

Appalachian Artists Collective Presents *The Telltale Lilac Bush* adapted by A.E. Gill, after Ruth Ann Musick

AAC is inviting the performing arts companies included herein (3 Bridges Arts, 4th Ave. Arts, Alban Arts Center, Alchemy Theatre Troupe, Children's Theatre of Charleston, First Stage Theatre Company, Spring Valley High School) to collaborate to produce *The Telltale Lilac Bush* (Adapted by A.E. Gill, After Ruth Ann Musick) at Schoenbaum Stage at Hadadd Riverfront Park & Barboursville City Park Amphitheatre in the Fall of 2021. The production (*Lilac Bush*) is an original adaptation by Appalachian playwright and YA novelist A.E. Gill.

Our production will feature original music from Amanda Bridgette (3 Bridges Arts) with original choreography by Jessica Fox (4th Ave Arts) to enhance Gill's script. Music and choreography to be performed by children (12-17) from Children's Theatre of Charleston (Charleston youth cast) and First Stage Theatre Company (Huntington youth cast). Our scenic designer, Loren Allen, will design and construct an imaginative, outdoor friendly, portable set as well as collaborating with our props designer, Jennifer Anderson, to create practical stage properties. Our costume designer Nikki Jervis (4th Ave Arts) will design, construct, and fit whimsical, functional costuming pieces. Assistant directors (Mariah Plante: Charleston, Nora Ankrom: Huntington) are skilled artists and administrators responsible for graphic design and photography, scheduling, social media marketing, and day to day operations. We'd like to enlist technical direction for each venue with Adam Bryan and Marlette Carter (Alban Arts Center) for our Charleston production and Mike Murdock (Alchemy Theatre Troupe) for our Barboursville production.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, community, regional, and educational theatres have faced unimaginable hardships; to remedy this, AAC has formulated a plan to combine our efforts to compete with larger companies with well endowed budgets that have had the luxury of pausing operations without losing valuable funding. Alone, no one artist could produce something of this scale. Together, we can produce an original piece by the largest collective of community and performing artists in the state of WV. If, by the Fall of 2021, we are still social distancing, an outdoor play is the only possible avenue for theatrical production.



Our production is sponsored in part by:



