

# PERFORMANCES & READINGS

## THEATRE

### ***A Bold Stroke for a Wife by Susanna Centlivre***

**The Next Stage Theatre, Inc.**

**Saturday 3pm, The State Theatre, Free**

The Next Stage presents a reading of the satiric comedy *A Bold Stroke for a Wife*, a 1718 play by Susanna Centlivre. Centlivre, one of the premier dramatists of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, wrote 16 very popular and witty plays. In this play, she pokes fun at the commercial aspects of marriage, the excesses of fashion, while also taking aim at business, academia, and religion. Behind the humor, Centlivre argues for a broadly tolerant society where all these pursuits can find common ground and, especially, where a woman can marry a suitable husband of her own choosing.

### ***Blues is the Root: The Willie Dixon Story by Charles Dumas***

**Loaves and Fish Theater Co.**

**Friday 7pm, The State Theatre, \$12.50 Adult, \$6.50 Youth/Senior/Military**

*Blues is the Root* is the story of Willie Dixon, who, along with Muddy Waters is one of the primary creators of the Chicago Blues. His songs, like “My Babe,” “Hoochie Coochie Man,” “Little Red Rooster,” and “I Just Want to Make Love to You” were recorded by Rock and Roll and Rhythm and Blues artists BB King, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and Koko Taylor. A social activist, Willie helped other musicians, particularly poor, black, southern blues men and women, recover their copyrights and royalties from unscrupulous and exploitative producers in the industry. *Blues is the Root* tells Willie’s story from the cotton fields to the heights of the international music world.

### ***Playwriting Competition Readings***

**Friday 3-6pm, Saturday 11am-2pm, The State Theatre, Free**

Join us to celebrate year 2 through readings of the One-Acts and Short plays (10 minutes or less) that were selected as finalists for the 2019 Central PA Theatre & Dance Fest Playwriting Competition. Over 120 submissions were received from as close as State College to as far as South Korea. Check [centralpatheatre.com](http://centralpatheatre.com) for a complete listing of the finalists and descriptions of their plays.

### ***The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged***

**Adam Swartz Puppets**

**Sunday 3:30pm, MLK Plaza, Free**

Join us as we “weave our wicked way through Shakespeare’s comedies, histories, and tragedies in one wild ride that will leave you breathless and helpless with laughter.” (At least, that’s what it says on the back of the script.) Come for the timeless words of the Bard, stay for the men in tights!