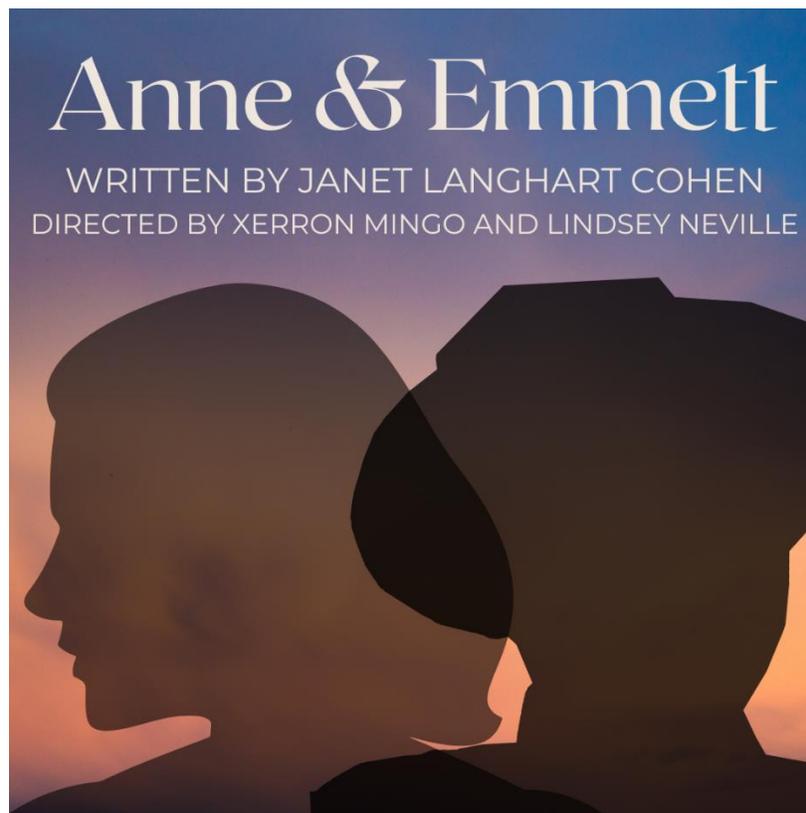




NEWSTAGED TOURS

Arts In Education Production



STUDY GUIDE

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Sections * of the *Anne and Emmett* Study Guide are provided courtesy of the St Louis Black Rep, who produced *Anne and Emmett* at the Grandel Theatre, October 26 – November 4, 2012.

About New Stage Theatre

Now in its 57th season, New Stage Theatre was chartered as a not-for-profit organization in 1965. The theatre operates under a guest artist contract with Actor's Equity Association.

Founded by Jane Reid-Petty with the assistance of the American National Theatre Academy and Actors' Equity Association, dedication to professional excellence in theatre arts was part of the theatre's original mission.

The theatre's subscription season includes five main stage productions, ranging from classics to contemporary comedy. Recent productions include *Clue*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Hell in High Water*, and *PIPELINE*. Extra seasonal offerings include a holiday show, a children's production, and a "kids only" summer production.

ANNE & EMMETT

Written By

Janet Langhart Cohen

Through an imaginary conversation between two iconic figures of civil rights history, *Anne & Emmett* examines the innocence of children thrust into the most horrific of circumstances. This play is a history lesson about the importance of tolerance, compassion, and justice, to be acted on in life. Though worlds away from each other, both Anne Frank and Emmett Till were just 14 years old when they fell victim to hate and intolerance. Together both Anne and Emmett speak as teenagers do. Although isolated from the violence of their lives in the place called Memory, both discuss the injustices they faced and the actions that lead to their horrible ends recognizing the similarities between them.



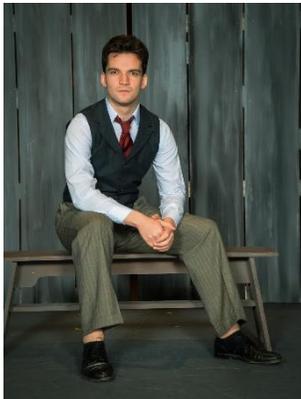
The Cast



TIM MAGEE (Emmett Till) is currently a sophomore at Hinds Community College and is currently applying to BFA acting programs across the nation. He attended the Mississippi School for the Arts in Brookhaven and Murrah High School in Jackson. He is currently an apprentice at the theatre, and was the assistant acting instructor in the 2022 Broadway Jr Day Camp at New Stage. He has been in New Stage's ***A Christmas Carol***, ***Aladdin, Jr.***, ***Once On This Island Jr.***, ***Beauty and the Beast***, and a few Youth Acting Troupe productions with his last one being ***As You Like It***. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with loved ones, sports, and watching movies. Magee would like to thank his parents and friends for their love and support, and the New Stage staff for their teaching and guidance.



