



SORDID LIVES

By Del Shores

March 13 - March 22



*"SORDID LIVES" is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com*

Connecticut Theatre Company

Presents

Sordid Lives

By Del Shores

March 13 - March 22

**The Repertory Theatre
23 Norden Street
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 223-3147**

www.ConnecticutTheatreCompany.org

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our dedicated volunteers, and the many talented artists who call our stage home, I am thrilled to welcome you to Connecticut Theatre Company for another year of spectacular storytelling.

Community is at the heart of everything we do. Whether you are a longtime regular or joining us for the very first time, your presence here is what makes local theatre possible. We are deeply grateful for your continued patronage and support, which allows us to keep the arts accessible, vibrant, and inclusive for all of central Connecticut. This season, we've curated a diverse collection of stories that range from the hilariously southern to the deeply profound and the fabulously bold:

Sordid Lives: A "black comedy about white trash" that reminds us all that family is complicated, no matter how much you love them.

The Prom: A joyful, big-hearted musical about standing up for what's right and celebrating our differences.

Jesus Christ Superstar: The legendary rock opera that explores the power, humanity, and tragedy of its iconic figures.

Carrie the Musical: A haunting and high-energy adaptation of Stephen King's classic tale of outcasts and empowerment.

La Cage Aux Folles: We close our season with this glittering masterpiece, a celebration of identity, family, and being who you are.

We want you to join us for every twist, turn, and high note this year! The best way to enjoy our season is with a 2026 Flex-Pass. Our subscriptions offer incredible value, allowing you to secure your seats for multiple shows at a significant discount compared to single-ticket prices. Passes are available for both General Admission and Table Seating. By subscribing, you're not just saving money—you're investing in the future of local arts and ensuring that the lights stay bright at Connecticut Theatre Company.

Thank you for being part of our story. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

Duane Campbell
Executive Director

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When most people think of Del Shores' *Sordid Lives*, they think of the "white trash" tropes: the oversized wigs, the family secrets, and the glorious, chaotic mess of a Texas funeral. It is, undeniably, a comedy. We want you to laugh at the absurdity, the eccentricities, and the sharp-tongued wit that defines these characters.

But beneath the layers of hairspray and the smell of fried chicken, there is a beating heart that is profoundly human.

At its core, *Sordid Lives* is a story about the heavy weight of pretense. Each character we meet is navigating a life built on "keeping up appearances" or hiding parts of themselves to fit into a rigid social and religious mold. Whether it's the struggle of coming out, the shame of a secret affair, or the simple desire to be seen for who we really are, we all know the exhaustion of wearing a mask.

As the title suggests, these lives are "sordid." They are messy, flawed, and occasionally scandalous. Yet, the play argues that a sordid truth is infinitely more valuable than a polished lie.

True peace only finds these characters when they stop trying to be "respectable" and start being authentic. It's a reminder that we can only truly love one another, and ourselves, when we drop the act and embrace the beautiful, complicated reality of our own stories.

So tonight, as you witness the hilarity and the heartbreak of the Ingram family, I hope you find a piece of yourself in their journey. May we all have the courage to remove our pretenses and live our lives out loud, however "sordid" they may be.

Thank you for being here.

Duane Campbell
Director

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT 1

CHAPTER ONE: **Nicotine Fit**

Sissy's Living Room
Winters, Texas

CHAPTER TWO: **Two Wooden Legs**

The Local Bar
Winters, Texas

15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT 2

CHAPTER THREE: **The Dehomosexualization of Brother Boy**

A therapist's office, Mental Institution
Big Spring, Texas

CHAPTER FOUR: **All Laid Out (In a Mink Stole)**

Southside Baptist Church
Winters, Texas

All Chapters Begin with Ty's Therapy Sessions, New York, New York

THE TIME

July 24th & 25th, 1998

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Bitsy Mae Harling.....	PAIGE MACHNICZ
Ty Williamson.....	MAX DITTMAR
Sissy Hickey.....	LISA BYNES
Noleta Nethercott.....	KATE MICARI
Latrelle Williamson.....	SUSAN SMITH
La Vonda Dupree.....	ERIN CAMPBELL
G.W. Nethercott.....	BRIAN BALLOU
Wardell "Bubba" Owens.....	STEPHEN MAHER
Odell Owens/Rev. Barnes.....	PHILLIP BEARD
Dr. Eve Bolinger.....	CHRISTINE MCGUINNESS
Earl "Brother Boy" Ingram.....	DAVID NUNNER
Juanita Bartlett.....	JAYMIE BIANCA

CAST BIOS

BRIAN BALLOU (G.W. NETHERCOTT): Brian Ballou has been acting since childhood and is excited to be performing with Connecticut Theatre Company in New Britain. He recently performed the role of Reverend Parris in "The Crucible", a favorite of his. He's appeared in performances throughout New England. Some favorites include Frank in "Educating Rita", Brad in "Rocky Horror", Ben Silverman in "The Sunshine Boys", Paul in "Moon Over Buffalo", and Christopher Wren in "The Mousetrap." Offstage, Brian owns Abrakadoodle of Central Connecticut and serves as a consultant for new business owners at Horace Mann. He thanks his husband, Kevin, for being a steadfast "theatre widower" during rehearsals and is incredibly proud of his two daughters, Hailey and Madeline.

