

STANDING O VATION



AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

by Arthur Miller, adapted
from Henrik Ibsen's play

April 17-26, 2026

Great Red Wine

*made in Iowa
from Grapes
grown in Iowa*



Iowa In the Dark

is a dry red with light, fresh notes. First impressions are tangy acid followed by black cherry fading to plum, a dry mid-palate, and a long, pleasing finish. Made from Marquette, St. Croix, Petite Pearl, and Steuben grapes grown in Iowa, it's a versatile wine that pairs well with grilled meat and spicy foods.

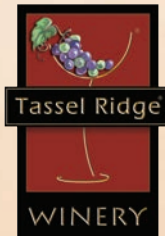
2021 Iowa Sabrevois

is a dry red with bold aromas of spices and leather on the nose followed by blackberry and plum notes with hints of baking spice, smoke, and licorice on the palate. Made from Sabrevois grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with grilled meat.

2021 Iowa

Petite Pearl

is a dry red with a lightly acidic entry transitioning to dark fruit and a long, drying finish. Made from Petite Pearl grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, 2021 *Iowa Petite Pearl* will pair nicely with grilled meat or pasta with a tomato-based sauce.



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A Note From The Director

When Ibsen wrote *An Enemy of the People* in 1882, he was responding to a moment when telling the truth could quickly make someone very unpopular. Nearly seventy years later, Arthur Miller revisited the play during another period when public pressure and political fear could silence dissent. What struck Miller—and what still strikes us today—is how quickly a community can turn on someone who speaks an uncomfortable truth.

On a broad level, the story feels strikingly contemporary. Around the world today, democratic societies continue to grapple with the pull of authoritarian thinking—the temptation to silence inconvenient voices, dismiss expertise, or rally the public against a perceived “enemy” for the sake of power. Leaders frame dissent as disloyalty, and complex problems are reduced to simple slogans. In that environment, the person insisting on evidence and accountability can quickly become the problem rather than the messenger. Dr. Stockmann’s discovery that his town’s prized baths are contaminated reminds us how threatening facts can become when they challenge authority or prosperity.

But the play also works on a smaller scale. In communities everywhere, people face difficult choices about development, resources, and public welfare. When jobs, civic pride, and local identity are involved, disagreements can become deeply personal.

Ultimately, *An Enemy of the People* is not simply about one man standing against a crowd. It is about the fragile balance between community loyalty and moral responsibility. Ibsen and Miller challenge us to ask: When the truth is inconvenient, who is willing to stand up for it—and at what cost?

An Enemy of The People
Cast (In Order of Appearance)

Billing	Matthew Caffrey
Morten Kiil	Arlen Daleske
Catherine Stockmann	Erika Eckley
Peter Stockmann	Oliver Thrun
Hovstad	Benjamin Roach
Thomas Stockmann	Troy Gould
Captain Horster	Luke Minske
Morten Stockmann	Reuben Roach
Ejlif Stockmann	Jonathan Roach
Petra Stockmann	Kasey Dunifer
Aslaksen	Shawn Wilson
Townpeople	Camille Smith
	Seth Davis
	Annie Neimeyer
	John Audlehelm
	Lynn Bousler
	Rachel Geisler

Place: A small village in Norway
Time: 1880

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.
No videotaping of this show is permitted.

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE (MILLER) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Production Team

Director	Dan Chase
Assistant Director	Payton Boesch
Producer	Lisa Gould, Marty Pohlmeier
Stage Manager	Payton Boesch
Stage Crew	Payton Boesch, Russell Key, Cast
Set Design	Dan Chase
Set Construction	Tim Mills, Mark Gruber, Diane Reid, Benjamin Roach, Jonathan Roach, Reuben Roach, Brittany Roach, Russell Key, Seth Davis, Annie Niemeyer
Set Painting	Lauren Mills, Katie Wollan, Stacie Bendixen, Benjamin Roach, Jonathan Roach, Reuben Roach, Brittany Roach
Lighting Consultant	Matt Tuttle
Sound Consultant	Wind River Studios
Costumes	Cheryl Clark, Emily Dokken
Props	Jo Guerdet
Program	Abby Martin
Photographer	Greg Romans
Logo Design	Bekah Wieland
Marketing	Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills, Greg Romans

2025 - 2026 ACT Board of Directors

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Mailing Address: PO Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Website: www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com

Email: information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com

ACT's Mission:

To provide opportunities for Central Iowa community members
to present and enjoy quality live theater.

