

WHARTON PLAYERS EARN TWO 2026 PERRY AWARD NOMINATIONS

Wharton Arts

Wharton Community Players is celebrating two individual nominations in the 2026 New Jersey Association of Community Theaters (NJACT) Perry Awards for its production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Brenna Knight received a nomination for her performance as Puck, while Nick Foil was recognized for his portrayal of Nick Bottom. The nominations were announced during the 2026 NJACT Perry Awards Nomination Ceremony on August 1.

"We are incredibly proud of Brenna and Nick for this well-deserved recognition," said Debra Joyal, Wharton Performing Arts School Director. "Their outstanding performances, along with the dedication of our entire cast and creative team, made *A Midsummer Night's Dream* a memorable production."

The Perry Awards, presented annually by the New Jersey Association of Community Theaters, recognize excellence in community theater productions throughout the state. The complete list of 2026 Perry Award nominees is available on the NJACT website at <https://njact.org/2026-nominees/>. The 2026 NJACT Perry Awards Ceremony will take place on October 4, 2026, at the Strand Center for the Arts in Lakewood, New Jersey.

Wharton Community Players is the Wharton Performing Arts School's free community theater program for adults, welcoming performers of all experience levels to explore the joy of theater in a collaborative, inclusive environment. Through high-quality productions, participants build artistic skills, forge lasting friendships, and demonstrate that the performing arts can enrich lives at every stage. To learn more about, visit WhartonArts.org.

Wharton Arts' mission is to offer accessible, high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center. The 5 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, an auditioned choral ensemble program for students in grades 3–12, encourage a love and appreciation of choral music while nurturing personal growth and

creative development. The 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve over 500 students in grades 3–12 by audition, inspire young people to achieve musical excellence through high-level ensemble training and performance opportunities. Based in Paterson, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of Wharton Arts that uses music education as a vehicle for social action by empowering and inspiring young people to achieve their full potential through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing. From Pathways classes for young children to Lifelong Learning programs for adults, the Wharton Performing Arts School has a robust musical theater and drama program and offers both private and group classes for instruments and voice for all ages and all abilities. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and that performing arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton Arts offers need-based scholarships.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts' extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.

TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE

MOUNTAINSIDE PAL

Saturday, September 19, 2026

9am - 2pm (rain or shine)

Application Deadline:

September 14th 5pm

Email J.Ruban@verizon.net
for registration link

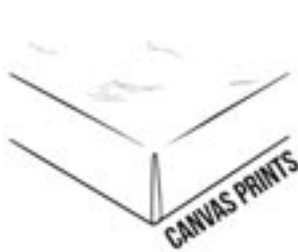
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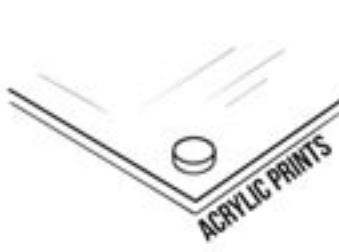
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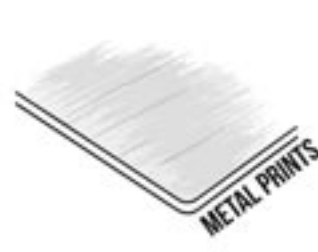
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