



MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS

The Magic of Live Theatre Since 1959

May Teaser

News of the Magic Circle Players

2025



INTO THE WOODS

Into the Woods is a musical with stunning music and clever lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by James Lapine. It intertwines the plots of several classic fairy tales, exploring the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. The Narrator (John Lange) introduces the story and tells all the tales. The central narrative follows a Baker (Jonathan Heath) and his Wife (Molly Neuman) who wish to have a child but are cursed by a Witch (Spencer Crosby). To break the spell, they must journey into the woods and retrieve magical items tied to other fairy tales characters. They meet Cinderella (Rachel Blankmeyer), Jack (Cole Patterson), Little Red Riding Hood (Hannah Wieder), and Rapunzel (Sarah Crawford). The cast also includes Keele Carver as Milky White, the cow, Riley Wolf Little (yes, that is his real name!) as the Big Bad Wolf, Joni Summers as Jack's Mother, and The 2 Handsome Princes played by Kenny Easton and Dalyn Pearson. Cinderella's Stepmother (Michelle Terry) and her stepsisters, Florinda (Eliana Masters) and Lucinda (Michaela Bishop) are properly

obsessed with appearances! And Cinderella's preoccupied Father, played by Steve Warner, is the epitome of cluelessness!

The first act ends with all characters seemingly getting what they want—happy endings abound. However, the second act delves into the fallout of those wishes, revealing the darker, more complicated realities that follow. Giants descend, relationships fray, and characters face grief, loss, and moral ambiguity. We are introduced to the secret identity of The Mysterious Man played by George Crosby and find out that the curses and the fall out may just have been his fault, after all. Through it all, the musical examines themes like responsibility, parenthood, desire, and the complexity of human nature.

Into the Woods is known for its witty, emotionally rich lyrics and sophisticated music. It balances humor and heartache, fantasy and realism, ultimately delivering the message that “no one is alone,” and that actions have lasting consequences—even in fairy tales. Co-Directed by Allyson Crosby and Kenny Easton.

Calendar


If you are interested in volunteering as a Magic Circle usher, please contact Lisa at mcp@montrose.net or (970)249-7838

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 4 May | 5 | 6 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 7 | 8 | 9  Into the Woods 7:30pm | 10 Into the Woods 7:30pm |
| 11 Into the Woods 2pm | 12 2 ACROSS AUDITIONS 6pm | 13 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 14 | 15 | 16 Into the Woods 7:30pm | 17 Into the Woods 7:30pm |
| 18 | 19 | 20 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 21 | 22 | 23 Into the Woods 7:30pm | 24 Into the Woods 7:30pm |
| 25 Into the Woods 2pm | 26 | 27 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 28 | 29 | 30 Into the Woods 7:30pm | 31 Into the Woods 7:30pm |
| 1 June Into the Woods 2pm | 2 | 3 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 11 | 12  HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 7pm | 13 HS Musical Jr. 7pm | 14 HS Musical Jr. 2pm & 7pm |
| 15 HS Musical Jr. 2pm | 16 | 17 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 18 HS Musical Jr. 7pm | 19 HS Musical Jr. 7pm | 20 HS Musical Jr. 7pm | 21 HS Musical Jr. 2pm |
| 22 Drama Camp Week 1 | 23 Drama Camp Week 1 | 24 Box office 2-5pm Drama Camp Week 1 | 25 Drama Camp Week 1 | 26 Drama Camp Week 1 | 27 Drama Camp Performances 2pm & 4pm | 28 |
| 29  What a Spot! AUDITIONS 6pm | 30 AUDITIONS What a Spot 6pm | 1 July Box office 2-5pm | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Drama Camp Week 2 | 7 Drama Camp Week 2 | 8 Box office 2-5pm Drama Camp Week 2 | 9 Drama Camp Week 2 | 10 Drama Camp Week 2 | 11 Drama Camp Performances 2pm & 4pm | 12 High School Drama Camp |
| 13 High School Drama Camp | 14 High School Drama Camp | 15 Box office 2-5pm High School Drama Camp | 16 High School Drama Camp | 17 High School Drama Camp | 18 High School Drama Camp | 19 High School Drama Camp Performances 2pm & 5pm |
| 20 | 21 | 22 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 23 | 24 | 25  2 ACROSS 7:30pm | 26 2 Across 7:30pm |
| 27 2 Across 2pm | 28 | 29 Box office open 2pm-5pm | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |

From Lisa


In the more than two decades that I have been involved with Magic Circle Players, I have witnessed the passing of some of the “old guard”, seen waves of new volunteers come into the theatre and adopt it as their own, and now watch as kids who grew up in Magic Circle take active roles in creating the magic of live theatre. One of those kids is my daughter, Shannon, with whom I have the delight of co-directing June’s Youth Theatre production of *High School Musical JR*.

We are excited to report that *My Funny Valentine Around the World* raised all the money needed to complete the rigging/safety and lighting upgrades. The lighting upgrades will mean replacing non-LED lights with LEDs, saving in electricals costs, and significantly reducing the number of electrical cords that are necessary for operating non-LEDs. Currently all of our stage lighting fixtures have to be adjusted by climbing a ladder and manually moving the light – the upgrades will allow that movement to be controlled by our lighting board. Our light bars will all be inspected, and replaced as needed; we will get new clamps, rigging chain, and cables. These upgrades greatly increase the safety of our volunteers, our equipment and our facility. The work is scheduled to be done the week of August 18, 2025. We have the opportunity to disassemble what is currently hanging; our volunteer hours will result in considerable savings. If you would like to volunteer some time and muscle, (we’ll feed you) please email mcp@montrose.net.

Production of 

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Directed by Lisa Rediger & Shannon Rediger



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

Book by **David Simpatico**
Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie Written by **Peter Barsocchini**
Songs by **Matthew Gerrard & Robbie Nevil, Ray Cham, Greg Cham & Andrew Seeley, Randy Petersen & Kevin Quinn, Andy Dodd & Adam Watts, Bryan Louiselle, David N. Lawrence & Faye Greenberg, Jamie Houston**
Music Adapted, Arranged and Produced by **Bryan Louiselle**

JUNE 2025

June 12 · 13 · 14 · 18 · 19 · 20
@ 7:30pm
June 14 · 15 · 21 @ 2pm
Youth Tickets ONLY \$10

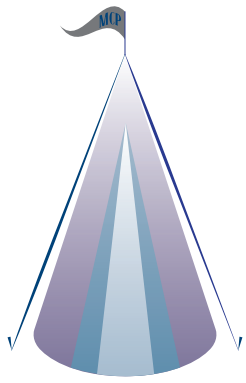


Joy McCracken was just a toddler when she started accompanying her mom, MCP veteran, Marlene Stewart, to the theatre. She was eight years old when she was cast in *Oliver*, and although she only performed one other time, she has always been a staunch supporter of the theatre, and for the last two decades, as both of her daughters have been on the stage, and active at Magic Circle, Joy has worked back stage, and on the prop committee. Joy is aptly named, her spirit and smile are bright, and she serves with whole-hearted generosity. Thank you Joy!



Season Tickets

Season Tickets for the 2025/2026 Season will be available May 27, 2025



YOUTH THEATRE DRAMA CAMP

MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS

Elementary and Middle school productions are **June 27 and July 11 @ 4pm & 6pm**, with both plays performed in each time slot. The Elementary Actors' play combines Rumpelstiltskin and a bit of the Midas story in *Too Much Gold*, directed by former Drama Camper, Keele Carver. Middle School Actors,

under the direction of Nancy Ballantyne, will perform *Bad Read at Clearwater*, a tale of the wild west. These original productions are written by Nancy Ballantyne and each actor has the same number of lines.