ACT's Vision:

To be a welcoming place where people of diverse backgrounds have fulfilling
theatrical experiences that are a vital part of the cultural landscape and the quality
of life in our community.

Biographies



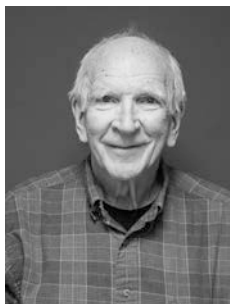
John Audlehelm (Townsperson) is pleased to return to the ACT stage, where he previously appeared as Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. He has also performed in several productions with Iowa Stage Theatre Company, including *A View from the Bridge* and *A Christmas Carol*, as well as Kingman Row's *Private Passage* and Ankeny Community Theatre's *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Outside of theater, John is an attorney and the author of *Whipsaw*, a book based on his professional experiences. He also enjoys competing in backgammon tournaments, maintaining the historic building where he lives, and spending time snuggling with his tabby cat, Covid.



Lynn Bousler (Townsperson) is excited for their first show ever with ACT! Having been in many DMACC productions over their time at the school, Lynn has expanded their theatre circle since graduating and working with the amazing talent in the area. She would like to thank her friends from Dinner Detectives DSM for their connections and support.



Matthew Caffrey (Billing) has appeared on the ACT stage in *Harvey* and *Arsenic & Old Lace*. When not on stage, Matt enjoys playing board games, cycling, and spending time outdoors with his family. He would like to thank Stephanie, Arthur, and Beatrice for their continued love and support, and for generally putting up with his nonsense.



Arlen Daleske (Morten Kiil) is happy to return to the ACT stage! He has previously appeared in ACT productions of *Over the River and Through the Woods* and *Geezers*. He has also been in productions in New Providence, Iowa with the Roundhouse Players. He co-wrote several scripts with Dennis Reece which have been performed there, including *Bed, Breakfast and Broadway* which can be found in Eldridge Publishing and has been performed in several states as well as abroad. Arlen enjoys golfing, writing, acting, and spending time with family, including his wife, Jean.



Seth Davis (Townsperson) is a first-time performer and is very excited to make his stage debut in *An Enemy of the People*.



Kasey Dunifer (Petra Stockmann) is back on the ACT stage after playing Elvira in *Blithe Spirit* last fall. This marks her third play since joining the Des Moines theater scene, with her first being *Alice in Wonderland* at the Playhouse last spring as the Queen of Hearts. A fan of Henrik Ibsen, Kasey is thrilled to be a part of this production and got to see *An Enemy of the People* on Broadway in 2024. Kasey runs her own marketing business as a writer and video editor, working with clients like Varsity Cinema. She loves movies, books, and playing games and sports.



Erika Eckley (Catherine Stockmann) is excited to return to ACT. Previously, she played Stella in ACT's *Streetcar Named Desire* (Cloris nominee). Erika's other favorite roles are Clair in Carousel Theatre's production of *Casserole* (Cloris nominee) and Ruth in *Blithe Spirit* and multiple roles in Neil Simon's *The Good Doctor*, both with Tallgrass Theatre. Erika lives in Carlisle with her husband, Tim, and their menagerie of animals. Erika loves hiking and hopes to conquer another "14er" in Colorado this summer.



Rachel Geisler (Townsperson) returns to the stage after recovering from burnout thanks to The Momentum Artist Collective, a free open art studio available for people with disabilities, where she spends most of her free time. Her most recent role on stage was Margot Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* at The Des Moines Playhouse.