CLAIRE JUSTICE PORTER (Anne Frank) is so excited to be a part of the cast of ***Clue!*** Porter is currently a member of the New Stage Apprenticeship team as the acting/directing apprentice. She has appeared at New Stage Theatre previously in ***9 to 5: The Musical*** and ***Beauty and the Beast***. She is a recent graduate with a BFA in acting for the stage and screen from the University of Mississippi, where some of her favorite roles included #25 in ***The Wolves*** and Paulette in ***Legally Blonde***. Much love to her family and friends who endlessly support her! @clairejusticeporter



AUSTIN RUSSELL (Otto Frank, J.W Milam) is an Actor, Writer, Combatant, and Director — as well as an alum of the University of Memphis College of Theatre and Dance. He has performed all around the eastern United States professionally, most recently performing in Memphis and Western North Carolina. Some of his favorite roles recently have been — Tony Kirby in ***You Can't Take It With You***, Dennis Nedry in a movement-based adaptation of ***Jurassic Park*** (YEP. You read that right), and Robin in ***Neurochemicals*** — a self-written new work that performed in the Southeastern Theatre Conference Fringe Festival. When not on stage, you can catch Russell running around the city with a coffee in one hand, and his Canon Rebel Camera in the other — or finding his way up to the Grove whenever he can #HYDR. He would like to thank this ensemble, his family, the community of Jackson, and God for constantly helping him seek personal happiness, love, and passion in his life. aus10russll.wixsite.com/austin



RAKAELA THOMPSON (Mammie) was born and raised in Pearl where she attended Pearl High School. She recently received a BFA from The University of Southern Mississippi. She has been involved in several wonderful productions such as ***Blues for an Alabama Sky***, ***Once in a Lifetime***, ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, ***Much Ado About Nothing***, and ***She Kill's Monsters***. She was president of Harlem, a BIPOC organization that focused on helping BIPOC students in the theatre department learn their voice in a safe space. She is very grateful to be part of the New Stage family and to have the privilege to work with such a wonderful group of diverse people.

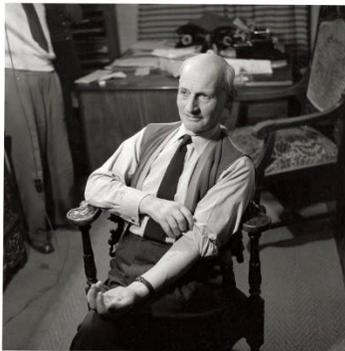
Character Bios From The Cast



Emmett Louis Till a 14-year-old African American boy was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. During summer vacation in August 1955, he was visiting relatives near Money, Mississippi, in the Mississippi Delta region. Emmett was abducted, tortured, and lynched in Mississippi in 1955, after being accused of offending a white woman, Carolyn Bryant, in her family's grocery store. The brutality of his murder and the fact that his killers were acquitted drew attention to the long history of violent persecution of African Americans in the United States. Till posthumously became an icon of the civil Right Movement.



Anne Frank was a young Jewish girl who kept a diary of her family's time spent hiding from the Nazi's in Amersterdam. In their hiding place was the Frank family - her father Otto, her mother Edith, and her sister Margot - Herman and Auguste van Pels and their son, Peter, and Fritz Pfeffer. They were found by the Gestapo in 1944, where the people in the Annex were transported to concentration camps. Anne died at Bergen-Belsen. After his release, Otto Frank - Anne's father - found her diary after the war, which he published. It went on to become a best-seller, highlighting the Jewish experience during the Holocaust.



Otto Frank was a German Businessman, who also lived in Switzerland and the Netherlands. Father of Anne and Margot Frank, and a husband to Edith Frank. He was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust. He adapted Anne's diary into manuscripts after their death, when he miraculously discovered her diary upon his return to the Annex. He served as a humanitarian, and voice for peace and change until he died in 1980.



