Big Fish

By John August, Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Performed through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide

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This program was supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts

Director
Rhonda Marie Schmidt

Music Director
Julie Johnson

Orchestra Director
Matthew Byczynski

Master Carpenter & Scenic Designer
AJ Simon

Stage Manager
Jennifer Allen

Costume Designer
Lisa Quinn

Choreographer
Christol Wagner

Fight/Intimacy Choreographer
Kara Penrose

Sound Designer
Jacob Sudbrink

Lighting Designer
Aaron Schmidt

Properties Designer
Ian Hueston

Projection Designers
Aaron Schmidt & Kenneth Kornacki

Big Fish
March 12-March 29, 2020

Margaret Brate Bryant Civic Theatre Building
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Waukesha Civic Theatre

Silent Sky

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CAST

Edward .............................................................................................................. Mark Neufang
Sandra.............................................................................................................. Katie Berg
Will ................................................................................................................. Eric Bergendahl
Young Will ............................................................... Logan Bebo Welter
Josephine ...................................................................................................... Alyssa Proell
Dr. Bennett ...................................................................................................... Keith R. Smith
Jenny Hill/Dance Captain ................................................................. Ashley Sprangers
Don Price ....................................................................................................... Kevin Gadzialinski
Zacky Price ..................................................................................................... Nicholas Hollenbeck
Witch ............................................................................................................... Margaret Teshner
Giant/Karl ...................................................................................................... Christian Spaay
Amos ................................................................................................................. Noah Maguire
Ensemble ........................................................................................................ Megan Hammerer
Ensemble ......................................................................................................... Christina Hoehn
Ensemble ....................................................................................................... Carly Irland
Ensemble ......................................................................................................... Megan Jay
Ensemble ........................................................................................................ Christopher Johnston
Ensemble ......................................................................................................... Anna LaPean
Ensemble/Dance Captain ................................................................................. Matt Przybylski
Ensemble ......................................................................................................... Alejandra Razo
Ensemble ......................................................................................................... Madeline Waskiewicz
Ensemble Kids ................................................................................................. Kayla Carriveau
Ensemble Kids ................................................................................................. Lauren DeGroot
Ensemble Kids ................................................................................................. Kieran Plautz
Ensemble Kids ................................................................................................. Natalie Rhodes

ORCHESTRA

Keyboard/Conductor ................................................................. Matt Byczynski
Reed 1 .............................................................................................................. Olivia Dobbs
Reed 2 .............................................................................................................. Lynn Lewandowski
French Horn .................................................................................................... Laura Clausing
Trumpet (March 13-22) ................................................................. Brett Westphal
Trumpet (March 27-29) .................................................................................... Kobina Davis
Violin .................................................................................................................. Abigail Kelly
Viola .................................................................................................................... Jared Judge
Guitar 1 ................................................................................................................ Jay Kummer
Guitar 2 ................................................................................................................ Paul Lehner
Bass ....................................................................................................................... Laura Proeber
Drums/Percussion ............................................................................................. Ken Marchand
Act I
Scene 1 – River Bank
Scene 2 – Young Will’s Bedroom

Be The Hero ................................................................................................................. Edward, Ensemble

Scene 3 – The Swamp

I Know What You Want ........................................................................................... Edward, Witches

Scene 4 – River Bank
Scene 5 – Wedding Reception
Scene 6 – Doctors’ Offices

Just Take Another Look ............................................................................................. Josephine, Will

Stranger ......................................................................................................................... Will

Scene 7 – Central Park

Stranger (Con’t) ........................................................................................................... Will

Scene 8 – Edward and Sandra’s House

Two Men In My Life ..................................................................................................... Sandra

Scene 9 – Ashton Town Square

Ashton’s Favorite Son .................................................................................................. Jenny Hill, Townsfolk

Scene 10 – Fantastical Forest
Scene 11 – The Cave

Out There on the Road ............................................................................................... Edward, Karl, Jenny Hill, Townsfolk

Scene 12 – Calloway Circus

Little Lamb from Alabama .......................................................................................... Sandra, Friends

Time Stops ....................................................................................................................... Edward, Sandra

Closer to Her ................................................................................................................... Edward, Amos, Circus Folk

Scene 13 – Auburn University

Daffodils ......................................................................................................................... Edward, Sandra

Act II
Scene 1 – The War

Red, White, and True .................................................................................................... Edward, Sandra, Ensemble