Troy Gould (Thomas Stockmann) is excited to play such an iconic role in one of the most superbly written and intense scripts of all time. Since 2015, he has appeared in roughly 35–40 productions in the Des Moines area, including over 15 at ACT. Favorite roles include *Hello, Dolly!*, *My Fair Lady*, *Vincent, Of Mice and Men*, *A Few Good Men*, *12 Angry Jurors*, *Trouble in Mind* (Iowa Stage), *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The One Act Play that Goes Wrong*, *DeathTrap*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Cloris nominee and ICTA Award for Best Lead Performance), and *Bauer* (festival qualifier for second level). Offstage, he enjoys NFL football, biking, and spending time with his family.



Luke Minske (Captain Horster) is excited to make his ACT debut in *An Enemy of the People*. He has previously appeared on stage as Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and in the title role of *Titus Andronicus*, and has also toured with the National Theatre for Children. Outside of theater, Luke enjoys video games, painting, music, writing, and fishing. He is grateful to be part of this production and hopes you enjoy the show!



Annie Neimeyer (Townsperson) is from Fort Dodge, IA, where she was part of various shows throughout high school and college. Annie has taken a 4-year break from the stage and is so thrilled to be a part of this show alongside incredible talents. Annie is also thrilled to be joined by her fiancé, Seth, for his first-ever show!



Benjamin Roach (Hovstad) is thrilled to return to the stage after recent roles in *Pride @ Prejudice* (Darcy/Collins), *Miracle on 34th Street* (Fred), and *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Stanley). He has greatly enjoyed working with the cast and creative team to bring this story to life, and hopes that when needed, we can all find an "Enemy" within ourselves.



Reuben Roach (Morten Stockmann) is excited to return to the stage after his recent ACT debut in *Miracle on 34th Street*. Reuben is a fourth-grader at Eason Elementary in Waukee, and enjoys art, playing games, swimming, and exploring new places.



Jonathan Roach (Ejlif Stockmann) is excited to return to the stage after his recent ACT debut in *Miracle on 34th Street*. Jonathan is a third-grader at Eason Elementary in Waukee, and enjoys playing soccer and basketball, video games, and art.



Camille Smith (Townsperson) is thrilled to work with this amazing cast and crew, and be back on the ACT stage. You may recognize her from previous ACT productions of *Witness for the Prosecution* and *Blithe Spirit*. When she's not at the theater, Camille likes to read, bake, and spend time with her husband, Tyler (when he's not at rehearsals for a different show). If you see her out in the wild, she'd be happy to talk to you about which books you are reading, how to bake the best cookies, or show you pictures of her dog, Loki.



Oliver Thrun (Peter Stockmann) received his BA degree in Theatre Arts/Dance from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Previous ACT credits include Jonathan Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and The Doctor in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. He has also appeared in many productions at Tallgrass Theatre and The Des Moines Community Playhouse, most recently as Humpty Dumpty in *Alice in Wonderland*. In his free time he enjoys hiking, biking, and playing video games.



Shawn Wilson (Aslaksen) is a two-time Cloris Award–winning actor and director who has spent over two decades performing on stages throughout the Des Moines area. Favorite roles include Oscar Wilde in *Gross Indecency*, Dr. Givings in *In the Next Room*, Austin/Lee in *True West*, and Eddie in *A View from the Bridge*. Favorite directorial efforts include *The Flick*, *The Lion in Winter*, and most recently *The Good Doctor* for Tallgrass Theatre. Shawn is a graduate of the University of Iowa and works as a Sales and Marketing Manager for phClean. When not working, he spends time with his family playing Magic: The Gathering, and watching *The Traitors*.