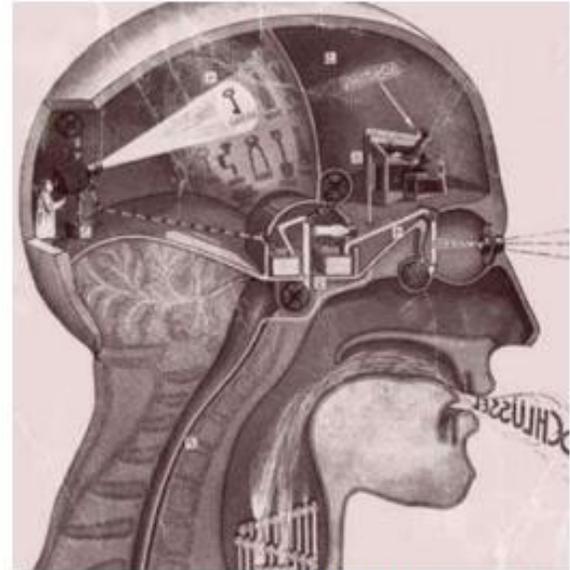
Mammie Till was born November 23, 1921. She was born in Mississippi and when she was two years old her family moved up North to Chicago. She was the mother of Emmett Till. She was the first African American to make the A honor roll and graduated top of her class in a predominantly white Community college. She was an educator and an activist after the tragic death of her son Emmett Till, who was killed for supposedly whistling at a white woman in Money Mississippi. Telling her son story was the best way for her to process his tragic death. She soon became a teacher and continue that career up until her retirement in 1983.

A Magical Place Called Memory

"Let's start from scratch in thinking about what memory is for, and consequently, how it works. Suppose that memory and conceptualization work in the service of perception and action. In this case, conceptualization is the encoding of patterns of possible physical interaction with a three-dimensional world. These patterns are constrained by the structure of the environment, the structure of our bodies, and memory. Thus, how we perceive and conceive of the environment is determined by the types of bodies we have. Such a memory would not have associations. Instead, how concepts become related (and what it means to be related) is determined by how separate patterns of actions can be combined given the constraints of our bodies. I call this combination 'mesh.'

To avoid hallucination, conceptualization would normally be driven by the environment, and patterns of action from memory would play a supporting, but automatic role. A significant human skill is learning to suppress the overriding contribution of the environment to conceptualization, thereby allowing memory to guide conceptualization. The effort used in suppressing input from the environment pays off by allowing prediction, recollective memory, and language comprehension. I review theoretical work in cognitive science and empirical work in memory and language comprehension that suggest that it may be possible to investigate connections between topics as disparate as infantile amnesia and mental-model theory.

- Arthur M. Glenberg



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"Memory refers to the processes that are used to acquire, store, retain and later retrieve information. There are three major processes involved in memory: encoding, storage and retrieval. In order to form new memories, information must be changed into a usable form, which occurs through the process known as encoding. Once information has been successfully encoded, it must be stored in memory for later use. Much of this stored memory lies outside of our awareness most of the time, except when we actually need to use it. The retrieval process allows us to bring stored memories into conscious awareness."

-Kendra Cherry

memory (noun)
the mental capacity or faculty of retaining and reviving facts, events, impressions, etc., or of recalling or recognizing previous experiences.

Symbols of Separation: The Star of David & Skin Color

Anne & Emmett both share the similar pain of racism.

What would you say the most important thing they have in common is that even you share with them?

Create an Acrostic poem using the word that describes what you have in common with them.



The Star of David



Tattoos were issued as identification to the majority of Jews in German concentration camps.



Various Skin Colors

The *Magen David* (shield of David, or as it is more commonly known, the Star of David) is the symbol most commonly associated with Judaism today, but it is actually a relatively new Jewish symbol. It is supposed to represent the shape of King David's shield (or perhaps the emblem on it), but there is really no support for that claim in any early rabbinic literature. In fact, the symbol is so rare in early Jewish literature and artwork that art dealers suspect forgery if they find the symbol in early works.

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/star.html>

Racism exists when one ethnic group or historical collectivity dominates, excludes, or seeks to eliminate another on the basis of differences that it believes are hereditary and unalterable. An ideological basis for explicit racism came to a unique fruition in the West during the modern period. No clear and unequivocal evidence of racism has been found in other cultures or in Europe before the Middle Ages. The identification of the Jews with the devil and witchcraft in the popular mind of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries was perhaps the first sign of a racist view of the world. Official sanction for such attitudes came in sixteenth century Spain when Jews who had converted to Christianity and their descendents became the victims of a pattern of discrimination and exclusion.

http://www.pbs.org/race/000_About/002_04-background-02-01.htm

Who is a "Jew"?