Scene 2 – Young Will’s Bedroom

Fight The Dragons ....................................................................................................... Edward, Young Will

Scene 3 – Edward’s Bedroom

Showdown ....................................................................................................................... Edward, Will, Ensemble

I Don’t Need A Roof ..................................................................................................... Sandra

Scene 4 – Jenny Hill’s House
Scene 5 – Ashton Town Square

Start Over ......................................................................................................................... Edward, Don Price, Amos, Karl, Ensemble

Scene 6 – The Hospital

What’s Next ....................................................................................................................... Edward, Will, Ensemble

How It Ends ..................................................................................................................... Edward

Scene 7 – River Bank

The Procession ............................................................................................................... Ensemble

Be The Hero (Reprise) .................................................................................................... Will

Big Fish is performed in two acts. There will be one fifteen minute intermission.
PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR & WIG MASTER................................................................. RHONDA MARIE SCHMIDT
MUSIC DIRECTOR ........................................................................ JULIE JOHNSON
ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR............................................................. MATTHEW BYCZYNSKI
MASTER CARPENTER & SCENIC DESIGNER.............................. AJ SIMON
STAGE MANAGER....................................................................... JENNIFER ALLEN
COSTUME DESIGNER ................................................................. LISA QUINN
CHOREOGRAPHER ................................................................. CHRISTAL WAGNER
FIGHT/INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHER .................................... KARA PENROSE
SOUND DESIGNER ...................................................................... JACOB SUDBRINK
LIGHTING DESIGNER ............................................................... AARON SCHMIDT
PROPERTIES DESIGNER .......................................................... IAN HUESTON
PROJECTION DESIGNERS ......................................................... AARON SCHMIDT & KENNETH KORNACKI
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER .................................................. AUBREY MCDONELL
BOARD OPERATOR .................................................................... MAUREEN HENDERSON

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Danceworks; MYSO, Photo by Ron Oshima; Milwaukee Ballet, Photo by Social Candy; Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Photo by Michael Brosilow.
Jennifer Allen (Stage Manager) Jennifer is pleased to be back in the booth for another Waukesha Civic musical alongside so much talent both on and off stage. She has been stage managing in the Milwaukee area for more than a decade and adores the vibrance of community theatre in this area. Thanks to Rhonda for another chance to work together and to Chris for all the many late nights.

Katie Berg (Sandra) Katie is thrilled to join this incredible cast! Favorite credits: The Bridges of Madison County (Francesca – 2019 Footlight Award Nominee), SPAMALOT! (Lady Of The Lake) at LCP; and Annie (Star To Be) at Skylight Music Theatre. Katie studied at New York University (Tisch School of the Arts) and UW-Madison. Katie is Founder and Director of Lake Country Playhouse's Performing Arts Academy and a voice coach. Love to Jake, Henry & Fritz!

Eric Bergendahl (Will Bloom) Eric is new to community theater, starting back in early 2019. His favorite roles have been Dr. Jekyll in Jekyll and Hyde with West Allis Players and Drew Boley in Rock of Ages with Greendale Community Theater. His favorite pastimes include yelling at neighborhood birds to get off his lawn, feeding bread to kids at the park, and wildly misunderstanding societal conventions. He currently studies Audio Engineering at MATC.

Matthew Byczynski (Orchestra Director / Keyboard) Matt is excited to return for his second show at WCT after playing piano for Thoroughly Modern Millie in 2019. Upcoming shows include Romeo & Juliet: A Cover (Carroll University, April 2020, Music Director) and Tuck Everlasting (Hamilton Sussex HS, May 2020, Orchestra Conductor/Pianist).

Kayla Carriveau (Kids Ensemble) Kayla is grateful to be in this production showcasing her juggling skills. She performed on a tour of summer camps and daycares with Bob and Trish Juggling. She was most recently seen at Waukesha Civic Theatre in The Little Prince. She would like to thank the Big Fish cast and crew for this experience. She would also like to thank Nate, Bob and Trish, and her family for their support.

Laura Clausing (French Horn) This is Laura’s first WCT show, and she is very excited to play in the pit with such talented musicians! She has played in pit orchestras in over 20 musicals from Franklin to Random Lake, and is currently a member of the Milwaukee Philharmonic. Enjoy the show!