CAST BIOS

PHILLIP BEARD (ODELL OWENS/REV. BARNES): Phillip Beard teaches literature in the Institute for Learning in Retirement in Hamden and at the Bigelow Center in Fairfield. He is currently a senior editor of the journal of the George Santayana Society. He's acted with The Woodbury Community Theatre and with The Auburn Area Community Theater; the Auburn University Theatre; with OffStage Theatre and Livearts in Charlottesville, Virginia, with the English Dramatic Society in Erlangen, Germany, and with the Waterworks Players in Farmville, Virginia. Recent roles include Black Stache in "Peter and the Star Catcher", multiple parts in "The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)" and both brothers in "Dead Man's Cell Phone". He's directed "Bob: A Life in Five Acts" and "The 39 Steps."

JAYMIE BIANCA (JUANITA BARTLETT): Jaymie Bianca is from Bristol, CT. She is so excited for her first production with Connecticut Theatre Company, playing such a fun role like Juanita! Jaymie is also involved with FAVARH Players, a theatre group comprising of actors with and without disabilities. Her past roles with FAVARH Players included Squidward in "SpongeBob Squarepants The Musical" and Aquata in "The Little Mermaid". In addition to theatre, Jaymie has also been baton twirling and dancing since the age of three. She is currently a seventh grade social studies teacher at Watkinson School, and runs her own nonprofit organization, OpportunAbility, with her mother.

LISA BYNES (SISSY HICKEY): This is Lisa's second show with CTC. She loves it here, and would like to move in.. seriously she's enjoyed every minute of getting this show up and running. Some roles she's proud of were Lilly Anne in "Barbecue", Jessie in "Calendar Girls", Mrs. Frank in "Diary of Anne Frank". Lisa thanks her whole household for tolerating her line learning. And their support.

ERIN CAMPBELL (LA VONDA DUPREE): Erin is so excited to be back on the stage for this opening show of 2026. By day, she works as a receptionist at Killingworth Animal Hospital and is currently serving as the Vice-President on the CTC Board of Directors. Despite having been on stage since the age of 10, this is only Erin's fourth time being in a show where she doesn't sing. Some favorite past roles include Marmee in "Little Women", Frau Blucher in "Young Frankenstein", and Mother in "Ragtime". She would like to thank all her friends and family for the continued support as well as the production team and cast for making this the greatest and easiest experience, but she would most like to thank her husband Duane for always believing in her and helping her to be her best. She couldn't do this thing we call life without you! You are my forever person. Please sit back, relax and enjoy the show! Mama loves you Otto (The Goldendoodle)!

CAST BIOS

MAX DITTMAR (TY WILLIAMSON/PROPS): Max is super excited to be back onstage as Ty Williamson in CTC's production of "Sordid Lives". When he's not on stage, Max loves to crochet, hike, and spend time with his cat, Clementine. He hopes you enjoy the show, whether you laugh, cry, or can only muster an "oh-kaaayyyyyy...."

PAIGE MACHNICZ (BITSY MAE HARLING/COSTUME DESIGNER): Paige is super excited to be back on stage at CTC! Alongside theater, she is an avid crocheter and knitter and loves anything to get her creative energy out. Some of her favorite past roles include Rachel in "Escape to Margaritaville" (CTC), Linda in "The Wedding Singer" (CTC), and Linda in "Evil Dead the Musical". She also is excited to be costuming "Sordid Lives" along with being onstage! "I can't wait to share the stage with this incredibly talented cast, and to work with CTC again. I want to thank my family, friends, fiancé, and of course, Duane for their continuous support."

STEPHEN MAHER (WARDELL OWENS): Stephen is thrilled to be in his 12th show with CTC. Previously, he appeared here in "Escape to Margaritaville", "Calendar Girls", "The Drowsy Chaperone", "Spring Awakening", "A Christmas Carol", "9 to 5", "Disaster!", "Into The Woods", "The Man Who Came to Dinner", "Jekyll & Hyde", and "Christmas Schooner". Elsewhere, he has done many shows including "Fiddler on the Roof", "The Wizard of Oz", "Newsies", "La Cage Aux Folles", "Matilda", "Mamma Mia", "Young Frankenstein", "It Shoulda Been You", "Sister Act", "Oklahoma", and "Pirates of Penzanze". Cindy won't be able to see this one because she is playing with some "Stupid F'ing Bird" in Suffield.

