

PROGRAM NOTES

Missoula Children's Theatre was co-founded in 1970 by Jim Caron and Don Collins, who currently serve as CEO and Senior Development Officer respectively. Jim and Executive Director, Michael McGill, supervise the intense training period for the "tour teams" and have created the twelve original musicals that are currently touring with 43 teams of MCT Tour Actor/Directors – including the one you are enjoying today.

Your cast auditioned for this show at the beginning of the week and has been rehearsing for just a few short days. We are confident that you will be amazed by what they have accomplished. We are proud to say that more than 65,000 young people will participate as performers in the Missoula Children's Theatre International Tour Project this season. More than 1,200 communities in all 50 states, 2 Canadian territories and 4 provinces and 16 countries will be visited – communities from Minocqua, Wisconsin to Misawa, Japan.

If you are moved by what you saw this week, please help us keep the Missoula Children's Theatre International Tour on the road by making a donation to MCT online at www.mctinc.org or by mail at:

MCT Development Department
200 N. Adams Street
Missoula, MT 59802

Do you know a corporate executive? Introduce us so we can tell them about our new *MCT Corporate Partners Program*. If they sign on, your community will earn a free residency for as long as the partnership is in place. Contact Don Collins for more information.

Don Collins, Senior Development Officer
dcollins@mctinc.org
Cell phone: 206-604-7635

Cate Sundeen, Development Director
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406-728-1911

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MINTURN — COMMUNITY FUND PRESENTS



Conceived and Written by
MICHAEL MCGILL

Music and Lyrics by
MICHAEL MCGILL

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

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Cast of Characters:

Dotty	Shelby Farrell
Mooch	Carson Pinker
Scared Crow	Noël Smith
Lionel	Sydney Blair
Tinhorn.....	Hunter Honnessy
Hawknose Halley.....	Danielle Chmielewski
Dr. Ozzy.....	Julian Nisonoff
Top Dog.....	Celia Smith
Mad Dog	Austin Argueso-Nott
Bad Dog	Salem Blair
Coyotes.....	Holden Honnessy Merit Pinker Alicia Roman Jessica Sullivan Sara Sullivan Rachel Weiss
Ma Munch.....	Alicia Roman
Pa Munch	Holden Honnessy
Munch Kin.....	Merit Pinker Jessica Sullivan Sara Sullivan Rachel-Marie Weiss
Buzzards	Linnea Andersson Sophie Bower Cassandra Garcia Axelina Manning Natalie Vance Sophia Walder
Tarantulas.....	Megan Argueso-Nott Mara Millette Julian Nisonoff Sophia Nisonoff Grace Smith
Directors.....	Liz Michael Hartford & Autumn Joan Tilson
Accompanist	Kim Denning
Cyclone Sal/Sam – Tour Actor/Director	Autumn Joan Tilson
Producer.....	Minturn Community Fund

LIZ MICHAEL HARTFORD— MCT Director

Liz is thrilled to be part of the Missoula Children's Theatre for the summer season- her first with the company! Liz hails from Middleboro, Massachusetts (GO RED SOX!) and is a graduate from Saint Michael's College in Burlington, Vermont. Liz also studied at the British American Drama Academy in London, England where she played the roles of "Viola" in TWELFTH NIGHT and "Medea" in MEDEA. Other favorite show credits include: "Major General's Daughter" in PIRATES OF PENZANCE; "Baker's Wife" in INTO THE WOODS; "Woman" in LAUGHING WILD; and "Baby John" in WEST SIDE STORY. In September, Liz will be touring with The National Theatre for Arts and Education playing "Dulcinea" in a bilingual production of DON QUIXOTE. Liz can't think of a better way to spend her summer than with talented young people all over the country! She sends much love and thanks to her family and friends.



AUTUMN JOAN TILSON— MCT Director & Cyclone Sal

Autumn is very excited to be touring with the Missoula Children's Theatre. A native of Savannah, Georgia, she graduated from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey in 2006 with dual degrees in theatre and music. Favorite roles include: "Petronella Van Daan" in THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK; "Penelope Pennywise" in URINETOWN; "Glinda" in THE WIZARD OF OZ; "Mary MacGregor" in THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE; and "Meg March" in LITTLE WOMEN. Autumn is ecstatic to be bringing theatre and music to children around the globe with such a great company.



MINTURN — COMMUNITY FUND

MISSION STATEMENT

"Connecting people who care with causes and events to enrich the quality of life in the Minturn area."
FOR MORE INFO ON THE M.C.F., CALL ASHLEY: 970-401-3173

MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS WHO HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE THIS COMMUNITY EVENT!



