

Thornton Niven Wilder

(17 April, 1897 – 7 December, 1975)

Thornton Wilder was born in Madison, Wisconsin. As a child, he studied in schools in California and China. In higher education, Wilder attended Oberlin College, the American Academy in Rome, graduated with a B.A from Yale College and an M.A. from Princeton University.

“Wilder’s greatest and best-known work as a playwright, *Our Town* opens with the Stage Manager’s introduction to Grover’s Corners, a fictional town based on Peterborough, New Hampshire where Wilder often spent his summers. The sparse and symbolic qualities of the set suggest Wilder’s intention to make Grover’s Corners represent all towns.”—Ashley Gallagher, Thornton Wilder Society

“Described by Edward Albee as “the greatest American play ever written,” *Our Town* presents the small town of Grover’s Corners in three acts: “Daily Life,” “Love and Marriage” and “Death and Eternity.” Narrated by a stage manager and performed with minimal props and sets, the play depicts the simple daily lives of the Webb and Gibbs families as their children fall in love, marry, and eventually – in one of the most famous scenes in American theatre – die.”—Origin Theatrical

COMING ATTRACTIONS

<i>The Guy Who Didn’t Like Musicals</i>	October 17
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	November 12, 13, *14, 14
RWU Dance Theatre in Concert	December 7, 8, 9, *10
RWU Instrumental Ensemble and Chorus	December 11
Performance Times: 7:30 P.M. (*1:00 P.M.)	

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Our Town

By Thornton Wilder



Fall 2026

The first performance of *Our Town* was at the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, New Jersey on 22 January, 1938. Its Broadway premier was on 4 February, 1938 at Henry Miller’s Theatre (now the Stephen Sondheim Theatre).

The New York Times theatre critic, Brooks Atkinson, called the play “one of the finest achievements of the current stage...a hauntingly beautiful play.”--(“Our Town.” *The New York Times* 5 February 1938, late ed.)

Our Town won the 1938 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Wilder played the Stage Manager for two weeks during the first Broadway run.

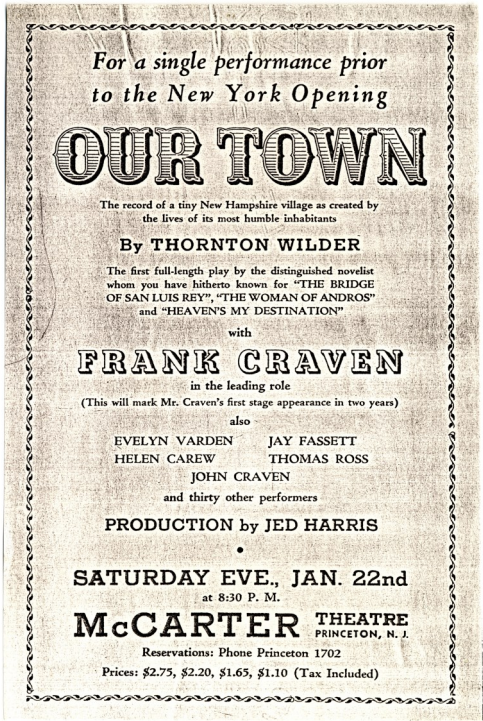


Photo: Princeton University Library

Running time approximately 90 minutes. No interval.

Please silence phones and refrain from photography, any recording, and using electronic devices. Thank you.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Stage Manager..... Alec Corrado
Dr. Frank Gibbs Joshua Peak
Mrs. Julia Gibbs..... Riley McConnell
George Gibbs.....Patrick Hydeck
Mr. Charles Webb Nico Meier
Mrs. Myrtle Webb.....Alina Weingand
Emily Webb Lexie True
Simon Stimson..... Matthew Maddan
Rebecca Gibbs/Mrs. Louella Soames. Yvie Bolduc
Professor Willard/Constable Bill Warren. Samuel Goddard
Joe Crowell/Si Crowell/Wally Gibbs/Sam Craig. . . .Robin Baradarvar
Howie Newsome/Joe Stoddard. Charlotte Beebe

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT & RUNNING CREW

Stage Manager..... Lindsey McDonald
Assistant Stage Manager Marina Cassano
Light Board Operator Jonah Howes
Sound/Projection Operator Phoenix S
Front of House. Paisley McKenna, Sam Ornsteen

PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

Director Robin Stone
Lighting Designer. Scott Pinkney
Scenic/Costume Designer. Stu d’Ratt
Sound Designer Robin Stone
Light Hang/Focus Alec Corrado, Riley McConnell, Rowan Vas
Qlab Programmer Quinn Dwyer
Poster Matthew Maddan

SPECIAL THANKS

Mel, Lucille, Eleanor, Woodrow, and Chloe Stone

OUR TOWN is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.