- In the Bible, Jews were called Hebrews or Children of Israel
- The terms "Jew" and "Judaism" come from the tribe or kingdom of Judah
- "Jew" now refers to all physical and spiritual descendants of Jacob
- A person can be Jewish by birth or by conversion

Traditionally, Jewish status passes through the mother, not the father

<http://www.jewfaq.org/whoisjew.htm>

Timeline of Events

The Holocaust was the murder by Nazi Germany of six million Jews. While the Nazi persecution of the Jews began in 1933, the mass murder was committed during World War II. It took the Germans and their accomplices four and a half years to murder six million Jews. They were at their most efficient from April to November 1942 – 250 days in which they murdered some two and a half million Jews. They never showed any restraint, they slowed down only when they began to run out of Jews to kill, and they only stopped when the Allies defeated them. The crime of being a Jew was so great, that every single one had to be put to death. Most of the Jews of Europe were dead by 1945. A civilization that had flourished for almost 2,000 years was no more. The survivors – one from a town, two from a host – dazed, emaciated, bereaved beyond measure, gathered the remnants of their vitality and the remaining sparks of their humanity, and rebuilt. They never meted out justice to their tormentors – for what justice could ever be achieved after such a crime? Rather, they turned to rebuilding: new families forever under the shadow of those absent; new life stories, forever warped by the wounds; new communities, forever haunted by the loss.

Frank Family and World War II Timeline



1934: Anne starts kindergarten at the Montessori school in Amsterdam.

Summer 1933: Alarmed by Nazi actions in Germany, Otto Frank begins the process of moving his family to safety in the Netherlands.

1929: Anne Frank is born in Frankfurt, Germany.

1941: Growing Nazi restrictions on the daily lives of Dutch Jews force the Frank girls to attend an all-Jewish school.

June 12, 1942: Otto gives Anne a diary for her thirteenth birthday.

July 6, 1942: The Franks go into hiding after receiving an order for Margot to report to a forced labor camp. They hide in the attic rooms above Mr. Frank's workplace with the help of close friends. Another family, the Van Pels (called the "Van Daans" in her diary), joins them, followed by Fritz Pfeffer ("Dussel"), months later.

1930

1935

1940



January 1933: Adolf Hitler comes to power in Germany. Over the next few months, all political parties, except the Nazi Party, are banned. Jews are dismissed from medical, legal, government, and teaching positions.

1935: The Nuremberg Laws are passed in Germany, stripping Jews of their rights as German citizens. Laws passed over the next several years further isolate Jews, including the requirement to wear a yellow Star of David.



September 1, 1939: Germany invades Poland, triggering the beginning of World War II.

May 1940: The Nazis invade the Netherlands. Once in control, they set up a brutal police force, the Gestapo, to administer laws to isolate Dutch Jews from the rest of the Dutch population.



Timeline Continued

August 4, 1944:

The hiding place of the Franks is discovered and the families are arrested.

September 3,

1944: All eight of those who hid in the attic are deported from the Netherlands to Auschwitz death camp.

March 1945:*

Anne and Margo die of the disease typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

1947: Anne's diary is published in Dutch. Over the next few years it is translated and published in France, Germany, the United States, Japan, and Great Britain.



1960: The hiding place of the Franks is converted into a permanent museum that tells the story of Anne and those who hid with her.

1945

1950

1955

1960

January 1943:

The Battle of Stalingrad marks the turning of the tide against the Nazis.

June 1944: The

Allies carry out a successful invasion of France. Their success gives many who live under Nazi occupation hope that the end of the war is near.



May 1945: The Allies win as the war in Europe ends.

1960: Adolf Eichmann, one of the last major Nazi figures to be tried, is captured and put on trial in Israel. He is convicted and executed for his role in arranging the transport of Jews to concentration camps and ghettos, where an estimated six million Jews died.



* Estimate. Exact date unknown.

1955:

May 7: The Reverend George Lee, a grocery owner and [NAACP](#) field worker in Belzoni, Mississippi, is shot and killed at point blank range while driving in his car after trying to vote. A few weeks later in Brookhaven, Mississippi, Lamar Smith, another black man, is shot and killed in front of the county courthouse, in broad daylight and before witnesses, after casting his ballot. Both victims had been active in voter registration drives. No one will be arrested in connection with either murder.

August 19: A day before her son is to leave for a summer stay with family in Mississippi, Mamie Till gives Emmett the ring once owned by his father, Louis Till. It is inscribed with the initials L.T.

