



CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

HOTBED HOTEL

by Michael Parker

Jan 10 - Feb 1, 2025

Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sun at 2:00pm

Thu Jan 16 at 8:00pm • Sat Jan 18 & 25 at 2:00pm

HOTBED HOTEL is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Welcome to **CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE**



I am thrilled to welcome you to the 67th season of the Conejo Players Theatre! As the only 100% volunteer-run community theater in Southern California, you have joined us in a truly special place. Our mission — “to share in providing the community with a year-round schedule of affordable live theatre produced to serve the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community” — is deeply important to the wonderful people who give their time here.

As a lifelong theater lover, I have often felt the excitement of the shared live experience between performers and an audience. I have witnessed the power of great storytelling to touch, inform, (and even change) lives. Whether you are here to laugh, cry, or think (often all in one evening), we hope that this performance entertains as well as enlightens.

The theater is an amazing center of collaboration. Each production relies on directors, producers, performers, choreographers, designers, builders, crew members, ushers, and countless others. Working together creates a family of sorts. **We welcome anyone who would like to join our family of volunteers** - a truly generous and talented bunch. Try something new—we are happy to train! And as we are a non-profit organization, tax deductible donations are gratefully appreciated too. Feel free to contact me for more information and opportunities.

Thank you for joining us tonight, and enjoy the show!



Dana Marley-Kolb

Dana Marley-Kolb
President

Email: President@conejoplayers.org



Mission Statement

The mission of Conejo Players Theatre is to share in providing the community with a year-round schedule of affordable live theatre produced to serve the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community; and to welcome and provide an avocational opportunity for all volunteers interested in the theatre arts to participate in the many activities of community theatre.

CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE
presents

HOTBED HOTEL

by **Michael Parker**

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Conejo Players Theatre • Thousand Oaks, CA

Jan 10 - Feb 1, 2025

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The **CAST**

Larry Swartz	Hopkins
Cassie Kelso-Bucey	Terry Cody
Drew Orlando	Brian Cody
Jeff Ham	Major Ponsenby/Abdul El Hajj
Catie Allo (Sayeg)	Maureen
Don McGreevy	Sam Lewis
Briana Bauer	Ashley
Christine Cummings	Hayley
Judy Diderrich	Dorothy

The **SETTING**

A "One Star Hotel" in the Florida Keys, 1980s

Special Thanks
PJ Filippi

Production **STAFF**

Director	Kimberly Demmary
Producer	Elena Mills
Assistant Director	Patrick Rogers
Stage Manager	Mars Tobin
Assistant Stage Manager	William Tobin
Set Designer/Head of Construction Team	Rick Steinberg
Construction Crew	John Holroyd, Lee Marks, Monica Steinberg, Rick Steinberg, Mike Watrobski
Lighting Designer	Jim Diderrich
Costume Designer	Penny Krevenas
Costume Crew	Penny Krevenas, Roger Krevenas, Elena Mills
Sound Designer	Andy Ames
Prop Designer	John Eslick
Light Operator	Kristin Krause
Sound Operator	Hannah Garcia
Backstage Crew	Haley Cruz, Belle Krause, Rylee Stafford
Script Supervisor	Rita McCaffrey
Stunt Choreographer	Darrin Ingram
Photographer	Ritchie Filippi
Lobby Board Designer	Mike Mills
Audition Staff	Judy Diderrich, Sarah Ely, Roger Krevenas, Rita McCaffrey, Mike Mills, Dona Pugh
Strike Crew	Catie Allo, Nino Allo, Briana Bauer, Jim Diderrich, Judy Diderrich, Beth Eslick, John Eslick, Jeff Ham, Cassie Kelso-Busey, Don McGreevy, Drew Orlando, Patrick Rogers, Larry Swartz
Painting Crew	Catie Allo, Nino Allo, Andy Ames, Briana Bauer, Cristine Cummings, Kimberly Demmary, Jeff Ham, Kaitlin Hufford, Penny Krevenas, Don McGreevy, Elena Mills, Drew Orlando, Patrick Rogers, Rick Steinberg, Larry Swartz, Brad Tanenbaum, Josh Tanenbaum, Mars Tobin

From **THE DIRECTOR**

The show was written in 1992. So, we're leaning into the very nostalgic fun of an 80's and 90's sitcom. Classic show theme songs, over the top situations, and zany characters. *Hotbed Hotel* is just that. It's nothing but laughter as the characters come in and out of many doors, running and sliding into areas, hiding and being sneaky, and getting themselves into predicaments that could have been avoided if they'd just slow down, but with all the chaos around them, who has time for a calm and clear head about matters? The cast and I have really been dedicated to the process of a true farce, which requires long rehearsals, perfect timing, out of the box thinking, seasoned and talented actors, and tons of fun of laughter. I would like to thank the cast and everyone on the production team for all their hard work and making this show such a delight to work on.

