



MISSISSIPPI DELTA TENNESSEE WILLIAMS FESTIVAL

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MS DELTA TENNESSEE WILLIAMS FESTIVAL SCHEDULE ONLINE AND IN-PERSON EDITION

(As of September 9, 2021)

*INFORMATION ON STREAMING SITE AND INTERNET ADDRESSES FOR ALL FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING
WILL BE RELEASED IN THE COMING WEEKS*

As we finalize plans to bring you a safe, exciting and impactful hybrid festival that will be available both online and in-person, we are sharing this general schedule now and will release additional information about streaming sites and added programming and events in the coming weeks. For now, all in-person programming will take place outside on the grounds of the historic Cutrer Mansion in Clarksdale, Mississippi with masked and socially distanced audience areas.

We'd also like to share that we are dedicating this year's festival to long-time supporter and festival participant, the late Dr. Ralph Voss of Hoover, Alabama. For years, Dr. Voss served the festival in a variety of roles including academic advisor, panelist, scholar and he served as the keynote speaker for the Williams Centennial Celebration on March 26, 2011 in Clarksdale. We were so sad to hear of his passing on July 23, 2021. He will be greatly missed.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

4:00 PM CST STREAM BEGINS WITH WELCOME VIDEO

4:00 – 4:30 PM CST FESTIVAL WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Welcome by Dr. Valmadge Towner, President of Coahoma Community College and a special musical performance by the Coahoma Community College choir ensemble under the direction of Dr. Kelvin Towers.

**4:30 – 5:30 PM CST PROLOGUE TO THE PLAY IN FOCUS
BY KAREN KOHLHAAS**

The 1947 Pulitzer Prize winning play *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams is the primary focus of the 29th annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams festival this year. Williams historian and director of the Tennessee Williams Rectory Museum, Karen Kolhaas, will present an insightful prologue to the festival giving context to Clarksdale's connections to the play and its development.

**5:30 PM – 6:00 PM CST AN INTRODUCTION TO THE 1951 FILM VERSION OF THE PLAY
BY DR. MATT FOSS**

Dr. Matt Foss will give an introduction and analysis to the evening's lawn chair screening of the 1951 film *A Streetcar Named Desire* featuring Marlon Brando and Vivien Leigh and directed by Elia Kazan. Foss will present how the critically acclaimed, long running Broadway premiere of the play gave rise to the award-winning film, which will screen later this evening at 7:30 pm on the Grand Lawn of the Cutrer Mansion.

6:00 PM **STREAM SIGN OFF**

Those participating at home are encouraged to watch the film on their own devices and join us again online across our festival platforms on Friday, October 15, starting at 9:00 AM.

6:00 – 7:30 PM CST **DELTA LAWN PARTY**

In-person guests are invited to a picnic on the grand lawn of the Cutrer Mansion with music by local musicians. Bring your own lawn chairs, picnic blankets and beverages. Picnic boxes by Chris Green will be for sale and must be pre-ordered by October 11 by contacting Jen Waller at 662-645-3555 or at jenwaller05@gmail.com or Taylor Armstrong at 662-621-9344 at cchecassistant@gmail.com. Remember to socially distance yourself and wear masks when not eating or drinking.

7:30 – 9:30 PM CST **SCREENING OF 1951 FILM A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE**

The 1951 Academy Award winning film, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, will start at approximately 7:30 pm soon after the sun sets. It will show on a large 16' X 9' professional grade screen with professional projection and audio as you enjoy the beautiful Cutrer Mansion as a backdrop for evening.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020

9:00 AM **STREAM BEGINS**

9:00 – 11:30 AM **SCHOLAR PRESENTATIONS**

Scholars will present both in-person and on our stream during the morning session including Williams scholar Dr. Kenneth Holditch's annual Keynote Address and University of MS professor Dr. Ann Fisher-Wirth's discussion on poetry and place.

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (PAUSE STREAM)**

1:00 PM **STREAM BACK ONLINE**

1:00 PM – 4:45 PM **SCHOLAR PRESENTATIONS WITH LIVE PERFORMANCE**

Scholars will present both in-person and on our stream during this session, including performances from the Memphis Blues City Cultural Center, Dr. Paige McGinley and Clarksdale Blues Musician Lucious Spiller as well as a panel on the Diversity of the Delta.

4:45 PM **FESTIVAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PREVIEWS
(END OF STREAM)**

5:00 PM -- 7:00 PM **MORE PROGRAMMING TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2020

9:00 AM BEGIN STREAM

9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON STUDENT MONOLOGUE AND SCENE COMPETITION

A festival favorite, the Student Drama Competition highlights students from around the region who will submit their work for the opportunity to win trophies, award money for their school programs and perform in the afternoon porch plays. The contest will be streamed live and across all festival platforms.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (PAUSE STREAM)

1:00 PM – 3:15 PM CST SCHOLAR PRESENTATIONS

Scholars will present both in-person and on our stream during this afternoon session, including presentations by Alcorn State University professor, Dr. J. Janice Coleman, and President of the Mississippi Delta Chinese Heritage Museum, Gilroy Chow.

3:15 PM PAUSE STREAM

In-person and online activities take a short break to prepare for the afternoon PORCH PLAYS.

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM PORCH PLAYS

A signature event at the MS Delta Tennessee Williams Festival, this year's online and in-person porch plays will feature scenes filmed on location around Clarksdale as well as performances submitted by our friends at home. These will be available on all festival streaming platforms and in-person.

5:30 PM SIGN OFF AND END STREAM

As we finish another festival during challenging times, we say farewell and thank you with hopes you all will join us again in Clarksdale soon, but especially next year.

**6:30 PM – 8:00 PM AFTER PARTY AT UNCLE HENRY'S PLACE
5860 MOON LAKE ROAD, DUNDEE, MS 38626**

In-Person guests please join us on the pavilion at Uncle Henry's Place on Moon Lake, the inspiration for the Moon Lake Casino in the Tennessee Williams plays. Music and hors d'oeuvres provided. Cash bar.

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