August 20: Mamie Till rushes her son Emmett to the 63rd Street station in Chicago to catch the southbound train to Money, Mississippi.

August 21: Emmett Till arrives in Money, Mississippi, and goes to stay at the home of his great uncle [Moses Wright](#).

August 24: Emmett joins a group of teenagers, seven boys and one girl, to go to Bryant's Grocery and Meat Market for refreshments to cool off after a long day of picking cotton in the hot sun. Bryant's Grocery, owned by a white couple, Roy and Carolyn Bryant, sells supplies and candy to a primarily black clientele of [sharecroppers](#) and their children. Emmett goes into the store to buy bubble gum. Some of the kids outside the store will later say they heard Emmett whistle at Carolyn Bryant.

August 28: About 2:30 a.m., [Roy Bryant](#), Carolyn's husband, and his half brother J. W. Milam, kidnap Emmett Till from Moses Wright's home. They will later describe brutally beating him, taking him to the edge of the Tallahatchie River, shooting him in the head, fastening a large metal fan used for ginning cotton to his neck with barbed wire, and pushing the body into the river.

August 29: J. W. Milam and Roy Bryant are arrested on kidnapping charges in LeFlore County in connection with Till's disappearance. They are jailed in Greenwood, Mississippi and held without bond.

August 31: Three days later, Emmett Till's decomposed corpse is pulled from Mississippi's Tallahatchie River. Moses Wright identifies the body from a ring with the initials L.T.

September 1: Mississippi Governor Hugh White orders local officials to "fully prosecute" Milam and Bryant in the Till case.

September 2: In Chicago, Mamie Till arrives at the Illinois Central Terminal to receive Emmett's casket. She is surrounded by family and photographers who snap her photo collapsing in grief at the sight of the casket. The body is taken to the A. A. Rayner & Sons Funeral Home.

The *Jackson [Mississippi] Daily News* decries the "brutal, senseless crime" but complains that the NAACP is working "to arouse hatred and fear" by calling Till's murder [a lynching](#).

In Belgium, the newspaper *Le Drapeau Rouge* (the Red Flag), publishes a brief article entitled: "Racism in the USA: A young black is lynched in Mississippi."

September 3: Emmett Till's body is taken to Chicago's Roberts Temple Church of God for viewing and funeral services. Emmett's mother decides to have an open casket funeral. Thousands of Chicagoans wait in line to see Emmett's brutally beaten body.

September 6: Emmett Till is buried at Burr Oak Cemetery.

The same day, a grand jury in Mississippi indicts Milam and Bryant for the kidnapping and murder of Emmett Till. They both plead innocent. They will be held in jail until the start of the [trial](#).

September 15: *Jet* magazine, the nationwide black magazine owned by Chicago-based Johnson Publications, publishes photographs of Till's mutilated corpse, shocking and outraging African Americans from coast to coast.

September 17: The black newspaper *The Chicago Defender* publishes photographs of Till's corpse.

September 19: The kidnapping and murder trial of J. W. Milam and Roy Bryant opens in Sumner, Mississippi, the county seat of Tallahatchie County. Jury selection begins and, with blacks and white women banned from serving, an all-white, 12-man jury made up of nine farmers, two carpenters and one insurance agent is selected.

Mamie Till Bradley departs from Chicago's Midway Airport to attend the trial.

September 20: Judge Curtis Swango recesses the court to allow more witnesses to be found. It is the first time in Mississippi history that local law enforcement, local NAACP leaders and black and white reporters team up to locate sharecroppers who saw Milam's truck and overheard Emmett being beaten.

The French daily newspaper *Le Monde* runs an article reporting that the American public is following the Till case "with passionate attention."

September 21: Moses Wright, Emmett Till's great uncle, does the unthinkable -- he accuses two white men in open court. While on the witness stand, he stands up and points his finger at Milam and Bryant, and accuses them of coming to his house and kidnapping Emmett.

September 23: Milam and Bryant are acquitted of murdering Emmett Till after the jury deliberates only 67 minutes. One juror tells a reporter that they wouldn't have taken so long if they hadn't stopped to drink pop. Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam stand before photographers, light up cigars and kiss their wives in celebration of the not guilty verdict.

Moses Wright and another poor black Mississippian who testified, Willie Reed, leave Mississippi and are smuggled to Chicago. Once there, Reed collapses and suffers a nervous breakdown.