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Concerts to be held at
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Dan Chase (Director) has spent the past four decades performing on stages across the Midwest. Favorite roles include Roat in *Wait Until Dark*, Carmichael in McDonagh's *A Behanding in Spokane*, and the notorious John Wilkes Booth in Sondheim's *Assassins*. At Ankeny Community Theatre, he has also traded the spotlight for the director's chair with productions of *Dial M for Murder* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Dan recently retired after 27 years as a high school choral director, and 12 years performing professionally with Jest Murder Mysteries, often alongside his lovely and talented wife, Carol Palmer. These days he adjudicates for Iowa student theater programs, works part-time at On With Life Neuro Rehabilitation, gardens enthusiastically, and continues his lifelong quest to perfect the art of the nap.



Payton Boesch (Assistant Director, Stage Manager) is excited to be back at ACT in an entirely different role than before. Just coming off stage managing *Winnie the Poob* at DMYAT, Payton normally spends her time on stage. Some area credits include Ancestor in *The Addams Family* (Ankeny Community Theatre), Ms. Fleming/Veronica's Mom in *Heathers: The Musical* (Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre), Anne de Bourgh in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Tallgrass Theatre Company), and most recently, Mom in *Knuffle Bunny a Cautionary Musical* (DSM Playhouse). Other than acting, Payton enjoys hanging out with her dogs, Skeeter and Ralphie, and playing video games with her husband, Tyler.

2025 - 2026 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

Producer (\$1000+)

Director (\$500 - \$999)

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Ankeny Community Theatre is grateful for grant funding from BRAVO Greater Des Moines.

BRAVO offers financial support to fund the operations, programs, and educational opportunities of applicants through hotel/motel taxes and remains committed to investing in its seventeen cultural partners: Altoona, Ankeny Bondurant, Carlisle, Clive, Des Moines, Grimes, Indianola, Johnston, Norwalk, Pleasant Hill, Polk City, Polk County, Urbandale, Waukee, West Des Moines, and Windsor Heights.

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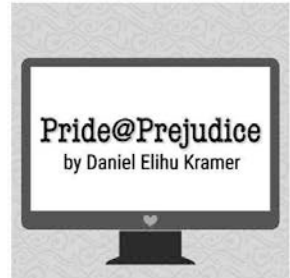
44TH SEASON | 2025-2026



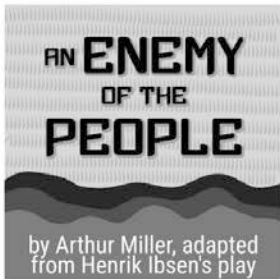
October 3-12, 2025



December 5-14, 2025



February 13-22, 2026



April 17-26, 2026



June 12-21, 2026



August 7-16, 2026



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ACT's Mission:

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Want to do more to help ACT?

ACT's committees are made up of board members and other volunteers. The committees plan and carry out all the theater's functions, under the board's direction. Volunteering on a committee is a great way to make a real difference at ACT! [If you're interested in getting involved in any of these areas, please email volunteer@ankenycitycommunitytheatre.com to learn more.](mailto:volunteer@ankenycitycommunitytheatre.com)

Building and Operations: Responsible for the condition of the building and managing supplies.

Data Management: Responsible for all things *information* - databases, digital accounts and services, documenting and organizing information and materials related to running the organization, including policies and procedures.

Finance: Oversees financial management and brings financial recommendations to the board.

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Membership and Sales: Cultivates and manages individual donors (members); plans annual member event. Manages box office system and ticket sales, including pricing and season punch cards, as well as audience experience.

Production: Responsible for all aspects of putting on shows themselves; develops and implements related policies and procedures. Committee members also serve as producers.

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STANDING OVATION 2025-2026



THE DIFFERENCE IS

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Music has played an important role in every phase of my life. From growing up with a mother who was a music teacher to singing in Luther College's Nordic Choir, I was raised to see how classical music is central to a healthy social fabric. As a Des Moines Symphony board member, I channel my passion for music into volunteerism, helping shine a spotlight on how the Symphony is making the arts more accessible throughout our community. It's rewarding to make a difference for people and nonprofits in Central Iowa, and I'm proud to work for a company that empowers team members to get involved. In fact, more than 100 of our employees serve on nonprofit boards and committees. It's one of the many ways we help the communities around us grow and thrive.

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