VAIL VALLEY
FOUNDATION





NOËL SMITH— Scared Crow
 Age: 12 Hometown: Eagle-Vail
 Noel has been in seven theatre productions before this one. She enjoys theatre because acting, dancing and singing is what she does best. Noel loves to sing and dance (Tap, Jazz and Ballet). She has been in many school plays and has also done plays for the Wisconsin Professional Theatre School where she was in "Cinderella" and "Oliver Twist." Noel would like to thank her friend Sharron Overcash. She is the person that got Noel into acting.



JESSICA SULLIVAN—Coyote & Munch Kin
 Age: 9 Hometown: Minturn
 This is Jessica's first-ever theatre production and she's enjoyed the experience because she's gotten the opportunity to meet new friends. Plus, it's turned-out to be a lot of fun too! Jessica would like to thank her dad for telling her to be in the show and her mom for her support.



SARA SULLIVAN—Coyote & Munch Kin
 Age: 8 Hometown: Minturn
 This is Sara's first-ever theatre production! When asked what she likes about acting and theatre, she replied "Liz and Autumn and meeting so many new friends." Sara would like to thank her mom and her dad because they are the people who encouraged her to come to audition for the play.



NATALIE VANCE—Buzzard
 Age: 8 Hometown: Minturn
 Natalie has been in 5 theatre productions before stepping into "Wiz of the West." She loves moving around and singing when she's on the stage and she would like to thank Liz for all of her help with the play.



SOPHIA WALDER—Buzzard
 Age: 7 Hometown: Dallas
 Sophia has been in a few theatrical productions before this one. She especially loved being in "The Wizard of Oz." She enjoys acting-out other characters and singing and dancing. She'd like to thank her mom and her dad for letting her participate in this experience.

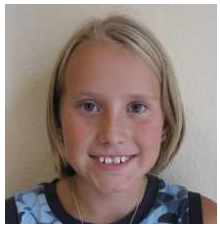


RACHEL-MARIE WEISS—Coyote & Munch Kin
 Age: 10 Hometown: Vail
 This is Rachel's first-ever theatre production. She's really enjoyed being on stage because you "kinda just get to be someone you wouldn't usually be." Rachel would like to thank Liz & Autumn and her mom for telling her about this and encouraging her to do it.



KIM DENNING— Accompanist Extraordinaire!
 Kim has been seen throughout the Vail Valley on both sides of the stage: both on and behind! She has been involved in a number of productions in the valley with different theatre groups and is currently the Music Director of the Eagle Valley Children's Chorale. She has very much enjoyed watching how quickly the children learn! Kim would like to thank, "Autumn and Liz who have done a great job. It's fun to be a part of! I would also like to thank the Minturn Community Fund for bringing this production to the valley!"

LINNEA ANDERSON—Buzzard
 Age: 9 Hometown: Vail
 Linnea is no stranger to performing before an audience. She has performed in 10 chorale concerts and 3 plays before today. Linnea really enjoys having an audience and showing everyone what she can do. Someday, she would like to be the main character in a play. Linnea would like to thank her parents for their support.



AUSTIN ARGUESO-NOTT—Mad Dog
 Age: 10 Hometown: Edwards
 This is Austin's first-ever theatre production. He has enjoyed theatre and acting because it's fun. Austin also loves the color green, his favorite food is steak and he sometimes plays basketball. Austin is excited to move to Hawaii in 9 months and would like to thank his mom for her support.



MEGAN ARGUESO-NOTT—Tarantula
 Age: 6 Hometown: Edwards
 This is Megan's first-ever theatre production. Megan likes ballet and thought that theatre and acting "sounded like fun." She says that "It's fun so far and I like the singing and dancing." Megan would like to thank her mom for helping her do this.



SALEM BLAIR—Bad Dog
 Age: 10 Hometown: Wilkesboro, NC
 This is Salem's 2nd time on stage and she thinks this play is going to be fun! Her first time on stage was in "Beauty and the Beast." Salem enjoys meeting people and having fun when she's acting. She also enjoys talking and playing basketball.



SYDNEY BLAIR—Lionel
 Age: 13 Hometown: Wilkesboro, NC
 When in Wilkesboro, Sydney attends Central Wilkes Middle School. She plays basketball and runs track. She has been in "The Wizard of Oz" back in Wilkes County and she hopes to be in many more productions. When it comes to theatre, Sydney really enjoys pushing herself to learn and perform. She would like to thank her Stage Managers, her Grandmother, and the rest of the actors in this production. "Enjoy the show!"



FOR MORE INFO ON THE M.C.F., CALL ASHLEY: 970-701-2172

SOPHIE BOWER—Buzzard
 Age: 7 Hometown: Minturn
 At the age of 7, Sophie had been on the stage three times before. She would like to thank her mom for letting her participate in this experience. Sophie would like to thank her mom for her support.