September 26: In Belgium, two left-wing newspapers publish articles on the acquittal. *Le Peuple*, the daily Belgian Socialist newspaper, calls the acquittal "a judicial scandal in the United States." *Le Drapeau Rouge* (the Red Flag) publishes: "Killing a black person isn't a crime in the home of the Yankees: The white killers of young Emmett Till are acquitted!"

In France, *L'Aurore* newspaper publishes: "The Scandalous Acquittal in Sumner" and the daily newspaper *Le Figaro* adds: "The Shame of the



CORBIS



CHICAGO DEFENDER



CORBIS



CORBIS

Sumner Jury."

September 27: The French daily newspaper *Le Monde* runs an article: "The Sumner Trial Marks, Perhaps, an Opening of Consciousness."

September 28: In Germany, the newspaper *Freies Volk* publishes: "The Life of a Negro Isn't Worth a Whistle."

In France, the French Communist Party newspaper *L'Humanité* writes: "After the Mockery of Justice in Mississippi: Emotion in Paris."

September 30: Milam and Bryant are released on bond. Kidnapping charges are pending.

October 15: *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* publishes an article reporting that Louis Till was executed by the U.S. Army in Italy in 1945 for raping two Italian women and killing a third. Mississippi Senator James O. Eastland has leaked the information to the press.

October 22: The American Jewish Committee in New York releases a report urging Congress to bolster Federal civil rights legislation in light of the Till case. Their report includes quotes from newspapers in six European countries expressing shock and outrage after the Till verdict.

November 9: Returning to Mississippi one last time, Moses Wright and Willie Reed testify before a LeFlore County grand jury in Greenwood, Mississippi. The grand jury refuses to indict Milam or Bryant for kidnapping. The two white men go free.

December 5: One hundred days after Emmett Till's murder, Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a city bus, launching the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott and the [civil rights movement](#). The boycott will last 381 days.

January 24, 1956: *Look* magazine publishes an [article](#) written by Alabama journalist William Bradford Huie, entitled *The Shocking Story of Approved Killing in Mississippi*. Huie has offered Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam \$4,000 to tell how they killed Emmett Till. Milam speaks for the record.



January 22, 1957: William Bradford Huie writes another article for *Look* magazine, "What's Happened to the Emmett Till Killers?" Huie writes that "Milam does not regret the killing, though it has brought him nothing but trouble." Blacks have stopped frequenting stores owned by the Milam and Bryant families and put them out of business. Bryant takes up welding for income, and both men are ostracized by the white community.

April 25, 1959: Three days before his scheduled trial, Mack Charles Parker, a 23-year-old African American truck driver, is [lynched](#) by a hooded mob of white men in Poplarville, Mississippi. Parker had been accused of raping a pregnant white woman and was being held in a local jail. The mob takes him from his cell, beats him, takes him to a bridge, shoots and kills him, then weighs his body down with chains and dumps him in the river. Many people know the identity of the killers, but the community closes ranks and refuses to talk. Echoing the Till case, the FBI will investigate and identify at least 10 men involved, but the U.S. Department of Justice will rule there are no federal grounds to make an arrest and press charges. Two grand juries -- one county and one federal -- will adjourn without indictments.

1980: December: J. W. Milam dies in Mississippi of cancer.

1990: September: Roy Bryant dies in Mississippi of cancer.

2003: January 6: Mamie Till Mobley dies of heart failure, at age 81. Her death comes just two weeks before *The Murder of Emmett Till* is to premiere nationally on PBS.

©www.pbs.org



"I thought about Emmett Till, and I could not go back. My legs and feet were not hurting, that is a stereotype. I paid the same fare as others, and I felt violated. I was not going back."
~Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks,
December 1, 1955

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



JANET LANGHART COHEN

Janet Langhart Cohen, President of Langhart Communications, is an Emmy-nominated journalist, author and playwright.

Janet began her television career on CBS in Chicago. During her 25-year career, Mrs. Cohen has appeared on ABC, CBS, NBC and BET; hosted ABC's "Good Day in Boston;" covered special assignments for Entertainment Tonight; and produced several programs, including "On Capitol Hill with Janet Langhart." As an overseas correspondent, she covered news in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Mrs. Cohen was also a mentee of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and was active during the Civil Rights Movement.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Cohen interviewed many major newsmakers and leaders of the 20th century. Among the prominent people she interviewed are President Bill Clinton, who acknowledged her during his last State of the Union address, President Jimmy Carter, Margaret Thatcher, Rosa Parks, Mel Gibson, Bill Cosby, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Denzel Washington, Dan Rather, Oprah Winfrey, Whoopi Goldberg, Barbara Walters and Larry King as well as David Duke former head of the KKK.