**June 27
and
July 11
@ 4pm
& 6pm**

DRAMA CAMPERS *Perform*

*Want to see the
beginnings of future
Magic Circle Players' performers?*

The High School Drama production, directed by Dru Weaver, is on **Saturday, July 19 @ 2pm & 5pm**, and the actors will be performing comedy shorts in two acts: *Fairy Tale Characters Meet Real Life* and *Superheroes You've Never Heard Of*.



**July 19 @
2pm & 5pm**

DIRECTED BY: DRU WEAVER
WRITTEN BY: ALEXI ALFIERI

DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



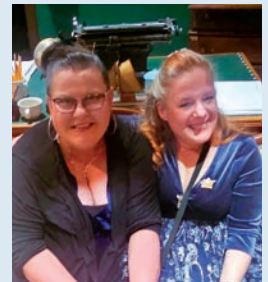
You Can't Take It With You Director Michelle Terry

It was an honor to direct this production and to work alongside such talented individuals; I am incredibly proud of what we accomplished! A heartfelt thank-you to our talented cast;

each brought their characters to life with nuance and depth. The chemistry on stage was palpable, and it truly showcased the play's central themes of love, individuality, and the importance of family. I extend my gratitude to our dedicated production team. Our designers, stage crew, and technical staff worked tirelessly to create an immersive environment that captured the essence of the 1930s. The set design, costumes, and lighting all contributed to the vibrant world of the play. The hard work behind the scenes did not go unnoticed and was crucial to our success.

Throughout our journey, we faced challenges—be it in timing, character development, or technical aspects. However, each obstacle was an opportunity for growth. The cast and crew's willingness to embrace feedback and support one another created a collaborative atmosphere that enriched our performances.

The audience's reactions were overwhelmingly positive, and it's clear that the themes of prioritizing what truly matters in life—love, family, creativity, and joy above material success, resonated deeply with them. The laughter, applause, and heartfelt responses affirmed the hard work and passion we all poured into this production.



2 ACROSS

Directed by Ginny Spaven

JULY 25 & 26 @ 7:30PM
SUNDAY, JULY 27 @ 2PM

Two strangers, a man and a woman, board a San Francisco BART train about 4:10 one morning. They are alone in the car, both going to the end of the line, and both doing the same Saturday New York Times crossword. She is an organized, sensible psychologist. He's a free-spirited, unemployed ad exec. She is a crossword pro, he always quits before finishing. When he tosses his puzzle aside, she snaps, "Crosswords are metaphors for life, those who finish, succeed; those who don't, fail." But, he is competitive and she happens to be lovely. The result is an 82-minute trip filled with unpredictable surprises and beautifully crafted humor.

2 ACROSS

BY JERRY MAYER

Directed by
Ginny Spaven



AUDITIONS
MAY 12 @ 6PM

CASTING 1 Man & 1 Woman (Ages 35 - 55)
Audition Packets available online at magiccircleplayers.com

"2 ACROSS" IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM

What a Spot!

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jack Sharkey & Dave Reiser
Directed by Pam Carlson

Take castaway Robinson Crusoe, and his friend Friday, then add in an amorous, lonely gorilla named Lolita. Toss in Ginny and Denise, two lovely kooch dancers, who are pretending to be shipwrecked society ladies. Stir in a double dose of zaniness and confusion, and top-notch music. Mix it all together on a small, uncharted tropical island and you have a recipe for a comical, energetic and entertaining musical adventure!

Casting 2 Men,
2 Women, 1 Gorilla | Audition Packets available
at magiccircleplayers.com

AUDITIONS
JUNE 29 @ 6PM
JUNE 30 @ 6PM

PERFORMANCES SEPT. 2025

WHAT A SPOT! IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM





It's a WRAP! *You Can't Take It With You*



BOARD OF GOVERNORS Kevin Innaelli • Kenny Easton • Merrilee Robertson • Allyson Crosby • Rich Burt. • Michelle Terry • Dru Weaver

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