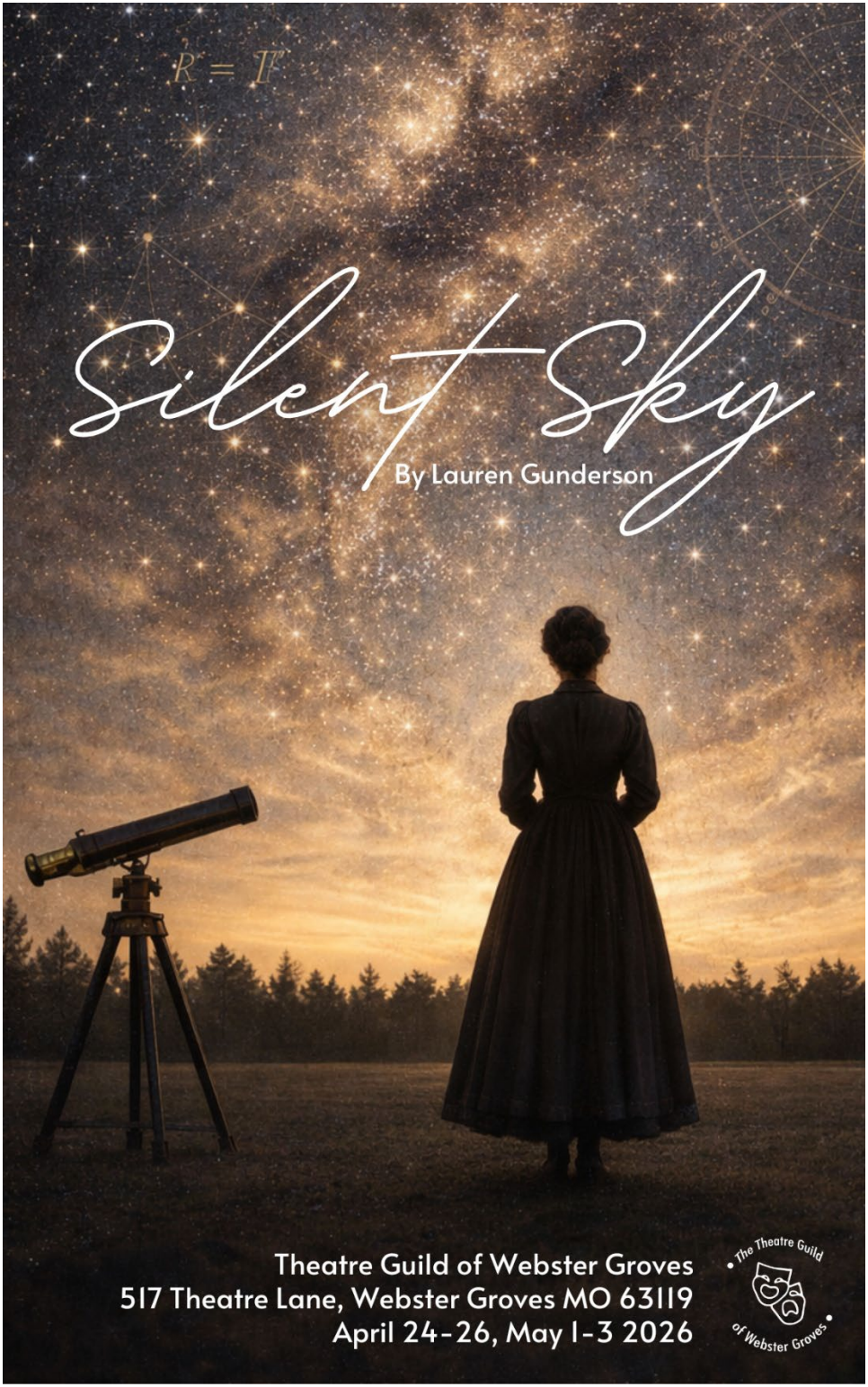
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Silent Sky
By Lauren Gunderson
Theatre Guild of Webster Groves
517 Theatre Lane, Webster Groves MO 63119
April 24-26, May 1-3 2026
The Theatre Guild of Webster Groves

Announcing The Theatre Guild of Webster Groves

100th Season!

You Can't Take It With You by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart
September 2026

An eccentric but loving family lives joyfully outside societal norms, embracing creativity and individuality over wealth or convention. When their daughter falls in love with a man from a rigid, affluent family, the clash of values reveals what truly matters in life.
(Part of our 22nd, 40th, 62nd, 77th, and 88th Season)

A View From the Bridge by Arthur Miller
November 2026

Longshoreman Eddie Carbone's obsessive love for his niece Catherine leads to jealousy and betrayal when she falls for an undocumented immigrant living in their home. His inability to confront his own feelings ultimately destroys his family and himself.
(Part of our 52nd Season)

Proof by David Auburn
January 2027

Catherine, the troubled daughter of a brilliant but unstable mathematician, struggles to navigate grief, trust, and self-doubt. She must confront whether she has inherited her father's genius, his instability, or both.
(Part of our 80th Season)

