a family's identity and its soul. Even the pressure to play nice for the holidays cannot keep the ghosts of the Harris family from visiting this Christmas.

I am delighted to be working with my Irish colleagues again and I feel their presence at the Tao House barn this September completes the promise of a true theatrical cultural exchange with our friends from New Ross, Ireland.



Eric Fraisher Hayes, Artistic Director

2024 cast of *Teddy* at
St. Michael's Theatre,
New Ross



Teddy Cast



Sarah Liller (Rose) is an American actor, dancer, and multi-passionate creative. She recently played Tessa in *Dream Hou\$e* at College of Marin. Her other recent credits include *She Kills Monsters*, *Mystic Pizza*, and the devised play *Miracle Fish*, which she helped create, and which was voted one of the top shows in Marin County in 2025. She is grateful to be part of *Teddy* and inspired by the incredibly talented cast and creative team.

Andy Doyle (Jim) played Phil in Billy Roche's *Of Morn-ington* in the National Opera House and Mill Theatre, Dublin. Recent roles with Wexford Drama Group include Jack in Conor McPherson's *The Weir* and Artie in Roche's *Belfry*. Andy won an All-Ireland Best Actor Award for his role as André in *The Father*, following a nationwide tour, ending on the Peacock stage of the Abbey Theatre. He played Cockey in the "Glencairn Cycle," in San Francisco. He is excited for this opportunity to perform in this unique barn theatre.



Margaret Rossiter (Lily) has acted and directed in the New Ross Drama Workshop for 40 years and directed many plays at the Eugene O'Neill Festival in New Ross. Favourite roles: Kate in Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughna-sa*, Mena Glavin in John B. Keane's *Sive*, The Angel of Death in Norm Foster's *The Death of Me*. Margaret enjoyed acting in Irish-American plays with Sheila Forsey and Eric Fraisher Hayes and is delighted to reprise the role of Lily in Danville.

Seán O'Brien (Bobby) has worked with New Ross Pantomime Society, New Ross Musical Society, St. Michael's Theatre Musical Society, Enniscorthy Musical Society, and New Ross Drama Workshop. Seán is also the recipient of an All-Ireland AIMS award for Best Programme Design and won for New Ross Musical Society's production of *Ghost*. He appeared in world premieres of Sheila Forsey's *The Memory Room* and *Teddy* in New Ross. Seán is delighted to reunite with writer Sheila, director Eric, and cast for this US Premiere.



Kevin Phelan (Teddy) is a 19-year-old student from New Ross, County Wexford who is studying design at the University of Limerick while pursuing a high level of varsity rowing. Kevin's acting career began with musicals when he was 12 years old with both St. Michael's and New Ross musical societies before his first drama, *Teddy*, in 2024. Kevin is looking forward to his first international experience with this production of *Teddy* before going back to university in late September.



Production Team

Sheila Forsey (Playwright) is an Irish Times bestselling author of historical fiction. Her books are published by Poolbeg Books, and she is represented by The Kate Nash Literary Agency in London. Her play *The Memory Room* was a finalist at Scripts Irelands Playwriting Festival and premiered at the Eugene O'Neill International Festival in New Ross in 2025. Her second play, *Teddy*, developed through the Wexford Playwrights Studio, premiered in 2024. Sheila is a graduate of Maynooth University and Trinity College Dublin.

Eric Fraisher Hayes (Director) is excited to be part of the US Premiere of *Teddy*. He has directed many shows with his Irish colleagues and relishes the opportunity to work with them in his "backyard." In his 18 years with the Foundation, he has directed 36 of O'Neill's 51 Plays. When not directing, Eric teaches acting and presents and writes about O'Neill. He is a graduate of the Theatre School, DePaul and a 25-year member of Actor's Equity. A big thank you to Lisa Danz, Chuck Lewis, Jesse Vail, Jeffrey Beyer, and Rob Evans for the countless ways you have helped with this production.

Tomás Kavanagh (Lighting and Sound Design) is Director of St. Michael's Theatre and the Eugene O'Neill Festival in New Ross. He is an accomplished musician, musical director, and producer. In 2019 Tomás brought the "Glencairn Cycle," 3 of O'Neill's early sea plays, to San Francisco for performances onboard the Balclutha at Fisherman's Wharf. Tomás has worked closely with Eric Fraisher Hayes on productions and designed sound and lighting for Sheila Forsey plays at the Festival.