- **Kimberly Demmary**, Director



Be part of the CPT family!

Volunteering at Conejo Players Theatre

At the heart of Conejo Players Theatre is its volunteer members. Our theatre is unique in the Conejo Valley, as it's operated on a solely volunteer basis since its inception in 1958; the theatre's board members, actors, production staff, and technical crew do not receive any monetary compensation for their services. But the rewards of volunteering with our theatre are many -- we provide a medium for creative self-expression, with opportunities to get involved both onstage and behind-the-scenes ... acting, directing, producing, stage managing, scenic design and construction, theatrical lighting and sound, costuming, and the list goes on.

We're proud of the dedication of our volunteers, and the services they provide are invaluable to our success. It's our volunteers -- both adults and children -- that have allowed Conejo Players to thrive since its humble beginnings. In return, our volunteers gain invaluable creative experiences while enjoying the fun and friendships that come with working in the ever-evolving atmosphere of live theatre. We invite you to join us in our efforts to support the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community through the arts!

These are some of the volunteer opportunities available:

**Usher/Ticket Taker/Snack Bar • Costumes • Props • Set Builders
Sound Board Operator • Light Board Operator • Outreach Committee**
Email us at info@conejoplayers.org for these and other volunteer options.

We are often asked, "Why should I spend \$1 to become a Conejo Players Theatre Member?"

There are 4 reasons that we share:

1. By becoming a member, you are part of our CPT family for life. You are on our rosters and members can follow up with you to let you know what is going on at CPT.
2. When you fill out the form, you can opt in to receive our weekly newsletters and let us know what you are interested in doing, whether it be on stage or off stage. We can share with the Directors and Producers, Front of House Coordinators, Stage Crew team etc. what you are interested in doing.
3. By becoming a member and an active member, it gives you the opportunity to be a part of the direction of the theatre. You have a vote to make a difference on the direction the board takes. You can become a part of the board. You have decided you care about the theatre and want to make your voice heard.
4. You will receive invitations to exclusive Member Only Events!

We hope you do choose to become a member and join our family. We will work to find the best opportunities that match your interests!

Meet THE CAST



Larry Swartz (Hopkins) Larry's acting career began in the 70's as a DJ on WRR Radio in Dallas. He appeared in the feature films *Benji* and *Hawmps*, several movies of the week, and was very fortunate to appear with Sid Caesar in the TV series version of the movie *Network*. After a sabbatical to be a father, he moved to Camarillo in 2010 and returned to the stage with dozens of featured roles at the Camarillo Skyway Playhouse, Elite Theatre, Ojai Art Center Theatre, The Black Box Theatre, Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center and Conejo Players Theatre in such shows as *Social Security*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Newsies*, *The Gin Game*, *All In The Timing*, and numerous others. He recently appeared as President of The United States in the indie TV series, *Age of The Living Dead*. He is very excited about working again with Kim Demmary and this very talented cast.



Cassie Kelso-Bucey (Terry Cody) is excited to be taking the stage at Conejo Players Theatre for the very first time! Cassie was born and raised in New Jersey, moved to Denver, Colorado, and now has resided in Ventura for nine years. When it comes to Ventura County theater, she has performed with Fractured Actors Theater Company, Camarillo Skyway Playhouse, and Lit Live Theater Company and has co-directed at the Elite Theater Company and the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio. Some of her favorite past roles are Sylvia in *Sylvia*, Mrs. Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Stel in *The Greater Good*, Natalie Weldon in *Sorry! Wrong Chimney!* and Mickey the Cop in *The Odd Couple: Female Version*. She would like to thank Kimberly Demmary and Patrick T. Rogers for taking a chance on her to be involved in this production, the cast for always bringing positive energy and being incredible to work with, and her circle of friends and family for all their constant love and support with every project she takes on. These performances are dedicated to her late parents, Rainie and Joseph M. Kelso—her longest and biggest cheerleaders of her theater journey.



