



MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS

The Magic of Live Theatre Since 1959

September Teaser

News of the Magic Circle Players

2026

MISERY

By William Goldman

Based on the novel by Stephen King

Deep in the frozen isolation of the Colorado mountains, celebrated novelist Paul Sheldon (Scott Pollak) awakens after a devastating car crash to discover that he has been rescued by Annie Wilkes, (Spencer Crosby) a former nurse and his self-proclaimed "number one fan." At first, Annie seems kind, devoted, and eager to care for him but beneath her warm smile lies something deeply unsettling. The doors are locked. The telephone is gone. No one knows where Paul is. When Annie discovers that he has killed off her favorite fictional character, her admiration erupts into terrifying obsession, and her remote farmhouse becomes a prison. Trapped, badly injured, and completely

dependent on a woman whose cheerful mood can twist into explosive rage without warning, Paul is forced to write a new novel under her constant watch. Every page must satisfy her. Every word could betray him. Every creaking floorboard and approaching footstep could mean he has been discovered. With no escape and no one coming to save him, Paul must turn his greatest weapon, his imagination, into his only chance of survival. Based on Stephen King's legendary thriller, *Misery* is a relentless battle of obsession, control, manipulation, and madness that will leave audiences frozen in suspense until the final, heart-pounding moment. ***Opens September 4, 2026***

Would
you like to
see your
business
here?



David & Gaynelle
MIZE

Nick & Ginny

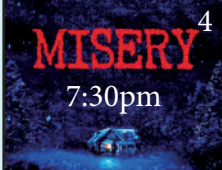


BOARD OF GOVERNORS Kenny Easton · Rich Burt · Allyson Crosby · Janel Culver · Merrilee Robertson · Michelle Terry · Dru Weaver EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Lisa Rediger

(970) 249-7838 • MagicCirclePlayers.com • mcp@montrose.net • PO Box 1897 • 420 S. 12th St. • Montrose, CO 81402

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
30	31	1 Box Office open 2pm-5pm SEPT.	2	3	4  Misery 7:30pm	5 Misery 7:30pm
6 Misery 2pm	7	8 Box Office open 2pm-5pm	9	10	11 Misery 7:30pm	12 Misery 7:30pm
13 Misery 2pm Annual General Meeting 5:30pm	14	15 Box Office open 2pm-5pm	16	17	18 Misery 7:30pm	19 Misery 7:30pm
20 Misery 2pm	21	22 Box office Open 2pm-5pm	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Box Office open 2pm-5pm	30	1 OCT.	2  The Last Trial of Alfred Packer 7:30pm	3 The Last Trial of Alfred Packer 7:30pm
4 The Last Trial of Alfred Packer 2pm Silent Sky Auditions 7pm	5 Auditions 7pm 	6 Box office Open 2pm-5pm	7	8	9	10
11  Auditions 7pm	12 Odd Couple Auditions 7pm	13 Box Office open 2pm-5pm	14	15	16	17  Auditions 3pm

Save the Date

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, September 13 @ 5:30pm at Rotary Park.

Dinner Provided RSVP to boxoffice@magiccircleplayers.com

PO Box 1987 • 420 S 12th St • Montrose • 970-249-7838
boxoffice@magiccircleplayers.com • magiccircleplayers.com

Believing in the power of live theatre, we harness local volunteer talent to create transformative experiences that entertain, engage and build community, making theatre accessible to all in Western Colorado.

From Lisa

I have heard rumors that some season ticket holders are choosing not to renew their passes because they don't care for this season's line-up. May I invite you to reconsider?

1. A year ago, a committee of five, ages 18 - 80, with varied professions, but including a published author, read plays submitted by seven directors, then recommended a season line-up to the Board of Governors. We have an American classic, a musical that engages our youth actors, an award-winning drama, a comedy, and a thriller. Our goal is to serve our whole community; a production that is not preferred by one will have another guest coming twice. We value entertaining and engaging our Patrons, and connecting to the next wave of theatre supporters.
2. Patron/Season Passes are a GREAT DEAL! For five Mainstage productions and two Readers Theatre shows, the price is an unbeatable \$145. Even if you don't attend all the shows, the Patron/Season Pass gives you access to premium seats.
3. With a Patron/Season Pass you are investing in an organization that has brought culture, entertainment, and education since 1959, providing a foundation of community, confidence, and belonging for directors, actors, musicians, technical talent, youth, and audiences. As a bonus we are live theatre; no AI here!