Night Must Fall by Emlyn Williams
March 2027

A charming but manipulative young man insinuates himself into the home of a wealthy invalid woman, raising suspicions about his true nature. As tension builds, it becomes clear that his charisma masks something far more sinister.
(Part of our 12th, 24th, 38th, and 58th Season)

Inherit the Wind by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee
May 2027

A small-town teacher is put on trial for teaching evolution, sparking a national debate between science and religious fundamentalism. Two legendary lawyers clash in court, turning the case into a powerful exploration of freedom of thought and belief.
(Part of our 39th Season)

99th Season, 2025-2026
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For more information on productions, auditions, and about TGWG please visit www.webstergrovestheatreguild.com
To purchase tickets in advance scan code:

Director's Note

The idea of "paying" attention dates back to the Middle Ages and reminds us that focus, energy, and discipline are limited resources. How fortunate we are that the women in this story chose to pay their attention *forward*, at great personal cost, so that future generations could begin to understand an unfathomable universe. At a moment when we are once again reaching farther into space than ever before, *Silent Sky* invites us to honor their quiet diligence in pursuing truth, and reminds us that the act of seeking, in any direction, is itself a kind of revelation.

As always, this production is dedicated to the memory of my aunt, Jennifer DeGolier, whose light will always shine: "Don't worry, it will be art by Thursday."

Taylor Brill, Director
April 2026

The Theatre Guild of Webster Groves Proudly Presents….

Silent Sky

By Lauren Gunderson

April 24-26 and May 1-3, 2026

Directed by Taylor Brill
Assistant Director Claire Hough

Cast

Henrietta Leavitt…Dawn Schmid

Margaret Leavitt…Carolyn Bergdolt

Annie Cannon…Chris Taber

Willamina Fleming…Karen Wood

Peter Shaw…Kevin Hester

SILENT SKY is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Commissioned and first produced by South Coast Repertory with support from the Elizabeth George Foundation.

Original Music by Jenny Giering.

Production Staff

Director……..……..……..……..……Taylor Brill

Assistant Director……..……..Claire Hough

Stage Manager……..……..……..……Sarah Koenig

Costume Design……..…Paige Galligos

Lighting & Projection Designer…….……John 'JT' Taylor

Sound Designer……..……..……Taylor Brill

Scenic Designer……..……..……..……Kevin Hester

Master Carpenter……..Robert Michael Hanson

Meet the Cast

in alphabetical order

Carolyn Bergdolt (Margaret Leavitt) - Carolyn is delighted to be working with TGWG again after stage managing *Hound of the Baskervilles* and appearing as Missy LeHand in *Sunrise at Campobello*, among other roles. She loves telling stories and relishes any chance she gets to do so through the magic of live theater - recent credits include *Prince of Egypt* with Goshen Theatre Project and *School for Scandal* (Lady Teazle) with Clayton Community Theatre. When she's not on stage, Carolyn works as a software engineer to pay the bills and enjoys baking, jigsaw puzzling, and playing volleyball with friends.

Kevin Hester (Peter Shaw, Scenic Designer) - Kevin Hester is hyped (no cap!) to be in his fourth show with TGWG! He would like to thank both the cast and crew for making this production a wonderful experience. Kevin is honored to support the Autism Society, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and the CLL Information Group. Kevin has recently performed locally with Stray Dog Theatre, West End Players Guild, and Tesseract Theatre. He would also like to thank his BFF Hitchcock, his friends, family, et al. for all their support.

Dawn Schmid (Henrietta Leavitt) - Dawn Schmid is a St. Louis-based actor, singer, and second-grade teacher. She is thrilled to be performing in her first play after many years of musical theatre. Recently, Dawn has been seen in *Legally Blonde* (Tesseract Theatre) and *Rock of Ages* (Stray

Dog Theatre). Be sure to catch her this December in the one-woman musical, *Penelope*, with Stray Dog Theatre. To the women who came before who allowed us to walk among the stars.

Chris Taber (Annie Cannon) - A retired theatre arts teacher, Chris is thrilled to make her St. Louis stage debut with the TGWG and thanks Director Taylor Brill for the opportunity and welcome. She's enjoyed working with this talented cast and crew! Before moving to St. Louis, she taught, directed, and acted in productions in Central Illinois for over 30 years. Some favorite roles include Lil' Bit in *How I Learned to Drive* and Diane in *The Little Dog Laughed*. Offstage, Chris is a part-time tour guide at Anheuser-Busch (a great retirement gig!) and spends plenty of time with her family and two golden retrievers. PS: Keep an eye out for Chris in local Busey bank commercials!