CHRISTINE MCGUINNESS (DR. EVE BOLLINGER): Christine is thrilled to be back for her fourth production with CTC! Past shows include "The Wedding Singer" (Angie/Ronald Regan Impersonator), "Escape to Margaritaville" (Ensemble), and "Nine" (Ensemble). She was also recently seen as Ann Carter in Somers Village Players' production of "Eat Your Heart Out". Christine works as a Registered Nurse with Baystate Health in Massachusetts. She is a proud pet mom to three dogs and three cats. When her schedule allows, Christine takes dance classes – tap is her favorite! As always, thank you to Bill for your unwavering love and support.

KATE MICARI (NOLETA NETHERCOTT): Kate Micari is excited to join CTC for her first production with the company. She was most recently seen at Hole in the Wall Theater as Muse/Ramona in "The Radio's Playing", Freckles the Clown in "Final Arrangements", and Silky in "Champagne and Licorice" (BroadwayWorld Award nominee for Best Lead Actress in a Play). When she's not performing, she works at Wesleyan University and takes her job as a corgi mom very seriously. Thanks to her family, friends and loved ones for their support <3

CAST BIOS

DAVID NUNNER (EARL "BROTHER BOY" INGRAM): David is excited to be back on stage with CTC in this production of "Sordid Lives." This marks David's 10th show on stage with CTC. Some favorite past roles include Igor in "Young Frankenstein", Lord Farquaad in "Shrek the Musical", and Bernadette in "Priscilla Queen of the Desert." David is the President of the Board of Directors at CTC and also enjoys directing shows. When not on stage David spends his time as Market Manager at Ascend Bank and in brief moments of spare time he loves to spend time with his French Bulldog Chanel and his three favorite kittens; Mabel, Louis and Georgie.

SUSAN SMITH (LATRELLE WILLIAMSON): Susan is thrilled to be back on stage at Connecticut Theatre Company. Her most recent roles include: M'Lynn in "Steel Magnolias", Drowsy in "The Drowsy Chaperone", and Roz in "Nine to Five". Susan would like to thank the cast, crew, and production team for making this experience wonderful. She would also like to thank her family for always supporting her in her artistic endeavors. Bless your hearts, y'all!

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR.....DUANE CAMPBELL
STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM.....KAIT ADAMS, ZENN LANGLEY
COSTUME DESIGNER.....PAIGE MACHNICZ
PROPS MASTERS.....ERIN FRECHETTE, MAX DITTMAR, ZENN LANGLEY
SET DESIGNER.....DUANE CAMPBELL
LIGHTING DESIGNER.....DUANE CAMPBELL
SOUND OPERATOR.....JEFFREY THIBEAULT
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....MELISSA THIBEAULT
BACKSTAGE CREW.....ZENN LANGLEY, STEPHANIE CARROLL
SET CONSTRUCTION.....TULLIO MILANI, KIM SALTZMAN
GUITAR.....GALEN DONOVAN

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

DUANE CAMPBELL (DIRECTOR): Duane has been Executive Director of CTC since the organization's founding in 2013. He's happy to be back in the director's chair for this hilarious production of "Sordid Lives." Some favorite previous directing credits include: "Escape to Margaritaville", "Nine", "Priscilla Queen of the Desert", and "Young Frankenstein" (Co-Directed with Susan Smith). By day, Duane is the Director of Professional Services for Healthcare.com. In any spare time, he enjoys traveling, watching reality television with his wonderful wife Erin, or hanging out with his Goldendoodle Otto. Thanks to the cast and crew and many volunteers that help to make our community special.

ERIN FRECHETTE (PROPS): Erin is excited to return to CTC for her 16th production. While Erin helped lead the charge with props for this production, she is one of the Resident Choreographers for CTC. Her choreography was seen in "The Wedding Singer", "A Christmas Carol (2024)", "The Drowsy Chaperone", "Zanna Don't", "Holiday Inn" and "9 to 5". She co-choreographed "The Full Monty" and "My Fair Lady". She also danced across the stage in "White Christmas", "Thoroughly Modern Millie", "Memphis", "Priscilla Queen of the Desert" and "A Christmas Carol". Erin's choreography also appeared in productions for Granby Arts Project and Monson Arts Council. She has danced at the Majestic Theater and professionally with the "Cher Extravaganza". She performed with and has been on the production team for the OM Show. She appeared in Simsbury Theater Guild's production of "Honeymoon in Vegas". She trained and competed nationally with the Hackworth School of Performing Arts. Erin thanks her husband, Wally, for his love and support. She also thanks all of her parents for always being "the wind beneath her wings".

