

MISSOULA
CHILDREN'S
THEATRE
COMMUNITY SERIES



WAITRESS

Book
JESSIE NELSON

Music and Lyrics by
SARA BAREILLES

WAITRESS is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS

arts.gov



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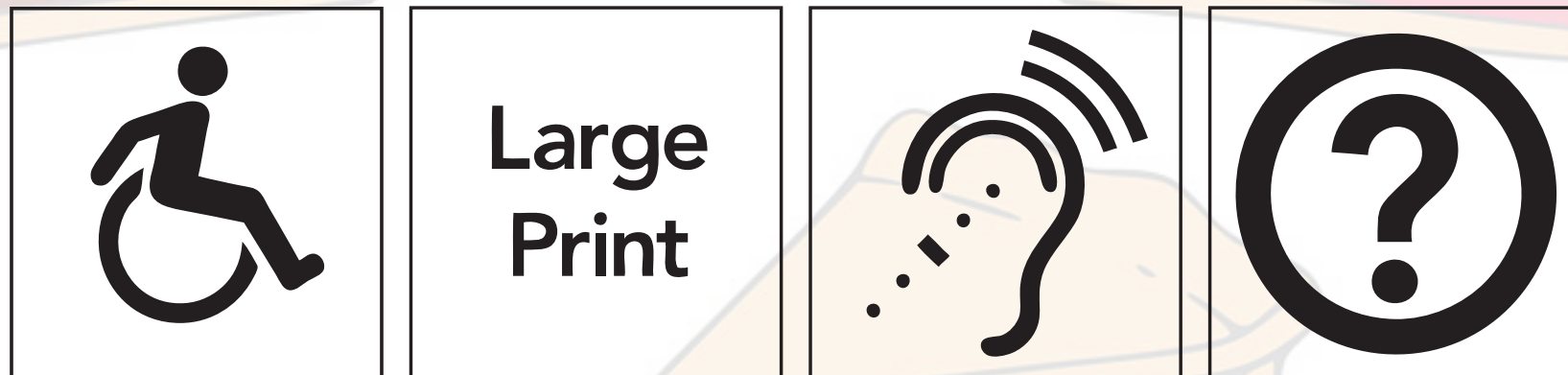
The Missoula Children's Theatre acknowledges that it is located on indigenous territory. As we gather together and celebrate theatre, we also want to honor the original stewards of this land and their descendants; many of whom continue to live, work, teach, volunteer, and learn in this community. We are committed to showing gratitude for the land and its indigenous people by respecting and remembering this in our thoughts and actions.

*Salish Encampment on land that is now Missoula, Montana.
Photo Source: Indian Peoples of the Northern Great Plains Digital Collection*

Thank you, Swanson Foundation, for supporting
MCT's sensory friendly performance of
A Christmas Story, the Musical!



MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE



MCT accommodates accessibility upon request.
Some accommodations require advance notice.
Call the MCT Box Office for more information.
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MCT is a non-smoking establishment.
Please turn off or silence all electronic devices.
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PRODUCTION

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
This production has a PG-13 rating for adult language and content, which may be triggering for some audience members.
This production uses a gluten-free rice flour.

Co-Director / Choreographer Christine Kowalchik
Artistic Director.....Joseph Martinez
Stage ManagerRebecca Jefferson
Music Director Arielle Nachtigal
Intimacy Coordinator Mark Plonsky
Accompanists..... Anne Bashor, Linda Stratton
Scenic Design Theresa K Jenson
Scenic ArtistsAbbey Mosely, Blain Radford,
Aurora Watkins
Lighting Design..... Blain Radford
Sound Design..... Gregory Boris
Properties DesignLesley Washburn
Costume Design..... Nat Stockmann
Costume First HandKylie Wallace
Wardrobe Aurora Watkins
Make-up/Hair Nat Stockmann
Technical DirectorAbbey Mosely
Production Manager..... Theresa K Jenson
Light Board Operator Brady G.
Sound Board Operators.....Hannah McLean, Lisa Whitcomb

Spot Light Operators.....Ashley Stratton, Ryan Young
Deck Manager..... Sarah Hibbard
Deck Hand Lucy Taylor, Antigone Lambros*

ORCHESTRA

Keyboards.....Anne Bashor, Amy Smart,
Linda Stratton
GuitarsNick Barr, Lucas Masenko
Cello.....Alyssa Logan
Bass Ryan Davis
Percussion Troy Bashor

**indicates a stand-in volunteer*

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cheryl & Steve Thompson • Meghan Morris • Stacie Campo
Todd Townsley • Janice Givler • Western Montana Clinic
University of Montana School of Theatre and Dance
Daria Porter • Mia Edwards

WAITRESS

CAST

Jenna	Jadi Rae Curtis
Dawn	Courtney Crary
Becky	Paisley Thornton
Dr. Pomatter	Nathan Poukish
Earl	Jon Miller*
Ogie	Marcus Milyko
Cal	Simon Fickinger
Joe	Scott McKenzie*
Lulu	Ella Collins*
	Nora Coolidge*
	Selma Schulzke*