DANIELLE CHMIELEWSKI—Hawknose Halley
 Age: 8 Hometowns: Vail & Chicago
 This isn't Danielle's first theatre production. In fact, she's been quite a few theatre productions before this one. Danielle loves pretty much everything about theatre and acting. She'd like to thank her parents for their support.



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SHELBY FARRELL—Dotty

Age: 12.98 Hometown: Norwalk, CT
Shelby has been on one theatre production before “The Wiz of the West” but really enjoys being on stage and getting the chance to be different characters. This is her first time in a lead role and she’s very excited about it. Shelby would like to thank her Aunt Cathy for bringing her to practice. Also, she’d like to thank her cousins Jessica and Sara for helping her with her lines. Finally, she’d like to thank her teachers.



CASSONDR GARCIA—Buzzard

Age: 8 Hometown: Minturn
Cassandra has been on stage a couple of times before: once in a school play and once in a Ballet play too!
Cassandra really enjoys dancing and singing when she’s on stage.



HOLDEN HONNESSY—Coyote & Pa Munch

Age: 10 Hometown: Eagle
This is Holden’s first time on stage, but he’ll tell you that he pretty much likes everything about theatre. During the winter months, Holden enjoys snowboarding. Holden would like to thank his mom and dad for helping him be a part of this show.



HUNTER HONNESSY—Tinhorn

Age: 13 Hometown: Eagle
This is Hunter’s first-time in a theatre production. Hunter is Home Schooled by his mother in Eagle, Colorado. Though he has never acted before, he is really looking forward to doing more acting — as he’s found that it’s fun to be someone else when you’re on stage. Hunter would like to thank the entire Missoula Children’s Theatre for this experience.



AXELINA MANNING— Buzzard

Age: 8 Hometown: Minturn
Axelina has been on stage once before in a school play and another time for her Ballet class! When asked about what she likes about theatre and acting, she replied “It’s just really fun!”



MARA MILLETTE— Tarantula

Age: 7 Hometown: Edwards
Mara has been on stage before with her Ballet class in “The Fairies in the Forest.” Mara likes this experience because she has always wanted to sing on stage — but she “only likes one song best out of four.” When asked what she likes about theatre and acting, she responded: “I like to sing and I really like to hear the extra clapping.” Mara would like to thank her mom and her step-dad because they got her into this.



JULIAN NISONOFF—Dr. Ozzy

Age: 7 Hometown: Vail
Julian was in a theatre production once in Kindergarten, but this is his first-time being in front of a whole bunch of people. He enjoys theatre and acting because it’s something that he’s good at and because it’s so much fun. Julian would like to thank all of the people that made this experience possible.

SOPHIA NISONOFF—Tarantula

Age: 5 Hometown: Vail
Sophia has been on stage once before as a bumblebee in Ballet! She really enjoys being on stage and having fun and she’s excited for the show.

CARSON PINKER— Mooch

Age: 8 Hometown: Dallas, TX
Carson has been in about 5 or so productions before “Wiz of the West.” Carson really loves acting and performing and pretty much loves everything about the stage! She would like to thank today’s Directors, Autumn and Liz for their help with the show.

MERIT PINKER—Coyote & Munch Kin

Age: 10 Hometown: Dallas, TX
Merit is no stranger to the stage — as this is about her 7th production. She absolutely loved being in all of the productions as she finds theatre and acting to be quite fun. She’d like to thank her mom for telling her about this opportunity and she wants everyone to know that she loves puppies!

ALICIA ROMAN— Coyote & Ma Munch

Age 11 Hometown: Denver
Alicia has been in one theatre production before this one. When it comes to theatre and acting, she enjoys who she gets to work with and the things she gets to do. She’d like to thank her mom for getting her into this and the teachers who helped her. Alicia really loves any art including creative writing, singing and dancing, drawing and sketching.

CELIA SMITH— Top Dog

Age: 11 Hometown: Vail
Celia has been in 6 plays before she arrived for “Wiz of the West.” When asked what she likes about being on stage she replied, “You get to be a different person, make new friends, and I always have so much fun hanging-out with the Directors and practicing. Plus: I really like doing the real play.” Celia is good at sports, she’s a black belt and she believes in everything — like dreams, miracles and God especially because he gives her everything she has, including this great play. Celia would like to thank: “1) God for her talent. 2) Her parents. 3) This wonderful production.

GRACE SMITH—Tarantula

Age: 7 Hometown: Vail
This is Grace’s first play! So far, Grace has really enjoyed the “acting” part of theatre. Grace would like to extend a thank-you to her mom today.