AH, WILDERNESS!

a comedy of recollection

Written by Eugene O'Neill
Directed by Titian Lish



SOUND
EFFECTS

CAST

Nat Miller / Salesman-----Wayne Wong
Essie Miller-----Heather Kellogg Baumann
Arthur Miller / Wint Selby / Bartender-----Max Geide
Richard Miller-----Danny Georgiev
Mildred Miller / Belle / Muriel McComber-----Evelyn Rumsby
Sid Davis / David McComber-----Jim Dobson
Lily Miller-----Emily Keyishian

SETTING

Our “radio broadcast” of *Ah, Wilderness!* takes place in Eugene O’Neill’s barn in the fall of 1938. The actual play, as written by O’Neill, takes place in a small Connecticut town over the Fourth of July holiday in 1906.

SCENES

Act I, Scene 1: The Miller home, early morning, July 4, 1906

Act II, Scene 1: The Miller home, evening, July 4

Intermission

Act III, Scene 1: The hotel bar, 10:00 p.m., July 4

Act III, Scene 2: The Miller home, later that night

Act IV, Scene 1: The Miller home, approximately 1:00 p.m.,
the following day

Act IV, Scene 2: The harbor beach, approximately 9:00 p.m.

Act IV, Scene 3: The Miller home, approximately 10:00 p.m.

Run time approximately 120 minutes.

Director's Note

I have had Eugene O'Neill in my life since I was in middle school. *The Hairy Ape* was one of the first plays I ever read (a wild choice for a 12-year-old). My brother, Charlie, won an art contest from the Foundation in high school. My students have participated in their educational programs over the last 20 years, and I have been lucky enough to perform with, and for, the company multiple times. O'Neill holds a critical place in my heart and in the historical theatrical landscape... but he cannot be relegated to the past.

As I see it, *Ah, Wilderness!* is an all-too-familiar love story, fundamentally. It is filled with joy, heartbreak, resilience, and hope. These are relevant and recurrent cultural themes, experienced in my own life and explored in our imagined story through the passion and talent of a group of "actors," brought to O'Neill's barn in 1938 to share his work via "broadcast." They are quirky and playful; they are loving to each other and a little combative in all the ways familiar to anyone who has family, in any iteration. If you watch carefully, our "voice-actors'" imagined reality mirrors the love and conflict in *Ah, Wilderness!* and, probably, in our own lives. I am honored to work with the Foundation and these talented humans, in this magical space, and I am grateful to share the love with you all. Enjoy the show!



Titian Lish, Director

Ah, Wilderness! Cast



Wayne Wong (Nat Miller / Salesman) is a veteran character actor and singer, having appeared in over 100 productions. Recent roles include Adam in *As You Like It* at SF Playhouse, Dimas in *The Triumph of Love* at Shotgun Players, and Grandfather Loi in *Mother Of Exiles* at Berkeley Rep. Other engagements include Opera Parallèle, Ars Minerva, West Edge Opera, and Pocket Opera.

Heather Kellogg Baumann (Esie Miller) is thrilled to be back with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation after performing in *Mourning Becomes Electra*. She has worked with Center Rep, Town Hall Theatre, Central Works, and Lucky Penny Napa. She is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, and a graduate from UCLA's School of Theater and SF Circus Center's Clown Conservatory. www.heatherkelloggbaumann.com



Max Geide (Arthur Miller / Wint Selby / Bartender) makes his debut with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation in *Ah, Wilderness!: A Live Radio Play*. Credits include *Other Desert Cities* (2025 NorBay Theater Awards, Outstanding Supporting Performance), *Almost, Maine* (Arty Awards, Best Actor), *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Rumors*. To everyone who shows up for live theater: thank you. Maxgeide.com

Danny Georgiev (Richard Miller) is happy to be returning to the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, last seen in the 2022 Tao House production of *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. Recent credits include *The Wizard of Oz* at Mountain Play and *The 39 Steps* with Sixth Line Studios. He will appear in *Hello, Dolly!* at Hillbarn Theatre next spring. [@danny.on.stage](https://twitter.com/danny.on.stage)





Evelyn Rumsby (Mildred Miller / Belle / Muriel McComber) holds a Master's degree in Musical Theatre from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. Most recently, Evelyn brought her original one-woman musical *Rosie's Brain* to the U.S. for the first time, with sold-out performances at San Francisco's The Marsh Theatre and the Hollywood Fringe Festival, garnering rave reviews and a nomination for the NYC Pivot Award.