ENSEMBLE

Annika Charlson • Daniel Crary • Ellen McKenzie
Enrique Mendez • Scar Miyashita-Jaime*
Jalynn Nelson • Jessica Scales* • Brian Stoops

**indicates Missoula Children's Theatre Community Series debut!*



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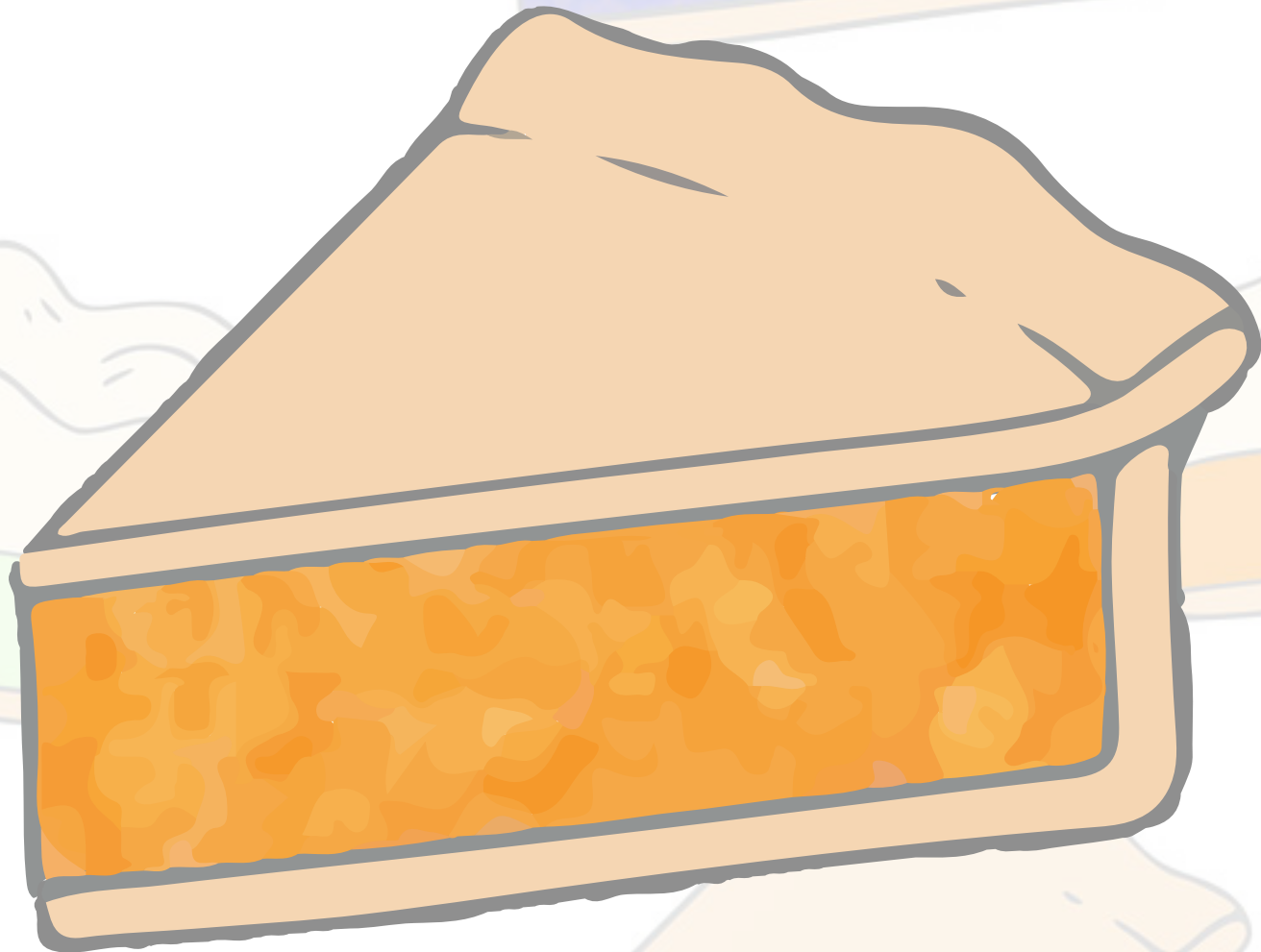
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ACT 1 MUSICAL NUMBERS

<i>What's Inside</i>	Jenna
<i>Opening Up</i>	Jenna, Becky, Dawn, Cal, Company
<i>The Negative</i>	Jenna, Becky, Dawn
<i>What Baking Can Do</i>	Jenna
<i>When He Sees Me</i>	Dawn
<i>It Only Takes a Taste</i>	Dr. Pomatter, Jenna
<i>You Will Still Be Mine</i>	Earl
<i>A Soft Place to Land</i>	Jenna, Becky, Dawn
<i>Never Getting Rid of Me</i>	Ogie, Company
<i>Bad Idea</i>	Jenna, Dr. Pomatter, Company



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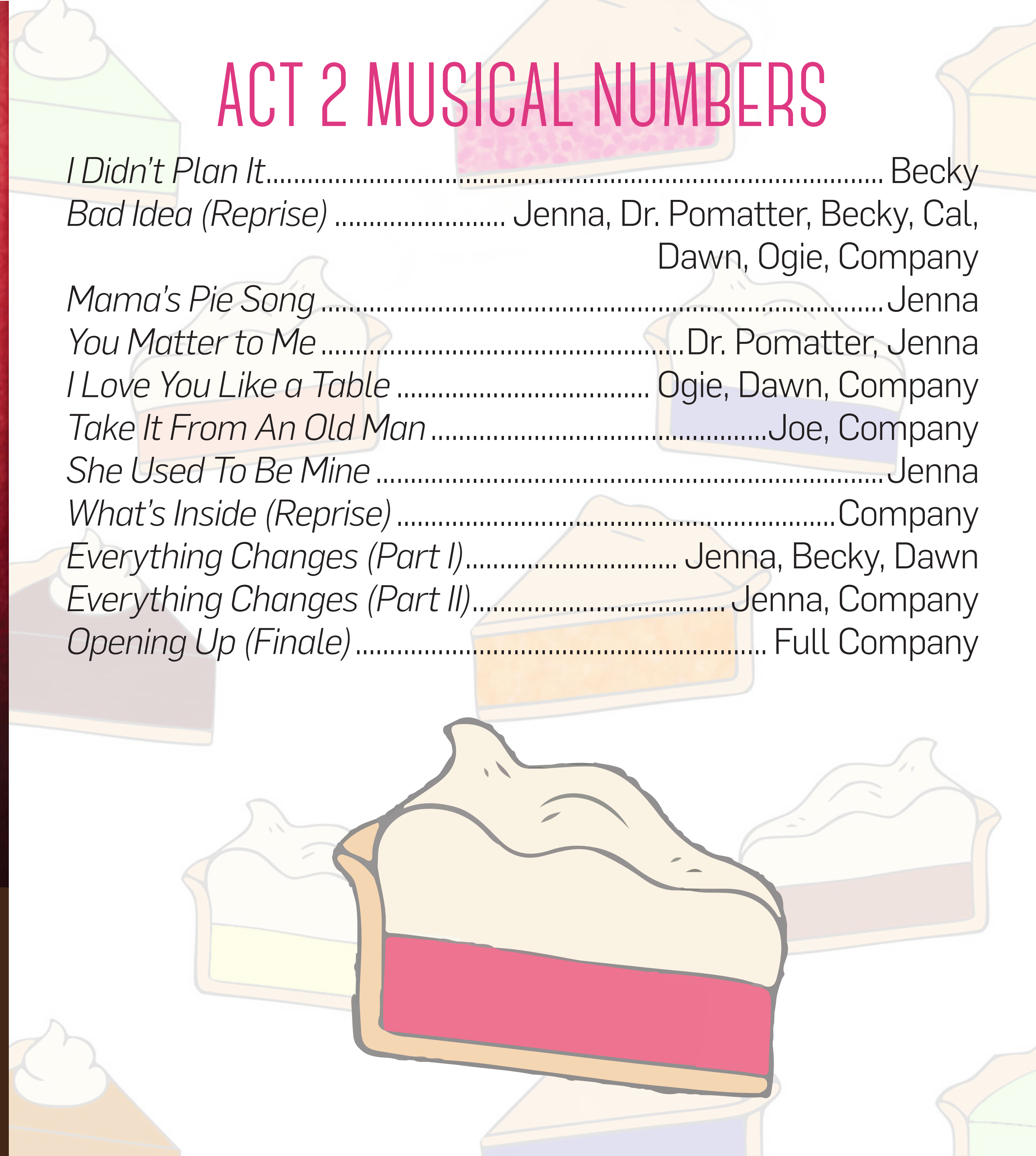
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ACT 2 MUSICAL NUMBERS

<i>I Didn't Plan It</i>	Becky
<i>Bad Idea (Reprise)</i>	Jenna, Dr. Pomatter, Becky, Cal, Dawn, Ogie, Company
<i>Mama's Pie Song</i>	Jenna
<i>You Matter to Me</i>	Dr. Pomatter, Jenna
<i>I Love You Like a Table</i>	Ogie, Dawn, Company
<i>Take It From An Old Man</i>	Joe, Company
<i>She Used To Be Mine</i>	Jenna
<i>What's Inside (Reprise)</i>	Company
<i>Everything Changes (Part I)</i>	Jenna, Becky, Dawn
<i>Everything Changes (Part II)</i>	Jenna, Company
<i>Opening Up (Finale)</i>	Full Company





