

Cumberland Theatre Wraps Up its 37th Season *and Anticipates an Exciting New Itinerary of Performances for 2026*

CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

The Cumberland Theatre is proudly celebrating its 37th year of entertainment and looking forward to the 38th season in 2026. The theatre is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization entirely owned by its volunteer Board of Directors and operated by its Artistic Directors. These members of the community spend invaluable time and resources to the funding and operating of the theatre. Other volunteers support the theatre by serving on various committees and by working as front of house staff.

The Cumberland Summer Theatre was initiated as a project of Frostburg State University, becoming independent of the University in its fourth season. It was started when President Herb Reinhard wished to revive the dormant summer theater program at the University.

In 1991, Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Giarritta purchased, and with assistance from the State of Maryland, renovated an empty church building on Johnson Street, the current home of the Cumberland Theatre. In 2003, at the opening night performance of Stephen Sondheim's musical "Sweeney Todd," the auditorium was christened "The Nicholas and Shirley Giarritta Playhouse" to commemorate their many contributions to the theatre throughout its history.

The Board was delighted in 2003 when distinguished stage, Emmy Award winning, and Academy Award nominated actor William H. Macy honored the theatre by agreeing to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Some of the programs offered through the Cumberland Theatre include Stars of Tomorrow for local actors aged 5 – 20; Stars of Tomorrow ELITE for teen local actors, 13–19 years old; and free Shakespeare in the Park festivals. They also have partnered with the Embassy Theatre in Downton Cumberland and Our Town Theatre in Oakland, MD.



The remaining months of 2025 will feature the following performances:

***The Exorcist*, October 9 – 26**

Adapted from the novel by William Peter Blatty, the most chilling test of faith comes to life on stage with the terror and redemption of a ten-year-old girl.

***You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, November 13 – 16**

Featuring life through the eyes of Charlie Brown and his friends in the Peanuts Gang with songs and vignettes, based on the beloved Charles Schulz comic strip.

***A Sherlock Carol*, December 4 – 21**

A grown-up Tiny Tim asks Sherlock Holmes to investigate the death of Ebenezer Scrooge. The Great Detective must use his gifts to solve a Dickens of a Christmas mystery!

The 2026 Season Schedule is as follows:

Heartbreak Hotel — January 29 – February 15

Pride and Prejudice — March 26 – April 14

Annie — April 30 – May 17

Psycho Beach Party — June 4 – 14

Saturday Night Fever — July 9 – 26*

Flashdance the Musical — July 9 – 26*

Sylvia — September 3 – 13

Bad Seed — October 1 – 11

The Pillowman — October 22 – 31

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas — December 3 – 20

**Performed on select dates — Saturday Night Fever and Flashdance the Musical*

For more detailed information on Main Stage Performances, Stars of Tomorrow and Shakespeare in the Park festivals, visit www.cumberlandtheatre.com.