

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Houston family takes over Broadway, Hollywood and Red Bank theater

BY [Lyndsay Christian](#), Producer and Correspondent



“The Broadway Brothers” Jason (left), Brandon Dirden (right), with father, Willie Dirden (center)

Houston natives, Brandon and Jason Dirden, also known as “The Broadway Brothers” are making major moves on stages and screens in New York City and Hollywood. Now, they’re making it a family affair in the Garden State.

After a decade, the family returns to theater with its patriarch, Willie Dirden, performing for the first time with son, Brandon, in Lorraine Hansberry's, "A Raisin in the Sun" at Two River Theater in Red Bank. Joining the Dirden men in this production is Broadway veteran, Brandon's wife, Crystal A. Dickinson.

Dubbed the "Broadway Brothers," Brandon and Jason have starred together in the Pulitzer Prize winning play, "Topdog/Underdog" at Two River Theater directed by its author, Suzan-Lori Parks. In addition, they have performed together in the highly acclaimed revival of August Wilson's, "Piano Lesson" at the Signature Theatre in New York. For that performance, Brandon was honored with an Obie, AUDELCO, and Theatre World Award.

"Two River Theatre is an artistic home for us. The people, the productions and their passion to have all cultures represented on their stage is incredible. We are thrilled to be a part of the Two River family," said Brandon and Jason.



"The Broadway Brothers," Brandon (left) and Jason Dirden.

A staple in the theater community, Brandon's Broadway credits include Tony Award winning plays, "All the Way" and "Clybourne Park," in which he starred alongside his wife. Most recently, he shined in the Tony Award-winning revival of August Wilson's, "Jitney." Brandon currently appears on "The Americans" (FX) playing FBI agent "Dennis Aderholt."

Jason has appeared on Broadway in two Tony Award-winning productions, “A Raisin in the Sun” and “Fences” opposite Academy Award winners, Denzel Washington and Viola Davis. Jason currently stars as “Basie Skanks” on “Greenleaf” (OWN). He has been working closely with Houstonians from Los Angeles collecting items and money to give back to his hometown.

“A Raisin in the Sun” is playing at Two River’s Rechnitz Theater located at 21 Bridge Avenue, Red Bank, New Jersey 07701 through October 8, 2017. Tickets are available at [www.tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org).