The Importance of Being Earnest

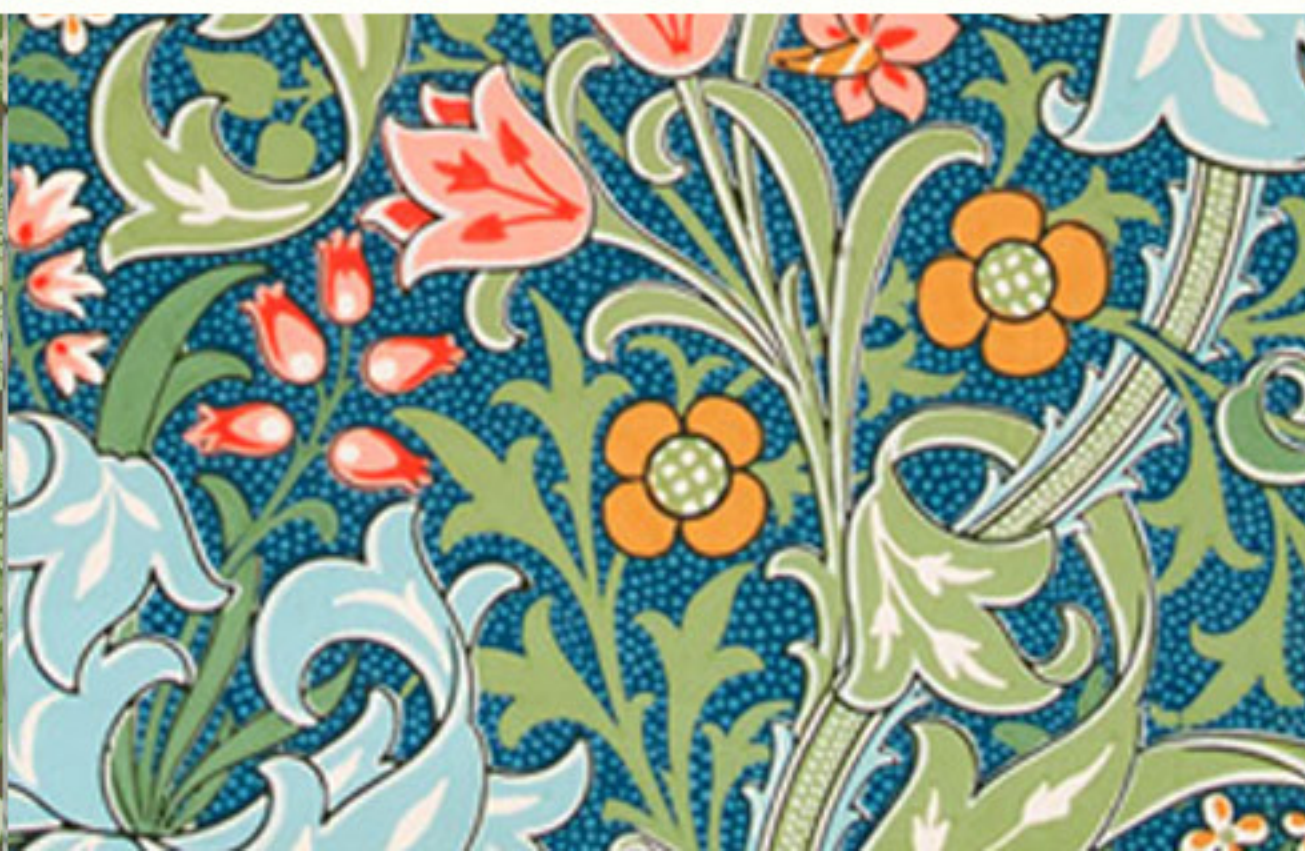
By Oscar Wilde

MONTANA THEATRE | February 27-March 9
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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When first asked to work on *Waitress*, I was over the moon. Ours is the regional debut of the production, which is still in limited release, and being part of its artistic team is an honor. I have choreographed for MCT for over a decade- but something about this project felt new and I was excited to put my twist on some of the iconic numbers in this show, such as “Opening Up” and “Never Getting Rid of Me”.

Early on in one of our preliminary artistic meetings, Joseph Martinez, MCT’s Artistic Director, emphasized that he felt the show needed to come from a woman’s perspective. He asked me if I would step in as co-director and my heart nearly hit the ceiling. An exhilaration at the idea of this opportunity rushed over me and I immediately said “Yes!”. As I was driving home from that meeting, my joy and elation began to turn into true anxiety. I was now responsible for bringing this story to life, for honoring the characters as written on the page, and helping choose the actors to fill these roles. A narrative that means so much to me personally, I now had the responsibility to tell a story that deals with fighting against the social normality of playing the obedient wife, and relationships that involve domestic violences, love at first sight, and affairs of the heart.

I feel extremely fortunate to be working with such a professional group of artists. Far from your typical idea of community theatre, the level of vulnerability, authenticity, and artistry each member of this company, regardless of role, has brought to the rehearsal process day in and day out, along with their willingness to dive head first into taking risks to honor and tell this story to the depths that it needs to be told is truly rewarding. This project has forced me to dig into places that I have shut myself off from for many years, yet there has been a sense of healing that I know, not only myself, but others, have found in creating this show.

With that, I welcome you to Joe’s, a little diner located somewhere off Highway 27, where they serve 27 varieties of pies baked fresh every day. Here you will meet Jenna, a waitress just trying to make it through, and her two best friends Becky and Dawn. This infamous Sugar, Butter, Flour trio experiences life together and all its unexpected ups and downs of love, loss, and everything in between. I hope you enjoy a slice of this bittersweet story of a woman’s struggle to build a life for herself that is better than just happy enough.

