


Written by  
Margaret May



## From Screen to Rock

 Distinguished actors will set down their screenplays and pick up their guitars to play eclectic, rockin' rhythms at the Ridgefield Playhouse this summer.

Outside his appearance on screen—in movies such as *The Parent Trap* and *In Good Company*—Dennis Quaid (pictured) is lead singer and guitarist of **DENNIS QUAID AND THE SHARKS** and will perform July 14, with special guest Eliot Lewis—an independent musician who performed on tour with Hall & Oates and appeared on every episode of “Live From Daryl’s House.”

On July 24 the Playhouse will welcome the **BACON BROTHERS**. During the 20 years they’ve been jammin’ together, creating music that mixes the sounds of soul, folk, rock, and Americana, actor Kevin Bacon and brother Michael have released seven albums. Like Bacon’s performances in *Apollo 13* and *Footloose*, Bacon Brothers’ shows are known for their dynamism.

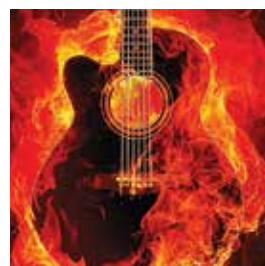
Finally, **JEFF DANIELS** will take the stage on August 12. Daniels been praised for his role in movies like *Dumb and Dumber* and *The Martian*, and has gained notoriety as a successful singer-songwriter. In fact, his love of music began before his acting career. Aside from performing solo, Daniels will be joined on stage by son Ben and the Ben Daniels Band, whose songs nod to the genres of rock, blues, jazz, and Americana. [ridgefieldplayhouse.org](http://ridgefieldplayhouse.org) — MARGARET MAY

**Mamma Mia!** // More Mamma! More ABBA! That’s right. A Contemporary Theatre of CT’s production of *Mamma Mia!* is extended until July 1. The sunny, toe-tapping tunes of this beloved musical are flowing over sold-out audiences, so get in while you can, at the new theater space at 36 Old Quarry Rd. [actofct.org](http://actofct.org)



## 8.11

The 112th annual Nutmeg Festival will take place on August 11 at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church. This fun and lively event boasts an abundance of delicious food, exciting games, and thrilling live music performances that people of all ages will be sure to enjoy. The event runs from 10 am to 4 pm. [nutmegfestival.org](http://nutmegfestival.org)



## 7.23

Thrown Stone Theatre Company will feature two new productions this (its second) year, *The Arsonists* by Jacqueline Goldfinger and *Where All Good Rabbits Go* by Karina Cochran. Both plays will be performed at the Ridgefield Conservatory of Dance on Main Street, from July 23-August 4. [thrownstone.org](http://thrownstone.org)



## Melon Fest

**Kick off the July 4 holiday at the Keeler Tavern for its Watermelon Fest. During the event, from noon to 2 pm, there will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence. Afterward, participants can snack on savory watermelon following a slicing ceremony. There will also be opportunities to take free museum tours and play lawn games. [keelertavernmuseum.org](http://keelertavernmuseum.org)**