Drew Orlando (Brian Cody) This is Drew's second production with Conejo Players Theatre and he's beyond elated to be performing here again! You may have seen him most recently in *A Promotion to Kill* on New Year's Eve. He's spent the last 18 years training extensively in musical theatre, plays, and long form improv, most notably at The Groundlings Theatre and Upright Citizens Theatre. He'd like to thank his biggest and most important supporter, his mom. As always, Hi Mom!



Jeff Ham (Major Ponsenby/Abdul El Hajj) enthusiastically returns to CPT after last appearing as Ambassador Magee in *Don't Drink the Water*. Other Ventura County roles include C.S. Lewis in *Freud's Last Session*, Ed Boone in *Curious Incident of the Dog...* and Matthew Brady in *Inherit the Wind* (Fractured Actors); Inspector Fry in *Hangmen* and Stu Baker in *Thoroughbred of my F**king Heart!* (Santa Paula); and Bob in *In the Midst of All That Is Good* (Elite). He has spent the past decade writing, directing, and producing for Fractured Actors Theater Company. He has also worked in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, PA, South Carolina, and Florida. Jeff's original plays have been produced in Los Angeles (Candlefish, Jewel Box, The Met) and in Ventura (Fractured Actors). Jeff is honored to be working with this brilliant and dedicated cast and crew. Special thanks to Kimberly and Patrick. And as always, deepest love and gratitude to Shannon, Hudson, and Harper.



Catie Allo (Sayeg) (Maureen) has performed in live theatre since the age of six. Some of her favorite roles have been Bella in *Lost in Yonkers*, Mayella in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Annelle in *Steel Magnolias*, and Joanne in *Vanities*, for which she was awarded "Outstanding Featured Performance" by the Four-Star Alliance. Additionally, she enjoys vintage-style pin-up modeling and has been featured in several national and international magazines, including a cover. She would like to thank her family for also being her friends, her friends for also being her family, and her talented castmates and crewmembers for truly becoming both over the past two months.



Don McGreevy (Sam Lewis) is excited to be performing on the Conejo Players stage for the first time. He was seen most recently in *The Trial of Mother Jones* as John Mitchell at the Elite Theatre. Other credits include *Pack of Lies*, *Night Must Fall*, *Fame*, *Six Degrees of Separation* and *A View from the Bridge*. By day, he works for the Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara. He would like to thank family and friends for all their support.



Briana Bauer (Ashley) is thrilled to be back home at the wonderful Conejo Players Theatre in this most hilarious show! Previous CPT credits include *West Side Story*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sweet Charity*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and *Don't Drink the Water*. A native to LA, Briana has had the best time performing across the country and could most recently be seen as Morticia in *The Addams Family* (Cary Arts Center). When not gracing the stage, Bauer can be found conducting her dance workshops, coaching her clients, or spending time with her handsome husky, Romeo <3 Lots of LOVE to mom, dad, sis, bro, Derrek, and Garrett – and A HUGE thank you to our amazing director, assistant director, costume and set designer as well as producer! This has been one of the most enjoyable casts to work with. I ADORE YOU ALL!!!! @brielesque



Christine Cummings (Hayley) is giddy to be making her Conejo Players Theatre debut! She has performed throughout Chicago and Southern California for the past 24 years. SoCal roles include the STAGES Théâtre productions of *All The World's a Grave* as Iago, Lucienne in *Monique*, Veronica in *Family Matters* and Jacqueline in *Don't Dress for Dinner*. She has also performed as Rosalind in Alchemy Theatre's *As You Like It*, Chris in *Rumors* with Costa Mesa Playhouse, Avery Bly in *Sin* with The Garage Theatre of Long Beach and Elsa Von Grossenknueten in *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* with the Brea Curtis Theater. Chicago favorites include Maria Merelli in *Lend me a Tenor*, Becca in *Rabbit Hole*; Helga Ten Dorp in *Deathtrap* at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, and the world premieres of *Fraternal Instinct* and *Cold Cold Feet* with Diamante Productions. Christine is also a stage director and Theater Professor at Cal Lutheran University. Thank you for supporting live theater!



