



THE UMBRELLA PRESENTS THE GREATER BOSTON PREMIERE OF TRACY LETTS' TONY AND
PULITZER NOMINATED *THE MINUTES*

*Award-winning Director Scott Edmiston helms ensemble production featuring Steven Barkhimer,
Jeremiah Kissel, Richard Snee*

"The smallest towns keep the biggest secrets" in darkly comic mystery, running March 1-24

CONCORD, MA— February 6, 2024— An evening in Big Cherry – a small town in anywhere USA – and the city council meeting unfolds in real time, unmasking secrets that threaten to undo life as they know it ... and driving the question, "How far would you go?"

Award-winning playwright Tracy Letts' (*August: Osage County*) new play was called one of the most thrilling on Broadway in recent years. Nominated as Best New Play by the Tony Awards and Outer Critics Circle in 2022, and for the Pulitzer Prize in drama, *The Minutes* is part biting comedy, part Hitchcockian mystery, and at its dark heart an unflinching allegory about small-town politics and real-world power.

"The play has a completely original and outrageous tone, both funny and dark, located somewhere between *The Office* and *The Twilight Zone*. It's brilliant in the way that it uses comedy to dramatize some serious issues facing our country today," says Scott Edmiston, three-time Elliot Norton Award-winning artist, hailed as "one of Boston's finest directors" by the *Boston Globe*. "It takes a hard look at the growing movement to deny or rewrite some of the unpleasant truths about America's past. What are some of the myths about ourselves and our nation that we find hard to admit -- and why?"

Receiving its Greater Boston Premiere at The Umbrella Arts Center in Concord, a small town itself vigorously interrogating its role in America's foundational myth on the eve of the national sesquicentennial, it's a timely and resonant play that *NY Daily News* calls "important...a visceral theatrical experience about what has happened to retail American democracy and how this nation decides which stories about itself it wants to believe."

“It’s incredibly exciting to work with Scott for the first time alongside a remarkably talented and creative team” says Producing Artistic Director Brian Boruta. “*The Minutes* promises to be a highlight in the season as we use the example of one very small town meeting to ask some very big questions.” The cast features some of Boston's busiest and most acclaimed actors including Steven Barkhimer, Jeremiah Kissel, Richard Snee, Julie Perkins and Damon Singletary.

Select performances will feature additional audiences engagement opportunities including: Optional Thursday-night Dinner & A Show Packages, post-show Talk Backs, and childcare for parents interested in attending the March 10 matinee through The Umbrella’s Kid Care program

See <https://TheUmbrellaArts.org/Minutes> for more information as it becomes available.

The Umbrella is ADA accessible, a proud partner in the Massachusetts Cultural Council's EBT Card-to-Culture program, and provides free parking and free admission to its visual arts galleries.

CALENDAR LISTING & PRESS OPENING DETAILS

Theater | Plays

WHAT

The Minutes

WHO

By Tracy Letts. Directed by Scott Edmiston. Featuring Ryan MacPherson, Steven Barkhimer*, Eliza Fichter, Damon Singletary*, Dan Kelly, Scot Colford, Jason Myatt, June Kfoury, Julie Perkins, Richard Snee* and Jeremiah Kissel*

WHEN

PREVIEWS: Mar 1–3, 2024

REGULAR RUN: Mar 7-24

PRESS OPENING: Sunday Mar 3 @ 3PM and Friday Mar 8 @ 8PM

Thursdays 7:30PM; Fridays & Saturdays 8PM; Sundays 3PM

WHERE

The Umbrella Arts Center, 40 Stow Street, Concord, MA 01742

ABOUT SUMMARY

Part biting comedy, part Hitchcockian mystery, an evening at a city council meeting in small town Anywhere USA unmasks secrets that threaten to undo life as they know it... and driving the question, "How far would you go?"

Tickets \$20-\$55

Discounts for students, seniors, groups, Card-to-Culture eligible attendees

Group Discounts: Groups of 10 – 14 save 10%; groups of 15 and up save 15%. EBT, WIC, ConnectorCare Card-to-Culture discounts available. Contact the Box Office for more details.

Press Photos available from Stewart@TheUmbrellaArts.org, 978-371-0820 x211, [or online here](#). Photo credits to Jim Sabitus.

ACCESS

The Umbrella is wheelchair accessible. Large Print playbills and Assistive Listening Devices are available by advance request to John@TheUmbrellaArts.org or 978-371-0820 x204. Marked all-gender bathrooms available.

BOX OFFICE & PRESS TICKETS CONTACT

John@TheUmbrellaArts.org or 978-371-0820 x204

####