

# Starlighters II

THEATRE

*Help is still needed for  
your new theatre!*

## Please consider that...

Ticket prices do not pay all our expenses. Local businesses sponsor shows and advertise in our annual programs. **Please** do your part to support your Theatre and our sponsors. Give generously to Starlighters II.

Send your check to :

Starlighters II Theatre

200 E. Main St.

Anamosa IA 52205 OR make a pledge over time.

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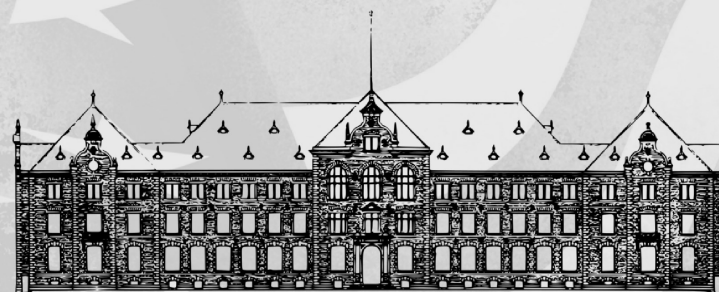
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Monthly Quarterly Annually (circle one)

# Starlighters II

THEATRE



# INHERITORS

## BY SUSAN GLASPELL

ADAPTED BY IRIS SMITH FISCHER, IN COOPERATION WITH THE SUSAN GLASPELL SOCIETY.

SEPTEMBER 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, OCTOBER 1

BOX OFFICE OPENS SEPTEMBER 11

WWW.STARLIGHTERS.ORG  
(319) 462-4793

200 EAST MAIN STREET  
ANAMOSA, IA

SPONSORED BY:

 **UnityPoint Health**  
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## CAST

Smith .....	Harrison Shaffer
Grandmother .....	Margaret Hogan
Silas Morton .....	Steve Clemmons
Felix Fejevary I .....	Kevin Sims
Felix Fejevary II (younger) .....	David Yager
Senator Lewis .....	Gerald Morrison
Felix Fejevary II (older) .....	Jim Greene
Horace .....	Harrison Shaffer
Doris .....	Jill Klinkefus
Fussie .....	Aimee Jones
Madeline Morton .....	Justeen Schoner
Aunt Isabel .....	B.J. Moeller
Professor Holden .....	Mary Sue Vernon
Ira Morton .....	K.R. Knopp
Emil Johnson .....	David Yager

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of the questions I've been asked many times during the process of directing *Inheritors* is how I heard of Susan Glaspell. While I can't quite remember the specific circumstances, I do remember feeling shocked that as a native Iowan and theatre enthusiast, I had never heard of this Davenport-born, Pulitzer Prize winning-playwright. After reading more about her contributions to the regional American theatre movement, her prolific career, and the feminist themes of her work, I knew that this was a playwright who deserved more than being mostly forgotten and rarely performed. After returning home from four years of college in New York, I found myself reading through an anthology of Glaspell's plays in summer of 2016, when the discussions of nationalism, immigration, and free speech surrounding the ongoing presidential campaigns were in full swing.

While reading *Inheritors* I was struck by the way the discussions of the Hindu students at Morton College mirrored the way many were discussing immigrants from Mexico and the Middle East. I knew that despite my fascination with some of the other plays in the anthology, this was the right play for this time. With the recent events in Charlottesville and continuing racial tensions throughout the country, I believe that the themes explored in *Inheritors* and its questions of what it truly means to be an American are even more relevant now. I hope that what you see on stage today will spark meaningful conversations long after the final bow and inspire you to think of how you can make the most positive impact that you can on our divided world. As Madeline tells us, "be the most you can be, so life will be more because you were."

-Jennifer Beall



## COMING THIS WINTER



# Starlighters II



## Christmas Dreams

By Jon Robertson

December 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10  
Box Office opens November 20

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois.  
Sponsored By: 

www.starlighters.org      200 East Main Street  
(319) 462-4793      Anamosa, IA

Auditions for *Christmas Dreams* are Oct 2-4 at 7p.m.  
At the theater.

# PRODUCTION STAFF

## Director

JENNIFER BEALL

## Lighting and Sound

CHARLOTTE SCHECKEL

## Set

K.R.KNOP, JEFF MATHEWSON,  
CHARLOTTE SCHECKEL, STEVE NASSIF,  
GERALD MORRISON

## Hair & Makeup

CAST

## Costumes

AIMEE JONES AND ALLISON WINTER

## Stage Crew

DIANA JONES AND DEBBIE BEALL

## Box Office Management

ANNE WILLIAMS

## Publicity

REBECCA VERNON  
JAN CRATSENBERG, CAST

## Poster Art

REBECCA VERNON

## Special Thanks

Citizens Bank of Anamosa for table tent folding

Thank you to all those who contributed  
to this production but whose names did not appear  
in this program because of deadline or oversight.

We apologize for the omission.