Jim Dobson (Sid Davis / David McComber) is thrilled to join the Eugene O'Neill Foundation for this audio adaptation of *Ah, Wilderness!* Offstage Jim serves as a Communication Studies instructor and Director of the internationally recognized Speech and Debate team at Las Positas College. Favorite credits include Reverend Shaw in *Footloose* and Sagot in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Las Positas College), *Smoke on the Mountain* and *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*.



Emily Keyishian (Lily Miller) performs in theater and film on both US coasts and Ireland. She is always excited to work with the Foundation. She is also a visual artist/painter. Thanks always to Ed, Harry & Shane. emilykeyishian.com



Production Team

Titian Lish (Director) is a director, producer, actor, and arts educator whose work emphasizes bold storytelling and actor-centered collaboration. She serves as Interim Dean of Business, Social Science, and Learning Resources and is Theater Arts Coordinator and Director of the Actors Conservatory at Las Positas College. Recent directing credits: *Macbeth*, *The Government Inspector*, *The Book of Will*, *Arcadia*, *Escape to Margaritaville*, *Footloose*, and *Heathers*. She holds B.A. & M.A. degrees in Drama from SFSU, and professional training in New York and London. Thank you David Lish for set building and love to him and Alex.

Sara Harris (Stage Manager, Props Designer, Announcer) is a San Francisco-based artist and musician. They have a wide range of production experience including props construction, lighting design, and stage management. Recent credits *The Wizard of Oz* (Mountain Play), *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (Phoenix Theater), *After Happy* (Central Works), *The Hairy Ape* (Eugene O'Neill Festival).

Rob Evans (Sound Designer / Composer / Foley Design) has designed all of the shows save one at the Tao House barn for the last 13 years. Including staged readings, now at 24+ and counting, he is looking forward to checking off all of O'Neill's works one day.

Jackson Volz (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be working again with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation! You may have seen his work as costume designer for last year's production of *Legends of Realism*. He is a proud alum of Las Positas College, where he worked on shows such as *Curious George and the Golden Meatball*, *She Loves Me!*, and *The Government Inspector*. He would like to thank his family for always believing in his passion and creativity.

Kade Morrill (Scenic Designer) is a scenic artist, designer, actor, musician, and instructor. They received a BA in Musical Theatre from Chico State and an MFA in International Acting from East 15 Acting School in London, UK. Credits include: The Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park (NYC), The Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Shakespeare's Globe in London, GITIS in Moscow, New York City Fringe, Scottish National Museum.

Jeffrey Beyer (Lighting Design) is a Lighting and Effects designer whose work spans stages, attractions, and cruise ships across the U.S. and Bahamas. Of all his projects, lighting the Old Barn is his favorite; his first show there was *Chris Christopherson* in 2013. Blending artistry with technical skill, Jeff aims to craft environments that transport audiences and leave lasting impressions.

Grant Mathews (Music Composer) is a composer from Syracuse who recently moved to NYC. This is his stage composing debut. He has a Music Theory and Composition degree from The University of Vermont and is recording his first album and working toward grad school. Grant thanks his mom for helping him achieve his dream.