Lauren DeGroot (Kids Ensemble) Lauren is thrilled to be back on stage at WCT! She was previously seen in WCT’s The Little Prince this past fall. Lauren is in 5th grade and enjoys singing, acting, playing piano, and playing softball. She is grateful to Rhonda, Christal, Julie, Jennifer, and the entire cast and crew of Big Fish for this amazing experience. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.

Olivia Dobbs (Reed 1) From theater pits and studio recordings to orchestral and concerto appearances, Olivia Dobbs enjoys a lively and multifaceted career as a freelance musician and educator. Olivia is a regular member of Milwaukee ensembles including North Coast Winds, the Milwaukee Philharmonic, and DIY Chamber Music. She is also a substitute player for several regional orchestras and big bands, and performed at the inaugural Flute Symposium of Chicago in June.

Kevin Gadzalinski (Don Price) Kevin has a degree in Applied Theatre from UWM and has performed off and on throughout the Milwaukee area for years. Past WCT roles include Leaf Coneybear in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and Captain Phoebus in Hunchback of Notre Dame. When not on stage, Kevin embraces
moderate fitness practices and attends geeky comic cons in cosplay.

**Megan Hammerer** (Ensemble) Megan is thrilled to be making her Waukesha Civic debut with *Big Fish*. She is from West Allis, Wisconsin. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in theater and business marketing. This past year she studied at the National Theater Institute. Megan is deciding which graduate program she will be attending for performance in the fall. She hopes you enjoy the show and get swept up by the magic of the story.

**Maureen Henderson** (Board Operator) Maureen is happy to be a part of *Big Fish*. No stranger to WCT, she is usually behind the scenes but was seen on stage as The Lamplighter in *The Little Prince* at the start of the 2019/2020 season. Maureen is a graduate of UW—Whitewater and holds a BA in communication and a minor in theatre. Maureen extends her deepest gratitude to family and friends for all their love and support.

**Christina Hoehn** (Ensemble) *Big Fish* marks Christina’s musical debut in the Milwaukee area. She was previously seen on the stage at her high school in Ohio and in the play *Notes to Future Self* at Marquette University. Christina currently works as a speech pathologist for Milwaukee Public Schools and looks forward to getting more involved with community theatre in the area. For Becca.

**Nicholas Hollenbeck** (Zacky Price) Nicholas is thrilled to be joining the cast of *Big Fish* for his first show at Waukesha Civic! He’s recently appeared in the ensemble of First Stage’s *Elf the Musical*, played Bill and Philip Glass in the LCP Academy’s production of *All in the Timing*, and won a Jerry award for his portrayal of Nicely-Nicely Johnson in University Lake School’s *Guys and Dolls*.

**Ian Hueston** (Properties Designer) Ian is happy to make his design debut on the WCT stage. He studied theatre at Brevard College in North Carolina, where he focused on costuming/makeup and playwriting. Published plays include *Tinder Date Night* and *Kuchisake Onna Freed*. Previous design credits include makeup for the U.S. premier of *There is a War*. He currently lives with his boyfriends Zach and Andrew, and their dogs in Racine.

**Carly Ireland** (Ensemble) This will be Carly’s first production since stage managing in High School for *Pippin* in 2004. She will also be stage manager for the upcoming production of *Les Miserables* school edition at WCT. Thank you to her family/friends for supporting this hobby and especially her friend Kelly for making sure her three dogs were fed and taken care of during late night rehearsals. Without whom, getting back to theater wouldn’t be possible.

**Megan Jay** (Ensemble) Megan is excited to perform in her first show at Waukesha Civic Theatre. She is honored to be performing with such a talented cast and crew.

**Julie Johnson** (Music Director) Julie is thrilled to be music directing at WCT. She is a very active musician who loves to share her happiness and bring joy to others through music and theater! In addition to teaching piano lessons and musical theater classes, she serves as an accompanist for concerts and auditions at several area schools and theaters. When she is not actively playing the piano, she serves as the Marketing and Development Coordinator at the Schauer Arts and Activities Center in Hartford.

**Christopher Johnston** (Ensemble) Christopher is an actor and vocalist from Pewaukee. This show is his debut at Waukesha Civic Theatre, and he hopes to return in future productions. His favorite productions he has been in include: *Les Misérables*, *Footloose*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Almost, Maine*. He’d like to thank
his supportive family for supporting his performance endeavors.