Thank You Montrose for sixty-seven years of exceptional support!



Donny Morales always brings the best vibes and energy into our midst, and is tremendously talented! Despite having a busy schedule as a professional musician, he has managed to find time to appear as a singer, musician and actor in the *My Funny Valentine* shows and perfectly voiced Audrey 2 in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He painted remarkable murals, adding artistry to the set design of *Into the Woods* and *Sweeney Todd*. We look forward to more collaboration opportunities with D-Mo in the future!



Donny Morales

When the crew needed her most, **Racheal Paradis** stepped up in a huge way. With only one week until opening night, Racheal jumped in, like the boss she is, to operate lights for *Sweeney Todd* and helped make sure the show was ready to shine. Racheal is one of the sweetest and kindest people you will meet; she is always supportive, brings a positive attitude, and is willing to help whenever someone needs it. Racheal is a wonderful addition to our Magic Circle family, and we are incredibly thankful to have her!



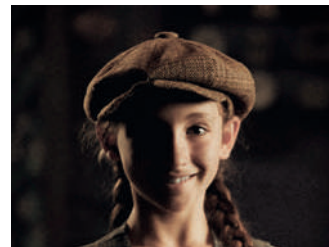
Rachel Paradis

Patti Scriffiny has filled many roles over many years as a volunteer with Magic Circle Players, most recently offering her talents as Music Director for *Honk JR* and her contribution is beyond measure! She crafted twenty-two young actors between the ages of six to eighteen into wonderful songbirds (frogs and cats too) with masterful skill and the patience of a saint. She pitched in with organization and creativity to help create a fun and memorable show. The heart, soul and dedication that Patti gives to every project supports the Magic Circle goal of quality live theatre in our community.



Patti Scriffiny

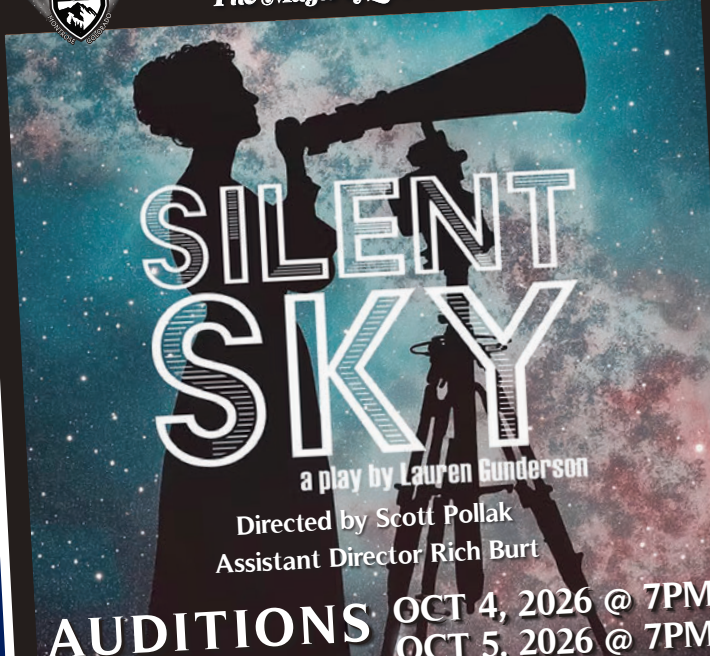
Gaia Bailey stepped up in a big way for Magic Circle Players this year. After doing a fantastic job in *Matilda*, she showed up one day during *Sweeney Todd* simply ready to help build the set—and before long, she had become an invaluable part of both the cast and crew. Whether she was performing onstage, helping behind the scenes, or assisting with projections and lighting, Gaia brought an incredible attitude and willingness to jump in wherever she was needed. We are so grateful for Gaia's hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication, and we're excited to recognize this remarkable young volunteer!