Production Team

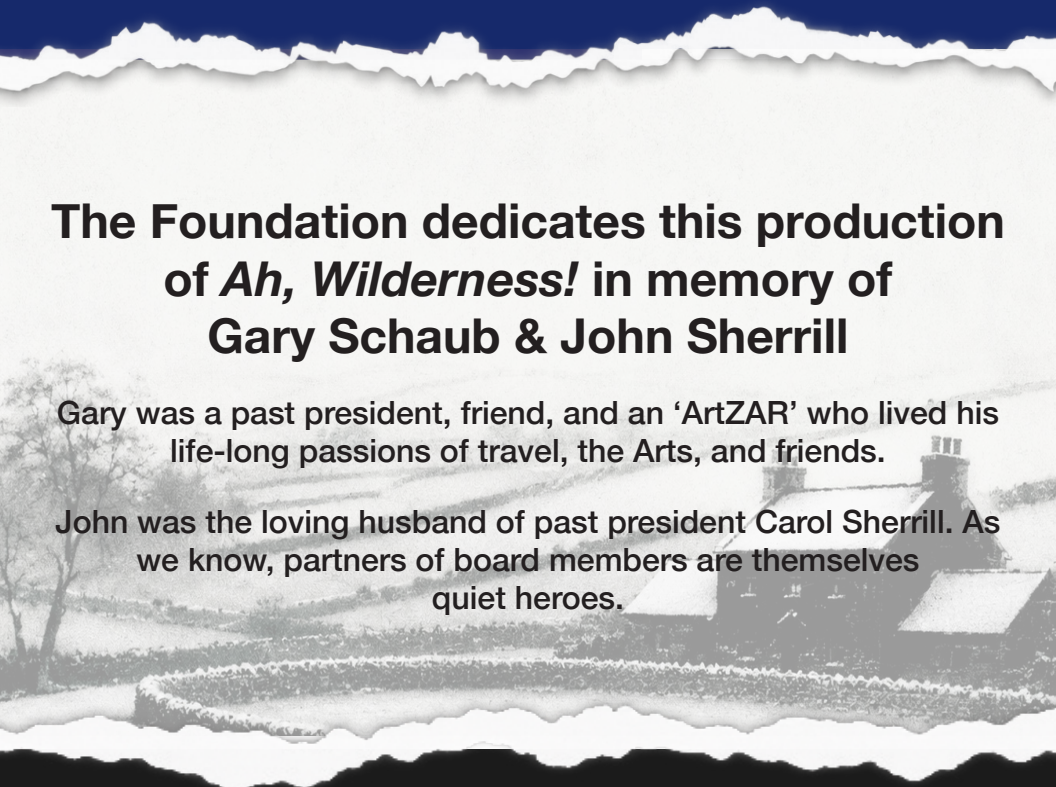
Jeffrey Beyer-----Lighting Design
Rob Evans-----Sound Designer, Composer, Foley Design
Sara Harris-----Stage Manager, Props Designer, Announcer
Eric Fraisher Hayes-----Director (*Teddy*)
Tomás Kavanagh-----Lighting and Sound Design (*Teddy*)
Titian Lish -----Director (*Ah, Wilderness!*)
Grant Mathews-----Music Composition (*Ah, Wilderness!*)
Isabel Morgan----- Scenic & Painting Crew
Orion Morgan----- Scenic & Painting Crew
Kade Morrill----- Scenic Designer
Jackson Volz----- Costume Designer

Production team is for both plays unless otherwise noted.

The Foundation dedicates this production of *Ah, Wilderness!* in memory of Gary Schaub & John Sherrill

Gary was a past president, friend, and an 'ArtZAR' who lived his life-long passions of travel, the Arts, and friends.

John was the loving husband of past president Carol Sherrill. As we know, partners of board members are themselves quiet heroes.



Other Festival Events

50th Anniversary Exhibit

Sep 5–Sep 27 Free
MuseumSRV

Whiskey Stroll

Sep 9 (Wed 6–8pm) \$30
Auburn Lounge

O'Neill's Danville Historic Walk

Sep 19 (Sat 10am) Free
Commemorative Park,
Front Street

Legacy Fundraiser with Sam Robards

Sep 27 (Sun 4–7pm)
Round Hill Country Club

Shop, Dine, See Two Plays

Sep 12–26
Downtown Danville

O'Neill Birthday Cake Cutting

Oct 17 (Sat 7:00pm)
Village Theatre

All Festival Events



O'Neill International Festival of Theatre

New Ross, Ireland Oct 14–18



Tour info

Travel with the *Ah, Wilderness!* cast and production team to New Ross, Ireland for an unforgettable international experience.

THE **Eugene O'Neill**
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THEATRE



Whiskey Stroll



A big shout-out to these local businesses for hosting our annual Whiskey Stroll in downtown Danville

Amphora Nueva, Auburn Lounge, Cottage Jewel, Diablo Barber Co., Danville Brewing, Danville Chocolates, Lottie's Creamery, and Norm's Place

Shop, Dine, See Two Plays

Make a day of it! Enjoy these local businesses that support The Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House when you see our two featured plays: *Teddy* and *Ah, Wilderness!*

Albi's
Auburn Lounge
Amphora Nueva
Blossom & Root
Cottage Jewel
Danville Brewing
Danville Chocolates
Danville Cigar Fine Wine & Gifts

Diablo Barber Co.
Elliott's Bar
Favorite Story
The Growler
Harvest
Incontro
Lottie's Creamery
Norm's Place
Old Towne Danville Bakery
Rakestraw Books



We welcome our Irish Delegation:

We welcome our New Ross Delegation:

John Fleming, Michael Sheehan, Eamonn Hore, Alan Fitzhenry

And from the Consulate General of Ireland, SF:

Marianne Bolger, Naoise Kenny, Daniel Kearns, Elizabeth Creely



Thank You

Our Festival and 2026 productions take the time, talent, and energy of people coming together. Thank you to the Board of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House and the Advisory Board for their dedication to celebrating and promoting the legacy of O'Neill through artistic, education, and library resources.