**Jared Judge** (Viola) Jared is honored to be part of the *Big Fish* orchestra! He is a Milwaukee-based violin and viola player and a passionate advocate for live performances and artists. He runs BookLive, a company whose mission is to help artists make a living doing what they love by providing performance opportunities and consolidating the back-office business of performing. Jared is a proud performer in Dream City Strings.

**Abigail Kelly** (Violin) Abby Kelly is a senior at Carroll University studying violin performance. She is currently concertmaster of the university orchestra, and the winner of the 2019 concerto competition. She enjoys playing in various musical theater productions and past shows include *Music Man, Spring Awakening,* and *Meet Me in St. Louis.* She is grateful for all of you for coming out so see the show!

**Jay Kummer** (Guitar 1) Jay grew up playing Civic shows. His first was the 1970s *Sound Of Music,* when he was a horrible middle school trumpet player. Lucky for the world, a college roommate hocked his trumpet for drugs, forever saving the world from his trumpet playing and setting him on a path to less mediocre guitar playing. Recent productions include *Catch Me if You Can,* *We Will Rock You,* *Meet Me in St Louis,* and *The Wedding Singer."

**Anna LaPean** (Ensemble) Participating in her third show at WCT, Anna is excited to be back on stage after a one-year hiatus. She'd like to thank Rhonda Marie Schmidt and Christal Wagner for giving her the opportunity to showcase her rocking dance moves in this incredible show. As always, Anna feels blessed to have worked with an amazing cast and crew and would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support!
**Biographies cont.**

**Paul Lehner** (Guitar 2) Paul has been performing in Wisconsin and the Midwest for 40 years. He's played at Summerfest, the Wisconsin State fair, and music festivals all over the state. He's also been playing in theatre pit orchestras for 30 years. Paul's thrilled to be part of *Big Fish* and looks forward to a great run!

**Lynn Lewandowski** (Reed 2) Comfortable on woodwind instruments from Piccolo to Bassoon, Lynn's musical motivation is to contribute musically and positively to the ensemble. With that simple philosophy, opportunities to step in as a substitute musician have been numerous. Lynn's music background includes concert band, jazz band, jazz combo and pit orchestra experience, including an appearance at the 2010 Montreux Jazz Festival. Current projects include The Southport Sound, Steve and Lynn Duets, The All-Star Superband, and the Microbrew Swing Band.

**Noah Maguire** (Amos) Noah is thrilled to be returning to the Waukesha Civic Theatre stage! Previous WCT credits include Theo in *The Underpants*, Mr. Braithwaite in *Billy Elliot*, and Louis XI in *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Other credits include Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray* and Sir Bedevere in *Spamalot* at Sunset Playhouse, Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at Black Box Theatre Company, and Edward Rutledge in 1776 at Lake Country Playhouse. Enjoy the show!

**Ken Marchand** (Drums/Percussion) Ken performs with many groups throughout the Milwaukee area. He is a percussionist with Festival City Symphony and Milwaukee Philharmonic. He also performs regularly with the 8 piece Nightlife (high energy top 40) and Four Guyz In Dinner Jackets, but most of the time he is performing musical theater. A few of his credits include *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Next To Normal*, *Wonderful Town*, *Les Mis*, *Hamlet A Cover*, *Dogfight* and *Pippin*.

**Aubrey McDonell** (Assistant Stage Manager) Aubrey has been doing theater since the age of four at Waukesha Civic Theatre. Some of their favorite productions they’ve been in are *Shrek*, *Lion King*, *Music Man*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. They are in the seventh grade at Waukesha STEM Academy. They take guitar and ukulele lessons and play in a band called Pretty Odd. They are involved in Good Friend Inc, an autism education organization.

**Mark Neufang** (Edward) In March 2000, Mark debuted on WCT’s stage as Freddy in *My Fair Lady*. Exactly 20 years - and many productions - later, he is thrilled to return to this stage as Edward Bloom. He recently directed *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* for Milwaukee Entertainment Group. Favorite recent roles include Danny in *Night Must Fall*, Garry Essendine in *Present Laughter*, and Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple*. This one’s for his parents and late grandparents... with love, always, to Jake.

