

Tennessee

WILLIAMS

FESTIVAL ST. LOUIS

Mission

Our mission is to enrich the cultural life of St. Louis by producing an annual theater festival and other artistic and educational events that celebrate the art and influence of Tennessee Williams.

Overview of Tennessee Williams Festival

Since its inception three years ago, the Tennessee Williams Festival has embraced the work of the legendary playwright, poet and artist, whose works include multiple Pulitzer Prizes such as “The Glass Menagerie,” “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,” “Suddenly Last Summer,” “Camino Real,” and “A Streetcar Named Desire,” to name just a few. Williams’ work reflects the nearly 20 years his family lived in St. Louis, and his creations range from the famed classics, to adaptations for film and opera, to dozens of newly discovered plays and writings that have been continuously, documented performed and studied around the world. The Festival, founded by St. Louisan Carrie Houk, has attracted thousands to the variety of readings, panel discussions, concerts, art exhibitions, productions and playwright contests that make up the annual event. For more information, please visit www.twfstl.org, or email info@twstl.org.

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Carrie Houk, Founder of the Tennessee Williams Festival

Houk has spent her professional life as an actor, casting director, producer and teaching artist. Educated at HB Studio in New York City and the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University, she began her acting career at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and from there worked in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. She has cast more than 30 films, numerous television shows and countless national commercials and has worked with directors Steven Soderbergh, Robert Altman, Alexander Payne, Howard Franklin, among others. She started her casting career in Chicago 35 years ago and from there settled back in St. Louis to raise her daughter. She has produced two films and the critically acclaimed production of Tennessee Williams’s “Stairs to the Roof” directed by Fred Abrahamse. Adjunct professor of casting and acting at Webster University, Houk has also taught at Washington University and Columbia College Chicago.

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