Karen Wood (Willamina Fleming) - Karen is excited to be returning to the Guild stage and having way too much fun with this role! Previous TGWG credits include: Anne in *6 Rms Riv Vu* which earned her an AFL-TMA nomination for lead actress in a comedy, *Boy Gets Girl* (Theresa), *Crimes of the Heart* (Meg), and *Private Lives* (Amanda). She has performed with many other theatres in the area over the past 20 years - including Clayton Community Theatre, Monroe Actors Stage Company, and Kirkwood Theatre Guild. Favorite past roles include *The Belle of Amherst* (Emily Dickinson), *Perfect Wedding* (Julie), and *Who Killed Aunt Caroline?* (Mrs. Endicott). During the day Karen is busy homeschooling her children. She would like to thank Taylor for this opportunity and her husband Brent for holding down the fort at home!

Meet the Crew

in alphabetical order

Taylor Brill (Director, Sound and Props Designer) is a freelance director, producing consultant, and toddler mom. She serves on the Webster Groves Arts Commission, the Muny Young Friends Council, the Advisory Board of the Tennessee Williams Festival of St. Louis, and the board of the Theatre Guild of Webster Groves. She is the former Artistic Director of the historic Access Theater in New York City, a former Manhattan Theatre Club Directing Fellow, and holds a BFA in Directing from the University of Michigan. Taylor is deeply grateful to this extraordinary cast and crew for their generous artistry, and to Josh and Tammy for taking on so much to make this work possible.

Claire Hough (Assistant Director) is happy to be involved with another production at the Theatre Guild of Webster Groves. She is very proud of the cast and all of the hard work they have put into rehearsals. Claire has many previous credits with TGWG, most recently having played Perkins in *Hound of the Baskervilles*. She hopes everyone enjoys the show!

Sarah Koenig (Stage Manager) is so excited to serve as the Stage Manager for *Silent Sky*! Sarah completed her BFA in Theatre with an Emphasis in Event and Stage Management from Lindenwood University in December 2025. She has loved working with this cast, and she is deeply grateful to Taylor Brill and the entire TGWG team for making this possible

Paige Galligos (Costume Designer) has enjoyed joining this amazing crew to costume for such a great cast. The time period made for a fun puzzle, and she thanks Taylor for trusting her with the task.

John 'JT' Taylor (Lighting and Projection Designer) is honored again that he was asked to work with TGWG. John has been working for 70 years doing theatre. He has worn many hats during these years around the metro area as well as around the world. He is thrilled to be working with this great cast and crew. Remember: Without the lights; it's just radio. Thank you for supporting Live Theatre!

Special Thanks

Josh & Wesley	Elizabeth Thompson	Rob Lippert
Tammy Pust	Marcia Kimball	Judy Moebeck
Michael Norton	Laura Fretland	Kirkwood Theatre Guild
Barbara Yates	Barb Shiels	Rowan Redelsheimer
Dan & Jerri Freier	Debra Page	Jacob Baxley
Maggie Freier	Susan Vandenberg	Winter Opera of St. Louis
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Star plate images are provided courtesy of the Harvard Plate Stacks Collection.

A Round of Applause to Our 99th Season Sponsors!

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING COMMUNITY THEATRE!

The Theatre Guild of Webster Groves has been providing community theatre to the St. Louis area since 1926. Typically, we run five productions per season, one every two months, beginning in September, and finishing in May.

We are a registered 501(c)3 organization, and we are entirely run by volunteers! All donations are tax-deductible.

For more info on how to support TGWG
please visit our website at:
https://www.webstergrovestheatreguild.com/support/
Or scan to visit our website to learn more about TGWG:

GET INVOLVED!

The Guild is a 100% volunteer-run theatre—and it has been for 100 years! There's a place for everyone to pitch in. We are seeking members for our redesigned committees below:

- **Facilities & Events** – Care for our space and support Guild events.
  - *Fun for:* hands-on helpers, fix-it folks, and people who like to see immediate results.
- **Production** – Assist with lighting, sound, costumes, and stock management.
  - *Fun for:* detail-lovers, backstage enthusiasts, and anyone curious about how theatre magic happens.
- **Administration** – Research and preserve Guild history.
  - *Fun for:* organized thinkers, history buffs, and archival sleuths.
- **Marketing & Publicity** – Posters, newsletters, and social media.
  - *Fun for:* creative communicators, storytellers, and social media fans.
- **Fundraising & Partnerships** – Grants and community connections.
  - *Fun for:* big-picture thinkers, connectors, and people who like turning ideas into resources.

Committees will meet monthly throughout the 2026-2027 season.
Interested? Email info@webstergrovestheatreguild.com.

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TGWG

Join us in celebrating our 99th Season 2025-2026!

Hound of the Baskervilles
by Tim Kelly
September 5–7 & 12–14, 2025

In-laws, Outlaws, and Other People (That Should be Shot)
by Steve Franco
November 7-9 & 14-16, 2025

Harbor
by Chad Beguelin
January 16-18 & 23-25, 2026

Amateurs
by Tom Griffin
March 6-8 & 13-15, 2026

Silent Sky
by Lauren Gunderson
April 24-26 & May 1-3, 2026

For easy updates on upcoming productions, auditions, and Guild events, join our email list here!