Janet Langhart Cohen has also worked as a columnist for the Boston Herald, U.S. News and World Report and served as a spokeswoman for Avon Cosmetics. She has been a judge for the White House Fellows Program and served as a judge for the Miss America Organization an unprecedented 4 times.

Mrs. Cohen is the wife of former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen. She was known as "First Lady of the Pentagon," due to her active and visible public role to support the military and their families while her husband was in office.

She wrote her first book, a memoir entitled, *From Rage to Reason: My Life in Two Americas* in 2004. In 2007, she and her husband co-wrote *Love in Black and White*, a memoir about race, religion, romance and the bonds Langhart and Cohen share over similar life circumstances and backgrounds. She was also awarded with an Honorary Doctorate from Emerson College.

Most recently, Mrs. Cohen has written a one-act play — "Anne and Emmett" — an imagined conversation between Nazi child victim, Anne Frank, and child victim Emmett Till, of the Jim Crow southern United States. She also is actively involved in the provision of higher education for underprivileged children.

The Creative Team

XERRON X. MINGO (Education Director/Co-Director) is a graduate of Florida A&M University. Born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and recently resided in New York City where he worked as a health & safety manager for productions on Apple TV and HGtv. He also worked as a testing secretary and production coordinator for television shows with LIONSGATE and Apple Music Reviews. For the past ten summers, Mingo has worked at Raquette Lake Camps teaching musical theatre to students from all across the world. He recently made a return to the stage and served as choreographer while playing the role of Fezziwig in **A Christmas Carol** at New Stage in 2021. He has worked professionally at a plethora of regional theatres in a handful of states. Some of his past credits include **Matilda** (Rudolpho/Choreographer), **Hell In High Water** (Cephus), **Sister Act** (TJ), **Shakespeare in Love** (Wabash/Frees), and Disney's **Beauty & The Beast** (Monsieur Dar'que). Moreover, **The Wiz** (The Lion) and **The Hot Mikado** (Pooh-Bah) at the GLOW Lyric Theatre in Greenville, S.C. He was in **Black Nativity** (Narrator) at Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, **The Great Society** at Asolo Rep, and **Hairspray** (Gilbert) at American Stage. Mingo continues to live in the Light and could not be more blessed to do so as he embarks on this new journey as education director at New Stage Theatre.

LINDSEY NEVILLE (Directing Associate/ Co-Director) is a 2020 graduate of Clemson University with a B.A. in performing arts with a concentration in theatre and an emphasis in directing as well as a B.A. psychology. In undergrad, she gained directing and assistant directing experience both at Clemson and at The Warehouse Theatre in Greenville, S.C. Since graduating into the COVID-19 pandemic, Neville has worked as an aide for a child with autism and been on the crew of two feature films. As theatres began reopening in various capacities, she has been an intern at 7 Stages Theatre in Atlanta, Ga., directed at May River Theatre in Bluffton, S.C., and directed at French Woods Festival for the Performing Arts in Hancock, N.Y. As a director, she strives to create small yet saliently relatable moments onstage; a look, a breath, or a moment of hesitation can clearly reflect experiences that audiences can identify with. Neville is thrilled to be starting a new journey as the directing apprentice at New Stage Theatre. lindseymarieneville.com

DEONICA DAVIS (Costume Designer) is from Pearl, MS with her BFA from The University of Southern Mississippi. She is a graphic designer by day and seamstress and maker by night. She makes her own costumes and props for holiday parties and recently brought her talents back to the local theater scene. She has held the position of wardrobe mistress for Pearl Community Theater's production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* and assisted New Stage Theater with costume needs for shows such as *Clue* and *The Sound of Music*. Most recently she completed her first opportunity as a costume designer for the New Stage's touring production of *Anne and Emmett*.

ALBERTO MEZA (Resident Sound and Projection Designer) is a graduate of Belhaven University with a BFA. He is from Brandon and is excited to continue doing theatre near his hometown. He has been with New Stage Theatre since **Matilda The Musical** in January 2020. He has had the chance to work on multiple shows during the pandemic ranging from educational shows to virtual theatre play readings. Some of his regional design credits include: **Pipeline, Debate for Democracy, Rising Towards a New Day: A Musical Revue, Shrek Jr.: The Musical, Little Shop of Horrors, and A Christmas Carol**. Meza was also the streamer and editor behind the **Thursday Night Virtual Plays, Conversations, & Cocktails** that was presented over the virtual season at New Stage Theatre.