Sincerely,

CHRISTINE KOWALCHIK
CO-DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

THE ROXY THEATER PRESENTS

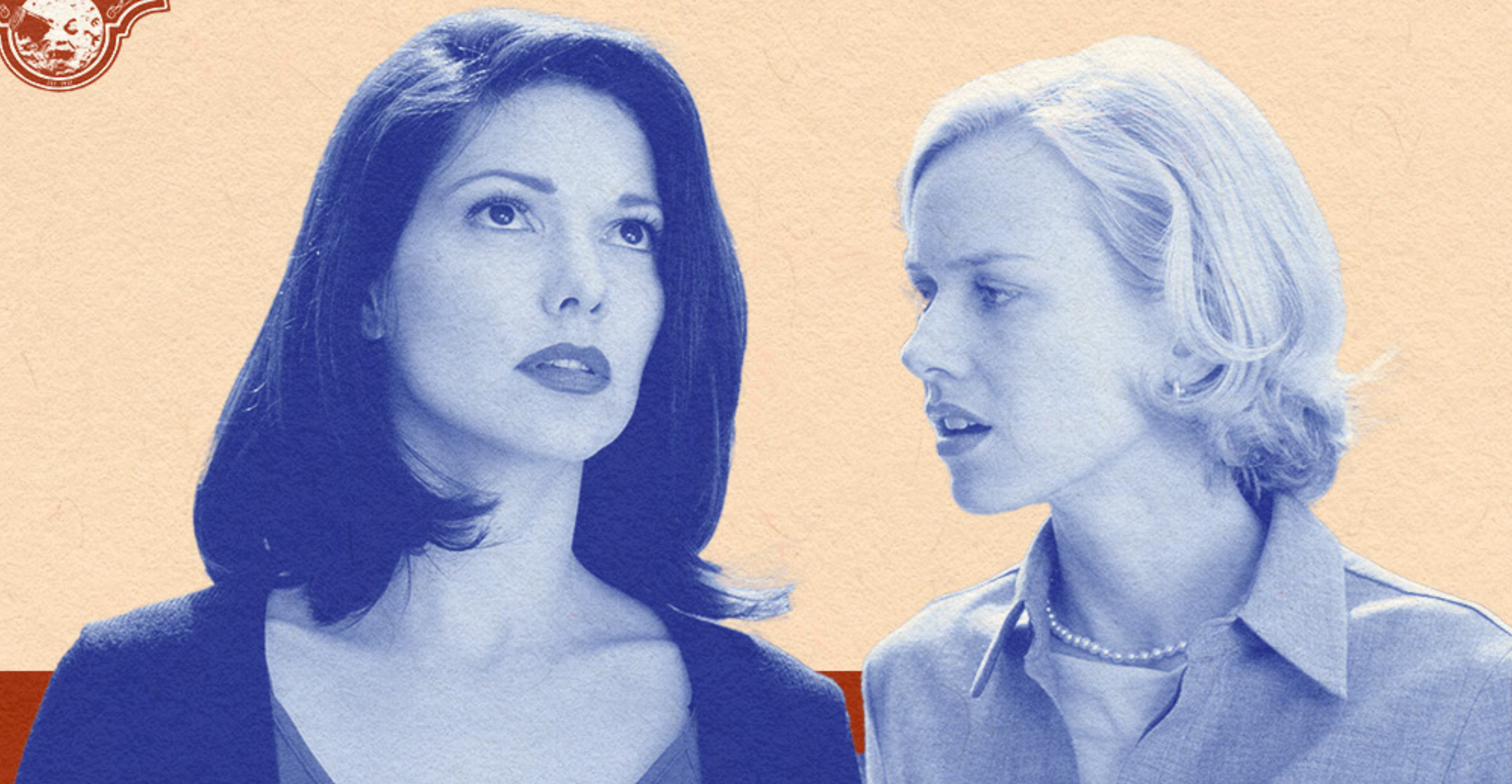
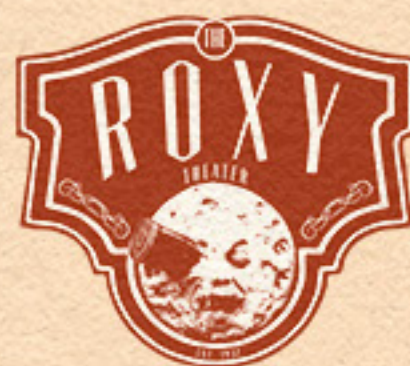
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BIOS

JESSIE NELSON - BOOK

Jessie Nelson wrote the musical *Waitress* with music and lyrics by Sara Bareilles. The show played on Broadway for 4 years and moved to the West End in London. Sara and Jessie went on to create the show *Little Voice* which they Executive Produced with JJ Abrams for Apple TV. Jessie wrote, directed and produced *Corrina Corrina* and *I Am Sam* starring Sean Penn, who received an Academy Award nomination for his performance. Among her other directing credits are *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and *Love, the Coopers* with Diane Keaton. Her writing credits include *Step Mom* and *The Story of Us*. She produced *Fred Claus* and *Danny Collins*. In London, Jessie directed *Alice By Heart* which she co-wrote with Steven Sater with music by Duncan Sheik at the National Theater Connections Program and again at MCC in NYC. She began her career as an actress at the Public Theater working with the award-winning experimental theater Mabou Mines and at the New York Shakespeare Festival. She wrote the children's book *Labracadabra*. She has been the Artistic Director of the Sundance Screen Writers Lab.