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**Tell Your Friends!**

Use #BigFishAtWCT and tag @WaukeshaCivic on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram
Kara Penrose (Fight/Intimacy Choreographer) This is Kara's first show with WCT. She is a local theatre artist who specializes in violence choreography. To find out more visit: karapenrose.com

Kieran Plautz (Kids Ensemble) Kieran is honored to be performing in Big Fish. He began attending WCT camps at the age of 7 and his first Mainstage performance was as Billy in The House Without a Christmas Tree. He also appeared in Candy Cane Tales, Music Man JR, and Alice in Wonderland JR. He would like to thank his family, friends, teachers, and mentors at the theater for believing in him and giving him so many wonderful opportunities as a young actor!

Laura Proeber (Bass) Laura is excited to be back with WCT after a successful run of Thoroughly Modern Millie in 2019. Laura is a member of Gracenotes Orchestra and plays in an all-female rockabilly band, Crazy Rocket Fuel.

Alyssa Proell (Josephine) Alyssa is so excited to be part of the cast of Big Fish! She has been doing shows since she was seven years old and she loves everything to do with theater ... singing, dancing and immersing herself in new characters! Alyssa is also a singer/songwriter and spends much of her free time creating and recording music, playing piano, guitar and ukulele! She thanks everyone involved for making this an awesome experience and hopes you enjoy this beautiful show!

Matt Przybylski (Ensemble/Dance Captain) Matt is excited to be making his Waukesha Civic Theatre debut! Some of Matt's favorite roles include Sonny in Grease (Racine Theatre Guild) and Eddie in Mamma Mia (Sunset Playhouse). Enjoy this magical show!

Lisa Quinn (Costume Designer) Lisa has designed costumes for area community, professional and high school theatres. Her favorite credits include Mamma Mia, The Producers, Curtains, and most recently Big Fish at a local high school just a few weeks ago. It has been a challenge greatly enjoyed to create the work of Big Fish twice. May you be inspired to find your voice and share your story.

Alejandra Razo (Ensemble) Alejandra is excited to be a part of her first show at the Waukesha Civic Theater. She is currently a senior at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School and has always had a huge passion for theater. She wants to thank Rhonda for the incredible opportunity as well the amazing cast and crew that have been so welcoming to her.

Natalie Rhodes (Kids Ensemble) Some of Natalie's favorite past performances include Elf (First Stage), tap dancing horse in Wind in the Willows (The Box), Tink in Peter Pan JR (The Box), Young Anna in Frozen JR (The Box), cave girl ancestor in

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Directed by BREANNE BRENNAN & SANDRA RENICK
Music Directed by CATHERINE PFEILER
Addams Family (The Box), and Jane in Mary Poppins (CD Players). Natalie would like to thank her family for their encouragement and support. Special thanks to Rhonda and Jennifer and WCT for giving her this opportunity.

Kobina Sampson-Davis (Trumpet) Kobina is a member of the trumpet section in the Kettle Moraine Symphony Orchestra, and was also part of two national tours with the Cadets and Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps. He played in the orchestra for Jesus Christ Superstar and Evita (West Allis Players Theatre) and has appeared in concert with Funk Summit Bass Team. Kobina teaches at Oak Creek High School and will complete a Bachelors of Fine Arts in trumpet performance from the UW-Milwaukee in Spring 2020.

Aaron Schmidt (Lighting Designer/Projection Designer) Aaron is thrilled to be working on this production with his amazing wife and this incredible team. Recent design credits include Come Back at WCT, The Hunchback of Notre Dame and Newsies for Brookfield Central HS, The Amish Project for Outskirts Theatre Co., and Les Misérables at DSHA. Aaron is also a member of the fabulous 50’s and 60’s musical group the Four Guyz in Dinner Jackets. Lots of love to Rhonda, Jaxon, Harper, and Dawson.

Rhonda Marie Schmidt (Director & Wig Master) Executive Director of WCT has performed, directed, taught, and designed at theatres throughout the Midwest and is thrilled to make WCT her professional home. Her most recent WCT directorial work was To Kill a Mockingbird and favorite credits include Les Misérables, Death of a Salesman, and The Little Mermaid. Rhonda thanks the incredible artistic team, this gorgeous group of gifted actors, colleagues at WCT, and her family for their passion.

AJ Simon (Master Carpenter & Scenic Designer) AJ Simon is no newcomer to the world of set design/construction. He has been responsible for a plethora of sets at a variety of local theaters which include WCT, Sunset Playhouse, and Brookfield Central HS. This past fall, he created the set for Brookfield Central's Hunchback of Notre Dame. By day, AJ works at Penzeys Spices. He also loves spending time with his own leading ladies - his wife, Kelly, and daughters, Hadley, Piper and Liesel.