Judy Diderrich (Dorothy) has been with CPT for over 40 years and is an Honorary Life Member. She has appeared in *The Mousetrap*, *Harvey*, *Is He Dead?*, *Biloxi Blues*, *Open House*, *Nude with Pineapple*, *Blihe Spirit*, *The Female Odd Couple*, *Whose Wives Are They Anyway*, *I Remember Mama*, *Mrs. California*, *Hotbed Hotel*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Black Comedy*, *The Belle of Amherst* and dozens more. Judy enjoys working both on stage and behind the scenes. She also performs in radio drama productions with the Every Now and Then Theater. She's worked in dinner theater, touring theater, Readers Theatre, voice-over, and has died in several bad horror flicks. She considers CPT "home" and is always glad to be here.



Meet THE STAFF

Kimberly Demmary (Director) is thrilled to be back at Conejo Players Theatre. She's equally excited to be directing here for the first time. Kimberly has had a long history in theater and was last seen in other productions such as *Meteor Shower*, *Home*, *I'm Darling*, *Night Mother*, *Noises Off*, *Sylvia*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Talley's Folly* and *Rabbit Hole*. She's also directed shows such as *Lone Star/Laundry and Bourbon*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Vanities*, *Sylvia*, and *ROPE*. Kimberly is also a local playwright, and her plays *Seatbelts Required*, *Game of Life* and *SHE* have been produced around Ventura County. Kimberly would love to thank the amazing cast in this show for all their long nights of rehearsal, dedication to the show, and so much laughter. She would also like to thank the dedicated production team for all their hard work making this production happen.

Elena Mills (Producer) is so glad to have such a wonderful cast, crew and production team! Elena currently is Vice President of CPT and she loves to help her beloved theatre painting, costuming, acting, directing, producing, being the House Manager Coordinator and co-directing the youth Improv team, basically doing everything, and she enjoys it! It's a pleasure to work with such talented, friendly and dedicated people of *Hotbed Hotel*, and Elena would like to thank everyone very much for their hard work and an amazing result! A very special thanks to Penny – her partner in crime! Elena loves to work with Penny and together they created many wonderful costumes. A very special thanks to her husband Mike and daughter Stacy for their endless love and patience. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

Patrick Rogers (Assistant Director) is thrilled to be returning to the Conejo Players with *Hotbed Hotel*. This marks his nineteenth show on this stage, having appeared in and/or worked on: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *The Secret Garden*, *Baby*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Biloxi Blues*, *Broadway Bound*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Rashomon*, *Mulan*, *Miss Saigon*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *West Side Story*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Camping with Henry and Tom*, as well as the staged readings of *The Nameless Star*, *Hay Fever* and *Witch*. This show marks his sixth collaboration with the amazingly talented Kimberly Demmary. For Mom, Eily and Sawyer – always. Dedicated to the memories of his Grandma and Grandpa Simonetti and his dear friend Valerie Plaisance.

Mars Tobin (Stage Manager) is happy to be back working with this amazing cast and crew at Conejo. While they're lending their talents backstage for this show, you might have seen them most recently in High Street Arts Center's *Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville*. They would like to thank their friends, family, and this incredible cast, crew, and Conejo family for the support in all their endeavors, and a special thank you to their partner in crime for life, Kaitlin for her never-ending support and encouragement.

William Tobin (Assistant Stage Manager) has been onstage or offstage in the Conejo Valley for most of his life, seen onstage in Gilbert and Sullivans, Shakespeare productions, or offstage whenever he needs to lend a helping hand for High Street Arts Center, Panic Productions, and HCFAs Young Artists Ensemble. He is grateful to Kim, Patrick, and the Conejo Players family and gives special thanks to Mars for the opportunity.

Rick Steinberg (Set Designer/Head of Construction Team) has been involved with the Conejo Players in one way or another since his first adventure in *Pipe Dream*, way back in 1981. He has been seen on stage in a variety of shows. He has won awards in both Directing and Set Design. He is an honorary lifetime member and multiple Harlequin Award recipient.

Jim Diderrich (Lighting Designer) has been a lighting designer for 28 CPT productions during the last nine years. He also directed several shows over the years including CPT's *The Mousetrap* in 2023, co-directed several radio dramas for Every Now and Then Theatre since 2016, and appeared on-stage in many CPT productions since 2000 and other Ventura County productions since 1988.

Penny Krevenas (Costume Designer) A passion for fashion design and theatre led Penny to costuming, which she has been doing at various theatres throughout Ventura County for the past 20+ years. Most recent costume endeavors include *Nine to Five the Musical*, *The Mousetrap* and *The Glass Menagerie*. It has been such a pleasure working to costume the talented cast – they all brought great ideas to make their characters come alive. Shout out to Kimberly, Patrick, Elena, and all the crew – what a great group! As always, hugs and kisses to Roger!