SARA BAREILLES - MUSIC & LYRICS

Sara Bareilles can next be seen starring in the upcoming Tina Fey's series, *GIRLS5EVA*. Bareilles first achieved mainstream critical praise in 2007 with her widely successful hit "Love Song," which reached No. 1 in 22 countries around the world from her debut album *Little*

Voice. Since then, Sara has gone on to receive seven Grammy® nominations throughout her career, which include Song of the Year and Best Female Pop Vocal Performance for "Love Song" and one Album of the Year for her highly acclaimed third studio album, *The Blessed Unrest*. Her book, *Sounds Like Me: My Life (So Far) in Song*, was released in the fall of 2015 by Simon & Schuster and is a New York Times best seller. Making her Broadway debut Sara composed the music and lyrics for *Waitress*, for which she received her first Tony® Award nomination for Best Score and a 2017 Grammy® Award nomination for Best Musical Theater Album. She also made her Broadway acting debut in 2017 by stepping into the lead role in *Waitress*. 2018 was a big year for Sara, she co-hosted the Tony Awards®, was nominated for an Emmy® and Grammy® for her role in *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert* and was awarded with the Songwriters Hall of Fame's Hal David Starlight Award. Sara also teamed up with Apple as an executive producer for *Little Voice* a 10-episode series, for which she created the original music. *What's Inside: Songs from Waitress*, her most recent solo studio album, is out on Epic Records. On April 5, 2019 Sara released her fifth full-length and first album of original material since 2013, entitled *Amidst the Chaos*. For this latest body of work, she joined forces in the studio with legendary Academy® Award-winning producer T Bone Burnett. As a result, the album spotlights her voice as a singer and storyteller like never before, while making an enduring statement.

BIOS

JADI RAE CURTIS - JENNA

Jadi Rae spends her days helping other vocalists develop their abilities and artistry, and she delights in the chance to exercise her own performing skills to help tell this poignant story. Pies may not be her specialty, but Jadi learned to bake the perfect chocolate chip cookie from her own mother to whose memory she dedicates every performance.

COURTNEY CRARY - DAWN

Courtney is excited to finally put all her anxious tics and uncomfortable body language to good use in the delightfully quirky NewDawnRising. These days, she spends more time music directing than performing, but she's had a blast getting back on stage and sharing it with this incredible cast. Deepest thanks to the friends and family who have supported Courtney the way Jenna's community supports her.

PAISLEY THORNTON - BECKY

Originally from Ohio, Paisley toured domestically and internationally with MCT before moving to Missoula in 2015 to run Performing Arts Camps. You may have enjoyed Paisley's choreography on the MCT stage or seen her in roles such as Ursula (*Little Mermaid*), or Elizabeth (*Young Frankenstein*). Big love to Jadi, Courtney, the entire cast of *Waitress*, and her wonderful husband.

NATHAN POUKISH - DR. POMATTER

This marks Nathan's fourth appearance on the MCT stage! Past roles include Squidward in *SpongeBob the Musical*, Inspector Kemp in *Young Frankenstein*, and the Beast/Prince in *Beauty and the Beast*. Nathan has had a blast portraying this quirky, awkward, and (hopefully) charming character—traits he relates to, minus the gynecologist part! It's the closest he'll get to being a "doctor" (sorry, Mom).

JON MILLER - EARL

Jon is thrilled to be making his debut with MCT! He grew up in Anaconda and has called Helena home since 2009. He's appeared in several productions at Grandstreet Theatre including *The Bridges of Madison County* and *She Loves Me*. Jon's day job is owning/operating Jon Miller Insurance & Financial Services, Inc in Helena. He is grateful to the team at MCT for being so welcoming!

MARCUS MILYKO - OGIE

Marcus is over the moon with excitement to return to MCT's stage with this incredible cast and crew as the resident mad clogging elf. You may have seen him on the MCT stage as Igor in *Young Frankenstein*, or the ensembles of *Beauty & the Beast* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

BIOS

SIMON FICKINGER - CAL

Simon has been volunteering with MCT for over 25 years from backstage to the Board of Directors. Simon is honored to be included in this obscenely talented cast and team of old friends and new. He is ready for a big slice of Color Me Lucky Rabbit's Foot Pie. ORDER UP!!

SCOTT MCKENZIE - JOE

This is Scott's first time on stage with MCT, cast as the "Old Man" Joe (He fits the bill). As a retired music educator with a tenure in Montana schools for 40 plus years, Scott has been involved in numerous productions all from the director's point of view. Being involved with this production has truly been a pleasure. The voices in the ensemble cast are incredible and a joy to hear.