Gaia Bailey

COME *Audition* WITH US

 **MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS**
The Magic of Live Theatre Since 1959



SILENT SKY
a play by Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Scott Pollak
Assistant Director Rich Burt

AUDITIONS OCT 4, 2026 @ 7PM
OCT 5, 2026 @ 7PM

CASTING 4 Women (30 - 50) & 1 Man (30's)

It's 1900, and Henrietta Leavitt, an astronomer ahead of her time, has the opportunity to work at Harvard University as a human computer, one of Dr. Edward Pickering's "harem", mapping the stars but receiving no scientific credit. However, Henrietta begins the recording the changes in Cepheid stars - a decision with profound impact on the field of astronomy, and her life. Silent Sky is the poignant tale of a woman's dedication to the stars, and the human touch that makes life under the vast sky beautiful and timeless.

SILENT SKY is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Dramatists Play Service

 **MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS**
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My *Fun*ny Valentine
ONCE UPON A LIFETIME
By Jamie Gann · Directed by Lisa Rediger & Jamie Gann

AUDITIONS OCT 17 @ 3PM

CASTING Singers/ Dancers/ Actors, Ages 15 - 99
12 Women, 12 Men, 1 Troubador (Singer/Guitar Player)

On a street corner, where a coffee shop and book shop meet, the left behind fairytales of our childhood are rediscovered as modern day grown-ups are finding love, facing giants, and following breadcrumbs to find their way home again. Colorful characters, unforgettable music, and fabulous choreography make this a cherished Valentine tradition.

 **MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS**
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Neil Simon's **The Odd Couple**



AUDITIONS
Directed by John Lange and Janel Culver
OCTOBER 11, 2026 @ 7PM
OCTOBER 12, 2026 @ 7PM

THE ODD COUPLE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Dramatists Play Service

This comedy follows two divorced, mismatched friends—fastidious Felix Ungar and slovenly Oscar Madison—who share a New York apartment. Oscar has money problems and a poorly kept house, but enjoys life. Felix seems utterly incapable of enjoying anything and his propensity to constructive criticism, and compulsive neatness drives Oscar crazy. Their clashing lifestyles cause comedic upheaval, and a rift; can their friendship survive their differences?

CASTING
6 Men and
2 Women



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**THE LAST TRIAL OF
ALFERD
PACKER**

by Michael Brooks & Paul Edwards

Directed by
Kenny & Jen Easton

OCT 2 & 3 @ 7:30PM · OCT @ 2PM

Set against the rugged backdrop of the San Juan Mountains, the play explores the mysterious events surrounding Alferd Packer (Kevin Innarelli) and his ill-fated expedition after an encounter with Chief Ouray, blending historical accounts with theatrical imagination. Featuring well-known Coloradans: Otto Mears (Dalyn Pearson), builder of The Million Dollar Highway, and Polly Pry (Wendy Bodwell) an adventurous social activist who became one of the first women to run her own newspaper. The cast is a powerhouse of Magic Circle veteran performers: Karen Rosga, Merrilee Robertson, Brandon Chevalier, Ilsa Moberg, George Crosby, Rob Robertson, Kevin Cohenour, and Tom Chamberlain. What makes this production especially exciting is its interactive format—audiences don't just watch the story unfold; they help decide its outcome.

Alferd or Alfred? Although his birth certificate and grave read Alfred, and it is the name recorded on most of his legal records, Packer had "Alferd Packer" misspelled and tattooed on his right arm during his time in the Union Army. He grew fond of the error and occasionally spelled his name that way later in life. The author of our play prefers Alferd.

MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS
and
SOUTH RIVER FARM

★ INVITE YOU TO A ★

Country Western
HOEDOWN

TICKET \$65
meal included

- ★ LIVE BANDS
- ★ LINE DANCE INSTRUCTION
- ★ FOOD TRUCKS
- ★ CASH BAR
- ★ BARN TOURS
- ★ UDDERLY ADORABLE PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

Join us for Magic Circle Players' **Country Western Hoedown!** It's a **BARN DANCE** with a purpose. **ENJOY** food trucks, (meal included in the ticket price) live music, square/line dancing instruction, and celebrate Colorado's beautiful autumn while helping raise money to purchase the land on which the theatre sits. We are over halfway through our 99-year land rental and are delighted to have been offered the opportunity to own the land and secure our forever home. Through your generosity, we are over halfway there and invite you to invest while you play!