Thank you to our partners: the Town of Danville, Danville Town Council and Chamber of Commerce, the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, and Auburn Lounge for promoting and providing space for Festival activities. For the many logistical tasks, thank you to Alphagraphics, D-Code Technology, Las Positas College, and San Damiano Retreat Center.

Thank you to **Rick Jackson** and **Sam Robards** for generosity in fundraising support. And to all our patrons who continue to support and enjoy local live theatre. We couldn't do this without you!



Special Thanks to our Partners the National Park Service

We are especially grateful for your leadership, resourcefulness, and resolve as we continue to celebrate and promote the legacy of Eugene O'Neill together.



Thank You Supporters!

The Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House board is most grateful to you, our supporters, for your generous contributions that enable us to provide artistic, library, and educational programs that celebrate and promote O'Neill's vision and legacy.

WE ARE HERE BECAUSE OF YOU!

BENEFACTORS (\$5,000 +) Anonymous Donor, Beverly Lane, Florence McAuley, John & Diane Rettig

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PLAYWRIGHTS (\$100-\$249) Philip Bellman, Barry Boothe, Marilyn & George Bray, Jackson Bryer, Christopher Cappello, Sharon Cooper, Wendy Cooper, Paula Davis, Jack & Cecilia DeRieux, John & Tena Gallagher, Paul & Marilyn Gardner, Harlene Goodrich, Faye & Rich Guarienti, Joanne Haukland, Eileen Herrmann, Ward & Leann Kanowsky, Edward Kimak, Martha Lee, Silvia Lin, Rosalie Malatesta, Betty McNamara, Patricia Morin, David & Mary Ramos, Ruby Robins, Frank Sarmir, William & Sheila Stein, Sharon Watkinson

And a big **THANK YOU** to all our highly valued **ACTOR** level members!

2026 FESTIVAL SPONSORS: PLATINUM (\$5,000+) Government of Ireland Emigrant Support Programme GOLD (\$2,500 - \$4,999) Town of Danville SILVER (\$1000 - \$2,499) Cottage Jewel Antiques

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Thanks to our Supporters



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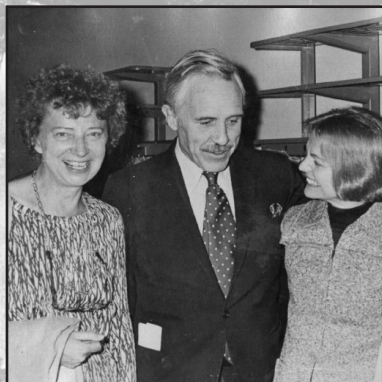


MuseumSRV

alphagraphics

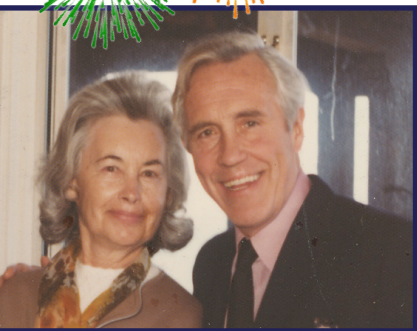
Celebrating 50 Years of Arts and Culture

"The Gates of Tao House Must Be Opened"



Tao House - 50 years of Celebrating Arts and Culture

Sep 5–Sep 27
MuseumSRV



Thalia Brewer and Jason Robards

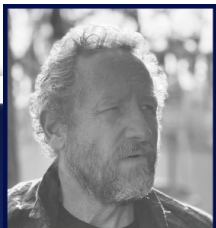


Visit our 50th anniversary audio and visual exhibit at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley honoring the Founders who helped “open the gates of Tao House” along with partners, programs and performances in this 50-year journey from 1937 to today!

Audio Recollections



Exhibit Info



Legacy Fundraiser with Sam Robards

Sep 27 (Sun 4–7pm)
Round Hill Country Club

You are cordially invited to a special Legacy Fundraiser on Sept. 27, 2026 celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Eugene O'Neill Foundation, featuring Sam Robards.

The Tony Award–nominated actor and son of the legendary Jason Robards and Lauren Bacall will join us to honor his father's enduring legacy with the Foundation.

Tickets



Up Next!



Talkin' Baseball!



Dennis Eckersley
in Conversation with Rick Jackson

Fri, Nov 6

Join Dennis Eckersley with special guest
Tony La Russa at the Village Theatre.
Tickets coming soon.



Eugene O'Neill Foundation



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