Get your season Flex Pass on line at

**Starlighters.org**

## MORTON FARM HOUSE NEAR

## DAVENPORT, IOWA

### ACT I

Scene 1 : Morton Farm house July 4, 1879

### ACT II

Scene 1 : Library reading room at Morton College 1920

Scene 2: Later that day

### ACT III

Scene 1: Morton Family Farm one week after the events of Act II

There will be a 10 minute intermission between Act I and Act II and a 15 minute intermission between Act II and Act III at which time refreshments will be served in the lobby. Donations are greatly appreciated!

## HISTORICAL NOTES ABOUT THE PLAY

*"Both radical and conservative have to learn that any mode of creative work, which with true perception portrays social wrongs earnestly and boldly, may be a greater menace to our social fabric and a more powerful inspiration than the wildest harangue of the soapbox orator."*

Emma Goldman, *The Social Significance of Modern Drama* (1916)

*Inheritors* was first performed in 1921 by members of the Provincetown Players, a group founded by Susan and her husband, George Cram Cook, which began as a troupe of amateur actors and grew into one of the foundations for the American regional theatre movement that began to blossom in the 1960s. The mission of the Provincetown Players was to produce original plays by American writers that reflected the American society of their day. Out of Provincetown would come two prolific and award winning playwrights: Susan Glaspell and Eugene O'Neill.

Glaspell wrote *Inheritors* while on sabbatical from the troupe, staying with her husband in their hometown of Davenport. The Midwestern setting gave her the inspiration to draw from her family's own history as settlers of the area and friends of Black Hawk. Her grandfather, also named Silas, was one of the inspirations for the Civil War veteran determined to found a college in the play's first act. The events that transpire on Morton's campus reflect Susan's critiques of World War I and the Espionage and Sedition Acts that came in its wake. These acts created legal penalties for those who hampered the war effort by criticizing the government and continued into the first Red Scare of the 1920s. With many of her companions being avowed socialists, some of them even journalists for the socialist publication *The Masses*, Susan knew some of those who were investigated under the Espionage act and sought to critique these injustices through her work. *Inheritors* itself was visited by a censor during its original run, though, according to a reviewer, he did not stay long enough past the first act to find anything objectionable. (continued on next page)

# Starlighters II

THEATRE

## 2017 DONORS

### Associate \$200-\$499

Scott and Cheri Francik  
Vic and Mary Jo Hamre  
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Jill and Brian Darrow

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The Lynn Goode family  
Jim and Bonnie Lauzon  
Carole Lerch  
Dave and Cheryl Marshall  
Pat and Doug Nauman  
Bob and Kathy Pilcher  
Dorothy and Bing Postel  
David and Betsy Remley  
Audrey Savage  
Alissa and Daryl Schepanski  
Lori Shelton

If we have made an error or omission,  
please let us know ...we want to make it  
right!

### Notes continued.....

In this production, a decision was made to cast Professor Holden as a woman. While this may appear anachronistic based on how we think of the progress of women's roles in society, women were holding roles in America's high education even in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. At Cornell College in Mount Vernon, IA, Harriette Jay Cooke became the first woman promoted to a full professorship with the same salary as a man. In his critique of American universities (another inspiration for the events of *Inheritors*), George Cram Cook mentions two women operating in the higher levels of academia.

A list of suggestions for further reading about Glaspell and her works can be found at [starlighters.org/inheritors](http://starlighters.org/inheritors).

Susan Glaspell at her Davenport home, c. 1913



## WANT TO HELP?

Of course we can use your help!! If you have time and the urge, please consider volunteering.

Good at carpentry or painting? Working on sets could be for you.

Design ? Sew? Helping with costumes would be up your alley.

Work with the public? Helping with box office, marketing or being an usher could be the way to go.

E-mail us at [Starlightersii@gmail.com](mailto:Starlightersii@gmail.com) or message us on our Face Book page.

Let us know what you are interested in and we will see what we can do together.

Don't have any free time? We love it when you give us money!

We feel that Starlighters II Theater is one of the most valuable resources in Eastern Iowa. We hope you agree and that you will support our efforts in one of the following ways:

### Become a member:

One year Single Membership	\$25.00
One Year Family Membership	\$35.00

### Sponsorship Opportunities:

CONTRIBUTOR	\$50-\$199
ASSOCIATE	\$200-\$499
VISIONARY	\$500-\$999
LUMINARY	\$1000 and up

**Calendar year** membership is included with any sponsorship.

Contributing Donations are Tax-Deductible (less the cost of membership).

*Special thanks to: Charlotte Scheckel for everything she's done for the show as assistant director, KR Knopp for building the set, Aimee Jones for finding costumes and painting the portrait of Silas, Jan Cratsenberg for support as a director mentor and handling much of the print marketing for this show, Bob Furino for support as a director mentor and indulging my Glaspell obsession by tracking down a copy of Allison's House, the Anamosa Public Library for lending us a bookshelf, Milbre Burch and Cheryl Black for driving up from Missouri to participate in our talk-back, Jackson Bartelme for much emotional support and pints of ice cream when needed, and, of course, Michael and Debbie Beall for indulging my interest in theater as a kid and for the many nights of dog-sitting (I'm sure that Boo-Boo gives you her thanks as well).*





# ER care in minutes

UnityPoint Health - Jones Regional  
Medical Center is proud to support the  
Starlighters II.