★ **SEPT. 26, 2026** ★

★ DOORS OPEN @ 5:30PM ★
★ EVENT BEGINS @ 6PM ★

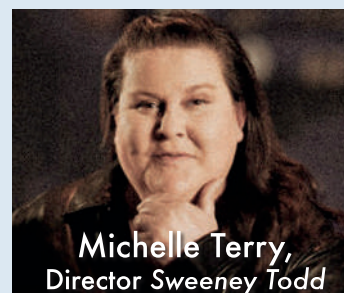
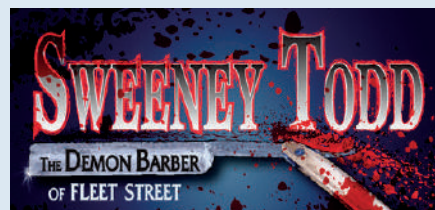
✦ **TICKETS @ MAGICCIRCLEPLAYERS.COM** ✦

DIRECTORS' PERSPECTIVE



Directing *Sweeney Todd* was one of the most incredible and rewarding experiences of my life. The love I have for our production is almost impossible to put into words. The bonds we formed, the ups and downs, the long and grueling rehearsals over more than six months, and the love we all shared for this show made it something truly special. The set, the costumes, the actors, the crew, the lighting, the sound, the props, every detail helped bring our show to life. I was surrounded by an extraordinary group of talented, experienced, creative, and intelligent people who helped

me build this production and bring my vision to the stage. It was rewarding to receive so many wonderful reviews and have audience members return because they wanted to experience *Sweeney Todd* again. I am so proud, so happy, and so thankful for the opportunity to direct this production at such a beautiful theatre. I will never forget it. Director *Michelle Terry*



Michelle Terry,
Director *Sweeney Todd*



Being a part of the Director Training Workshop was a great experience. I am so grateful for all the amazing volunteers that put their time into helping and supporting us as we prepared our first productions. Getting to direct such talented actors in *Date With Death* is an experience I won't ever forget. I want to say a special thanks to Bob Allyn, Justine Jacobi and Jamie Hurst for believing in me and being so fun to work with! Thank you, Magic Circle, for giving me this opportunity! *Nichole Kurtz*



Director Training Workshop Directors:
L to R Jonathan Heath, Nicole Kurtz,
Everett Gregory and Janel Culver

I could not have asked for a better cast for my first time as a solo director! Each of them brought unique perspectives and insights to the show. They were a wonderful support group for me as well throughout this learning journey! *The Last Act is a Solo* grabbed me the second I opened the script, and the visual image that I had in my head as I read it, was flawlessly executed by the entire team. *Janel Culver*

My #1 goal in staging *The Actor's Nightmare* was to have fun with it and have fun we did! Our rehearsals were full of laughs, and our audience members joined in on the fun. I could not be more grateful for the talented group of actors willing to work with me on my first directing gig. John, Patti, Mary, Jamie, and Rich – you all did such terrific work bringing this clever script to life. Marlene's costume ideas added the finishing sparkle. It was a joy to watch, and I will remember it forever. *Jonathan Heath*

It's a WRAP! Director Training Workshop



It's a Wrap!



Drama Camp 2026 Crew

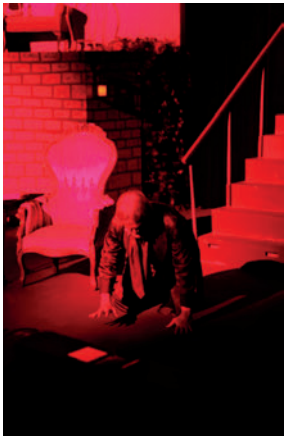
Back, L to R: Thomas Hampton, Lukas Kurtz, Ada Lebsack. Front, L to R: Sami Hampton, Nichole Kurtz, Nancy Ballantyne, Addie Howell



Honk! JR Crew

Assistant Director, Corie Smith; Director, Dru Weaver; Music Director, Patti Scriffiny





It's a WRAP! *Sweeney Todd*
photography by Montrose Photo and Video



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