CHRISTINE KOWALCHIK- CO-DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

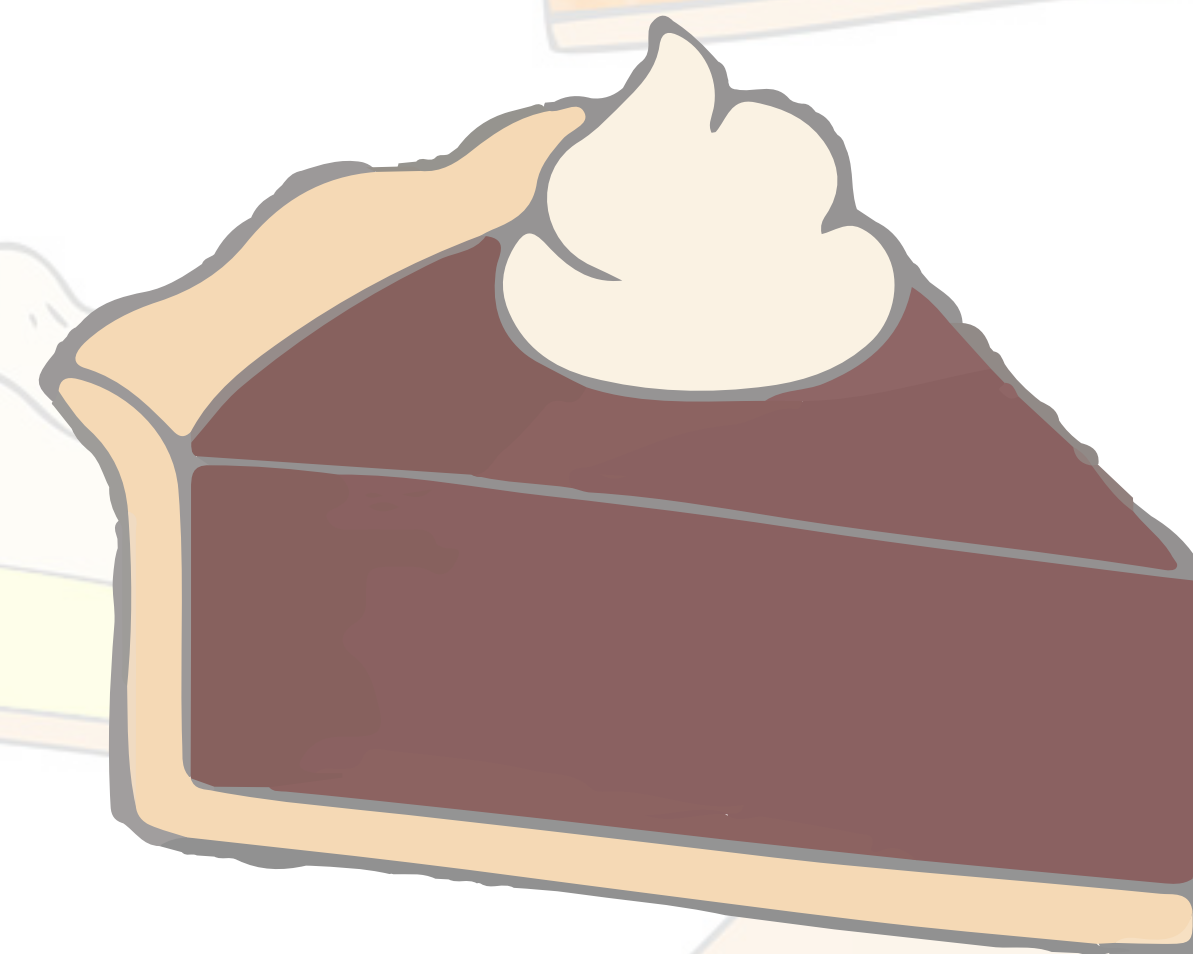
Christine is thrilled to make her Community Series directorial debut alongside this incredible team of creatives with a show that holds a special place in her heart. To be trusted to tell this story, with the mentorship of Joe Martinez, she believes is a true gift. You may have seen Christine's choreography most recently in MCT's production of *Rent*. When not creating musicals, she is owner/director of Show Tyme Academy, wife to her amazing husband Alex, MCT's production photographer, and mom to their incredibly spunky almost 4 -year-old son, Zander.

ARIELLE NACHTIGAL - MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR

After simmering on stage as Madame de la Grande Bouche in MCT's *Beauty and the Beast* last spring, Arielle returns to crimp the edges of music with these incredible singers and instrumentalists. She is grateful to be included in the recipe of this tasty production. Order up!

REBECCA JEFFERSON - STAGE MANAGER

Rebecca is excited to be a part of this wonderful production. She has worked on many plays over the past 5 years with MCT and MissCast Productions, including *Matilda*, *Rent*, and *Ordinary Days*. Rebecca loves to be behind the scenes, helping make the magic of live theater happen. Her favorite pie is pecan pie.



BIOS

NAT STOCKMANN - COSTUME DESIGN

Nat is thrilled and honored to be the costume designer for this production of *Waitress*. A year and a half ago, their sewing career led them to MCT. They began as a costume technician working on projects such as the 'horse butts' for *Young Frankenstein* and the Beast costume for *Beauty and the Beast*. This year Nat kicked off this season designing and building fish puppets for *Finding Nemo KIDS*. They love working on creative teams and hope you enjoy the show!

BLAIN RADFORD - LIGHTING DESIGN

Blain is back in the lighting booth for the second time this season! You might have seen his work before in *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, and *The Bridges of Madison County*, but no show has been as pink as *Waitress*! When he's not designing lights for a musical, Blain is a carpenter and painter here at MCT and has worked on all your favorite shows!