RICHARD LAWRENCE (Technical Director/Set Designer) serves as the vice president of Fondren Theatre Workshop and has appeared in *A Christmas Memory* at New Stage, FTW's *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Buck Nekkid for Jesus*, directed FTW's *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, and most recently appeared as Trekkie Monster in *Avenue Q*. He was also the director of the widely successful productions of *Cabaret* and *Company*, which were joint productions of FTW and Actor's Playhouse of Pearl, with support from New Stage. Lawrence has been seen in New Stage productions of *The Trip to Bountiful* and UnFramed's *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *The Weir*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, and *Dublin Carol*. Lawrence has won two "Best Set" awards at Mississippi Theatre Association conferences.

SHARON MILES (Music Director/ Creative Consultant) received her theatre training from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, MS. As an actor, writer, director, and all around supporter of the arts, she is extremely excited to join the New Stage team as Education Director. Sharon has been working as a contracted guest artist in the education department since 2011. Most recently, she served as the Music Director for the First Stages Camp production of Lion King Kids! Some favorite theatrical roles at New Stage include: Stage Manager in *Our Town*, Gwen in *A Time to Kill*, Fannie Lou Hamer in *All the Way*, Miss Nelson in *the children's musical Miss Nelson is Missing*, Cassandra in *Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike* and Alex the Lion, in *Madagascar the Musical!*

BETTY WONG (Box Office Assistant/Education Assistant) begins her 18th season at New Stage. She continues to enjoy traveling to schools and towns throughout the state with the Professional Apprentice Company to provide live theatre experiences for students and adults of all ages. When not on the road, you can find her in the box office. She has also served for many years as a volunteer in other areas of the theatre. Her professional work experiences in education and her passion for live theatre have contributed to the growth and expansion of New Stage's Education Department. She has served as a consultant to school districts throughout the state of Mississippi. Wong has a B.S. in Educational Psychology from Mississippi State University, a M.Ed. from Delta State University, and recently won the 2019 Exemplary Arts Service Award from the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education.

Works Cited

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To learn more about Anne Frank and Emmett Till

visit: www.annefrank.org www.annefrank.com

<http://www.emmettillmurder.com/>

Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel about Anne & Emmett's honest conversations about race and religion?
2. How did you feel about the Mamie & Otto's thoughts and prayers of a child dying before a parent?
3. Do you think remembering the past is important? If so, why?
4. Anne & Emmett both found themselves in situations in which they couldn't do things as they used to. Think about the things you enjoy doing. How would you feel if you suddenly couldn't do them anymore?

Anne & Emmett Student Evaluation Form

Please help New Stage by sharing your thoughts with us! Return form to:

Education Director
New Stage Theatre
1100 Carlisle Street
Jackson, MS 39202

1. What was your overall reaction to the play?
2. What was your reaction to the acting?
3. What was your reaction to the scenery, costumes, etc. of the play?
4. What was your favorite part of the play
5. Did you learn anything from this production? If so, what?
6. What other stories would you enjoy seeing staged by live actors?

Statement from Co-Director Lindsey Neville:

Anne Frank and Emmett Till were both murdered by hateful ideologies centered around the idea that some groups of people are superior to others. These two children were each survived by a parent brave enough to tell their story despite the risk of attracting the same hatred that killed their children. These parents sacrificed their anonymity to make sure the world knew of the atrocities committed on their children in hopes of making a change.

However, this history sometimes seems too distant in the past, too removed to make us think about its implications. When people are viewed through a lens of classification, seen only as part of a group rather than individuals, blind hatred thrives and ideologies such as racism and antisemitism flourish. 'Anne and Emmett' brings these children's stories onstage to remind us of the individuals behind the history. At a time when divides between social groups in America are continuously deepening, I hope this play reminds our youth to see people as individuals within one humanity, no matter what groups they identify with.



NEW STAGE Theatre

SEASON
57
2022-23

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

December 6~21, 2022

December 7, 8, 13, 14, 16, 20, 2022 SchoolFest Matinees

THE SOUND OF MUSIC (RESUMED RUN)

January 5 ~ 13, 2023

January 6, 10, 11, 12, 2023 SchoolFest Matinees

EVERY BRILLIANT THING

March 14~25, 2023

FENCES

April 18 – April 30, 2023

April 19, 21, 25 & 27, 2023 SchoolFest Matinees

A TOAST TO BROADWAY

May 4, 2023