*Congratulations to the cast and crew!*



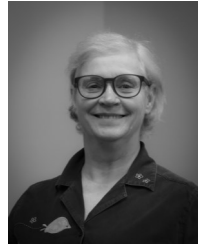
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[www.unitypoint.org/anamosa](http://www.unitypoint.org/anamosa)

**Harrison Shaffer** (Smith and Horace) is from Cedar Rapids. Recent productions include *Sense and Sensibility* at Giving Tree Theater, and improv performances with his improv troupe Living Improvity. He has been in multiple shows at Starlighters since he was a child, including *Brigadoon*, *The Music Man*, and *The Sound of Music*. He hopes to move to New York after graduating college to pursue a career in acting or editing.



**Margaret Hogan** (Grandmother) is originally from Oxford Junction. She currently resides in Earlville. She is a middle school science teacher. Other theatrical performances were with Bell Tower Theater. She enjoys reading, biking, and gardening with a goal of being a life long learner and giving more than she takes.



**Steve Clemmons** (Silas Morton) lives in Monticello where he is a solutions analyst with ITS. He was last seen on our stage as du Fresne in *Gigi*. Other productions include *Miracle on 34th Street*. In his spare time he likes to tinker with computers, play video games, play bass in The Busted Grumpies, and spend time with his wife and boys.



**Kevin Sims** (Felix Fejevary I) Originally from Chicago, he and his family live in Anamosa; he is an insurance agent and free lance writer. We last saw him as Felix in *The Odd Couple*. He plays in an eleven piece band, plays softball, writes music, and interviews international artists.



**David Yager** (Felix Fejevary II younger and Emil Johnson) Originally from Prairie Du Chien WI, he now lives in Anamosa. He was recently on our stage as the County Attorney in *Trifles and Treats*. He loves to read, write, and perform in theater and hopes to find a career path of interest and that will involve writing.



**Gerald Morrison** (Senator Lewis) Originally from Central City, he now lives in Marion where he is an engineer. We last saw him on the Starlighters stage as Speed in *The Odd Couple*. Other productions include *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Fruitcakes*, *The Sound of Music*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*. For fun he fosters dogs, is a member of The Knights of Columbus, and travels.



**Jim Greene** (Felix Fejevary II older) has been involved with Starlighters since 1999. His recent productions were *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Death Trap*, *State Fair*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Night Sky*, and *Self Help for Dummies*. He has served on many committees, including the Artistic Committee and Board of Directors. Jim works for Cedar Rapids Development Services Department.



**Jill Klinkefus** (Doris) is a student at Linn Mar High School. Please welcome her to the Starlighters stage. She has been in school productions of *The Little Mermaid* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. She is involved with show choir, plays cello, and sings. She enjoys sewing and making her own costumes. Her goal is to go to college for music.



**Aimee Jones** (Fussie) Originally from Hopkinton, she now lives in Monticello where she works for Yogi's. We last saw her in *Gigi*. Other production includes *Miracle on 34th Street*. Past theater productions were in high school and at Ellsworth College. She wants to be a horse nutritionist and own her own stables.



**Justeen Schoner** (Madeline Morton) is from Marion where she is a student at Kirkwood. She has been on both sides of the curtain at Starlighters. She was last on our stage as Signe in *Church Basement Ladies*. Other productions with Starlighters include *State Fair*, and assistant director *Of Mice and Men*. She has performed with TCR, Old Creamery Theater, Mt Mercy, and the Paramount. Recent productions include *Six Characters in Search of an Author* and *Quilters, the Musical*, for which she was nominated for the Irene Ryan Scholarship.



**B.J.Moller** (Aunt Isabel) is a retired special education teacher from Newhall, most recently seen on the Starlighters stage as Mavis in *Church Basement Ladies*. Other productions include *Fruitcakes*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*. She also performs with Old Creamery Theater, Waterloo Community Players, Act I of Benton County. One of her goals is to learn to play the harp.



**Mary Sue Vernon** (Professor Holden) is a retired teacher at Anamosa High School. She has been Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific*, Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, The Bakers Wife in *Into the Woods*. She has been in more productions at Starlighters than we have room to list but most recently was on stage as Aunt Alicia in *Gigi*. She enjoys theater, singing, and ballroom dancing with her husband. They are also part of The Monarch Project. They raise butterflies and are increasing pollinator habitat.



**K.R.Knopp** (Ira Morton) Self described incipient geezer from Monticello, he has been in over 30 Starlighters productions playing every thing from Alfred P. Doolittle to Jacob Marley. In his spare time he volunteers an enormous number of hours with Starlighters, for church suppers, and reads.

