

The Way Way West World Premiere and Musical Showcase - Friday August 29, 2025

Join us at the Missoula Children's Theatre for the exclusive world premiere of a new musical, *The Way Way West*. This special world premiere will feature a reception with the writers, a musical showcase highlighting the talents of the composers and cast, and the world premiere performance of *The Way Way West*. Your ticket also includes one complimentary beverage and light appetizers.

The writers and composers of this production have national renown - and Montana roots! During the world premiere event, you'll enjoy performances and storytelling from each composer and writer, including:

- Dan Sharkey, an actor, singer and director with Broadway credits, national touring experience, and off-Broadway shows (including 1,100+ performances as Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks!*).
- Chris Roberts, a Grammy-winning multi-instrumentalist songwriter who has recorded with artists like H.E.R. and Ashley McBride, and shared the stage with stars including Willie Nelson, Neil Young, and Jimmy Buffet.
- Mike Eldred, a vocalist, actor and recording artist who played Jean Valjean in the original Broadway production of *Les Misérables*, Tony in *West Side Story*, and has recorded five solo albums ranging from musical hits to John Denver tributes.
- Ross Bridgeman, a singer, songwriter, producer, and actor who is known for blending jazz and popular music styles in his work locally in Whitefish and around the county in Nashville, Los Angeles, and New York City.

Following the musical showcase, attendees will be the first audience members to witness the production of *The Way Way West*, a collection of five stories based on the true characters in the Mountain Meadows in the Utah territory in 1857. This production is rated PG-13; a full synopsis and advisory warning can be found [here](#).

The reception will begin at 6pm. The musical showcase will begin at 7pm; after a brief intermission, the performance of *The Way Way West* will begin around 8:15pm. An optional talk-back with the writers will take place around 9:45pm. This is a unique opportunity for attendees to provide thoughts and feedback directly to the writers after the world premiere of this production!

Purchase your \$67 ticket today to attend this reception, experience this musical showcase of incredible talent, and enjoy the world premiere of *The Way Way West*!