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—Sara Bareilles, *Waitress*

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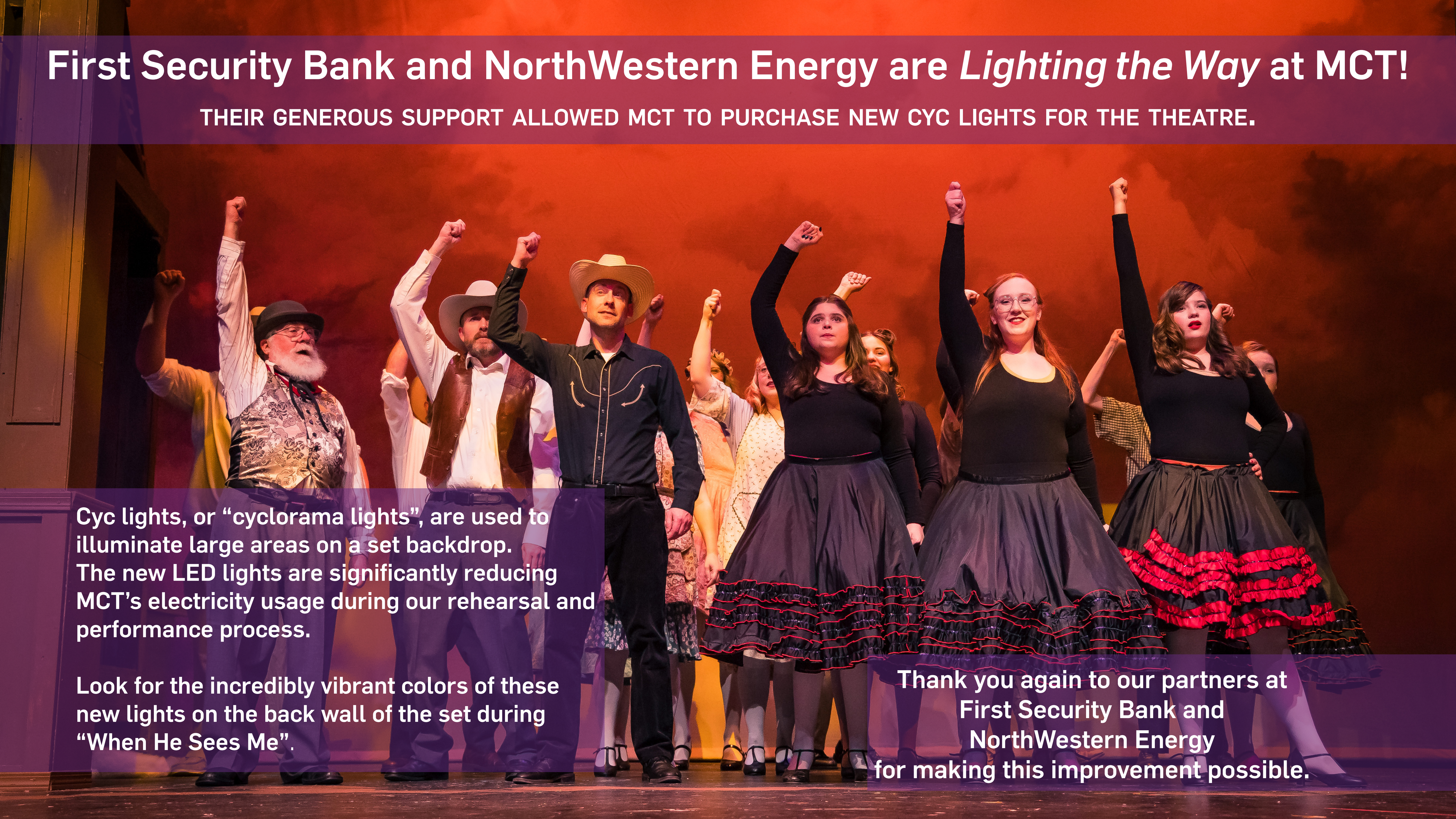


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First Security Bank and NorthWestern Energy are *Lighting the Way* at MCT!

THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT ALLOWED MCT TO PURCHASE NEW CYC LIGHTS FOR THE THEATRE.



Cyc lights, or “cyclorama lights”, are used to illuminate large areas on a set backdrop. The new LED lights are significantly reducing MCT’s electricity usage during our rehearsal and performance process.

Look for the incredibly vibrant colors of these new lights on the back wall of the set during “When He Sees Me”.

Thank you again to our partners at First Security Bank and NorthWestern Energy for making this improvement possible.

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Mom

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Dawn & Becky

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*MCT is deeply saddened by the sudden loss of two members of our community in 2024.
To honor the memory and legacy of these individuals, their loved ones have created scholarships in their name.*



The Logan Jacobson Memorial Scholarship is awarded to MCT summer day camp participants who exhibit some of Logan's most beautiful qualities – kind, inclusive, and generous.

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The Caleb Boelman Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to first-time Performing Arts Camp (PAC) participants from Montana. Caleb was passionate about ensuring everyone has access to the arts; this scholarship aims to alleviate the financial burden for future PAC campers who share Caleb's curiosity for everything and commitment to the arts.

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