Andy Ames (Sound Designer) is excited to be involved in *Hotbed Hotel* as it is his first-time designing sound for a show! Andy has previously worked behind the scenes for multiple shows at Conejo such as *The Pajama Game*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *A Gentleman's Guide*. Andy would like to Thank Conejo for giving him the opportunity to take the step towards production for the first time and would love for you to hear his finished product in *Hotbed Hotel!*

John Eslick (Prop Designer) has many years experience as a prop and model maker for special effects and entertainment companies, including Walt Disney Imagineering. He is the Props Custodian for the theatre. Keep shining, Sunshine!

Kristin Krause (Light Operator) This will be the 11th show that Kristin has helped on. Kristin has fallen in love with Conejo Players and can be found filling in wherever she is needed. She thanks her family, cast and crew for all their support and love. Enjoy the show!

Hannah Garcia (Sound Operator) Hannah is very excited to be able to come back at Conejo Players Theatre. She is very honored to be a part of this wonderful crew and to be a part of this amazing show.

Haley Cruz (Backstage Crew) Haley is excited for her second year at Conejo players. She enjoys helping backstage making the shows come to life. This is her 7th show here and she looks forward to doing many more.

Belle Krause (Backstage Crew) This marks Belle's first-time being part of the backstage crew and her 2nd show not on the stage. She has performed in four Conejo Players youth productions and hopes to add to that number this season. She has been on stage since the age of five and has found a home here at Conejo Players Theatre. She enjoys working with costumes as well. She would like to thank the cast, production crew, friends, and family. She is so glad she was invited. Enjoy the show!

Rylee Stafford (Backstage Crew) has loved the arts her whole life, and is so grateful to have found this amazing theatre to help out at. This is her second show (the first being The Pajama Game) and she's so excited to help out with more shows to come.



Board of **DIRECTORS** and Theatre **MANAGEMENT**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President **Dana Marley-Kolb**
 Vice President **Elena Mills**
 Secretary **Eve Kiefer**
 Business Director **Toni Thompson**
 Facilities Director **Andrew Costello**
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Exec. Director **Rick Steinberg**
 Exec. Producer **Beth Eslick**
 Exec. Tech. Director **Jim Diderrich**



Director Emeritus.....**Dick Johnson**

THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Box Office Manager **Sarah Ely**
 Box Office Assistant..... **Jess Filippi**
 House Mgr. Coordinator.....**Elena Mills**
 House Managers **Ken Endress,**
 **Mike Mills, Bridget van Gelder,**
 **Danielle Romo, Penny Krevenas,**
 **Dana Marley-Kolb, Erin Fagundes,**
 **Christine Evangelista, Beth Eslick,**
 **Dona Pugh, Jess Filippi, Elena Mills,**
 **Patrick Rogers**
 Front-of-House Coordinator.. **Eve Kiefer**

Snack Bar Coordinator..... **Jim Bukowski**
 Legal Advisor **Jason Kirkpatrick**
 Costume Custodian **Beth Eslick**
 Furniture Custodian **Rick Steinberg**
 Sound Maintenance Master.. **Joe Krause**
 Props Custodian..... **John Eslick**
 Graphic Designer **John Eslick**
 Pre-Show VO..... **John Eslick**
 Wig Custodian **Haley Cruz**
 Key Master **Jim Diderrich**
 Theatre Ghost **Albert**

NEXT ON THE BOARDS

CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE

A

ANASTASIA

THE MUSICAL

Book by Terrence McNally
 Music by Stephen Flaherty
 Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical
 From the play by Mariclaire Maurer as adapted by Gray Bolton

Mar 21 - Apr 13, 2025
 Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sun at 2:00pm
 Thu Mar 27 at 8:00pm • Sat Apr 5 at 2:00pm

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE

The Velveteen Rabbit: A Toy Story

by Patrick Flynn

based on the book by Margery Williams

Commissioned by Adventure Theatre in Glen Echo, Maryland (CMAA, Artistic Director) in 2019

May 2 - 11, 2025
 Fri at 7:00pm • Sun at 1:00pm
 Sat at 1:00pm & 4:00pm

THE VELVETEEN RABBIT is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by TRW PLAYS 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.trwplays.com