KAIT ADAMS (STAGE MANAGEMENT): Kait is thrilled to be working with such a fun and talented cast and crew! This is her third show working with CTC. Some of her favorite past shows that she's been a part of are "Children of Eden", "Pippin", and "Young Frankenstein". She hopes you enjoy the show!

ZENN LANGLEY (STAGE MANAGEMENT/PROPS/CREW): Zenn Hunter Langley likes to crochet, play video games, and is a cat dad to a wonderful orange boy named Mr. Noodles who is now three years old. This will be Zenn's fifth show at Connecticut Theatre Company and it has been a blast! When he's not here, he is at home partaking in some of these hobbies or he is at work. A fun fact about Zenn is that he has always been in chorus growing up and always wanted to do theater. Having the opportunity to do it now, even though he's no longer in school, is really fun and he's happy to say that CTC is the place he gets to do that! It is never too late to do theater!!!

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

STEPHANIE CARROLL (CREW): Stephanie Carroll is excited to be working backstage again at CTC! You may remember her mopping the stage during The Wedding Singer intermission. She made her CTC debut last spring in "The Producers" (Shirley Markowitz/Ensemble). (& hopes to return to the stage soon!) She previously was part of the Ensemble of "Aida" (Rocky Hill Theatre, 2016), Monique in "The Awakening" (FUSE Theatre), as well as other staged readings. She has also done 24 hour theatre at Meteor Night (Windham Theatre Guild, 2024 & 2025) & the Mayfly Festival (2025). She is also a performer with Tracks of Terror & the North Pole Express at The Essex Steam Train (Essex, CT).

JEFFREY THIBEAULT (SOUND OPERATOR): Jeffrey Thibeault is excited to work with the Connecticut Theater Company for the first time on Sordid Lives. Previously, Jeffrey has been the Technical Director for over 50 musical theater productions and has worked as an audio engineer, in both live and studio settings, for over 25 years.

MELISSA THIBEAULT (LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR): Melissa Thibeault has been involved in community theater for over 12 years and loves the magic that happens both onstage and behind the scenes. She has worn many hats—sometimes literally—including stage manager, costumer, set builder, prop master, photographer, and office manager. Most often found running the spotlight from the booth, she's occasionally stepped into it herself, appearing as Mrs. Thistlewat in "Avenue Q" and in the ensemble of "A Christmas Carol". "Sordid Lives" is her first production with CTC, and she can't wait to welcome familiar faces and meet new friends during "The Prom".

AUTHOR BIO

DEL SHORES (AUTHOR): Del Shores is the writer/director/producer of the films *Sordid Lives*, *Blues for Willadean*, *Southern Baptist Sissies* and *A Very Sordid Wedding*. He wrote and executive produced the MGM feature *Daddy's Dyin'...Who's Got The Will?* His plays *Cheatin'*, *Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got The Will?)*, *Daughters of the Lone Star State*, *Sordid Lives*, *Southern Baptist Sissies*, *The Trials and Tribulations of a Trailer Trash Housewife*, *Yellow*, *This Side of Crazy* and *A Very Sordid Wedding* are all published by Concord/Samuel French.

In television, Del Shores wrote, directed, executive produced and created the LOGO series *Sordid Lives: The Series*. He also wrote and executive produced Showtime's groundbreaking *Queer As Folk* for the last three seasons, and wrote and produced for *Dharma & Greg* and *Ned & Stacey*.

He has directed Academy Award-winners Octavia Spencer and Whoopi Goldberg; Grammy Award winner Olivia Newton-John; Emmy winners/nominees Beau Bridges, Delta Burke, Leslie Jordan, Bonnie Bedelia, Bobbie Eakes, Patrika Darbo and Rue McClanahan; Spirit Award winner Dale Dickey; and Screen Actor's Guild Award winner Beth Grant, as well as Caroline Rhea, Debby Holiday and David Steen.

As a performer, Shores has performed in hundreds of standup gigs and in 2018 completed a national tour of his critically acclaimed award-winning one-man play, *Six Characters In Search Of A Play*, directed by Emerson Collins. The play was filmed and is now streaming worldwide.

Mr. Shores resides in Los Angeles and can be found at DelShores.com, [facebook.com/delshoresofficial](https://www.facebook.com/delshoresofficial) and [@delshores](https://twitter.com/delshores) on Twitter and Instagram.

SPECIAL THANKS

Connecticut Theatre Company would like to thank the many volunteers and team members that have worked to help make this production possible, including:

Eileen Blair
Dana LaMontagne
Chuck Kunze
Galen Donovan

Sheelagh Dalziel
Matt LaMontagne
Tullio Milani
Kim Saltzman

Erin Frechette
Colin Norris
Jonathen Whitford
Nick Stanford



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