Keith R. Smith (Dr. Bennett) Keith is excited to return to WCT after playing Walter in Elf. Other previous roles include: Mrs. Meers (Thoroughly Modern Millie), Ken (The Musical Comedy Murders Of 1940) Bernard (Don't Dress For Dinner), Beast (Beauty And The Beast), Wilbur (Hairspray), Lysander (A Midsummer Night’s Dream), Max (Lend Me A Tenor), and Dr. Frank (The Rocky Horror Show).

Christian Spaay (Giant/Karl) Christian is super stoked and grateful for this show! He is a freshman at UWM majoring in musical theater and a grad of Marquette High. He was a finalist at the 2019 Jimmy awards, and some notable shows include The Little Mermaid, Godspell, Les Miserables, and Newsies. Thanks mom and dad!

Ashley Sprangers (Jenny Hill/Dance Captain) Ashley is delighted to be returning to the WCT stage! Recently, she has been the music director at WCT for My Funny Valentine, Elf the Musical, and Miscast 2019, and looks forward to Miscast 2020 at WCT as well! Favorite stage roles include “Rose” in Dogfight (LCP), “Miss Dorothy” in Thoroughly Modern Millie (WCT), “Catherine” in Pippin (LCP), and “Florika” in The Hunchback of Notre Dame (WCT). Ashley teaches private voice lessons and accompanies throughout the area.
Margaret Teshner (Witch) Margaret’s favorite credits include Prudy Pingleton (Hairspray), Sally (Reefer Madness), and Mrs. Peacock (Clue). Margaret is currently a social worker, has worked as a princess and host for children’s parties, and is on track towards becoming a certified yoga instructor. She adores working with children, so if you are in need of childcare, shoot her an email: mteshner@gmail.com. Get ready to join the journey into this fantastical world. Enjoy!

Christal Wagner (Choreographer) Christal is an undergraduate of UW-Milwaukee with her BFA in Dance. She is a founding member of the collaborative trio, Cadance Collective, performing their original works since 2012. She has formally danced with Your Mother Dances and Gina Laurenzi Dance Project. She has been a featured performer with Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Present Music, and Dawn Springer Dance Projects. She choreographs Musical Theatre at Divine Savior Holy Angels, Shorewood High School, Nicolet High School and Skylight Music Theatre.

Madeline Waskiewicz (Ensemble) Madeline is excited to be joining the WCT family for this production of Big Fish. She is a recent graduate of Clemson University now working as a research and development food scientist. She is very thankful to have the opportunity to be on stage once again.

Logan Bebo Welter (Young Will) Logan is delighted to be making his debut with Waukesha Civic Theatre. Recent musical credits include Schwartz in A Christmas Story at The Fireside Theatre; the Cowardly Lion in The Wizard of Oz at The Box Theatre; Augustus Gloop in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at Lake Country School. Logan studies under voice/acting coach Ben Tajnai and is thankful for his theatrical opportunities.

Brett Westphal (Trumpet) With a Bachelor of Arts in Trumpet Performance and Jazz Studies, Brett is an active trumpet player, composer, arranger, and educator. He has played with many local bands, musicians, artist throughout Milwaukee and Chicago areas. The BWQ (Brett Westfahl Quartet) group is Brett’s own personal vehicle of writing that pulls many of his vast musical background, while combining with the new trends of music and still hold onto the old traditions of jazz music.
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Welcome to Waukesha Civic Theatre’s *Big Fish*! First of all, I am thrilled that you are here and that we get to share this beautiful story with you. This artistic team and cast is a dream for any director and an absolute thrill for WCT - you are in for a treat.

When I first saw the movie *Big Fish* starring Ewan McGregor in 2003, I loved the film and I felt deeply sympathetic toward the son, Will, wanting to know the truth about his father’s life, to take care of things, and I felt his frustration with his father and mother not dealing with things head-on. I was frustrated with the fantasy of it all, and I didn’t have enough life on me to realize that in a long life and a long marriage, our stories are the “big fish” and our great adventures seem unbearably impossible to our kids, who only see us as a daft, uncool, past-tense people.

Now that I am a wife and a mother (of three children ages 14, 5, and 6 months), my heart is heavy with Edward and Sandra’s story and this musical touches me deeply. Life is beautiful and messy and complicated, and way too short.

Sandra sings, “I don’t need a roof to know I’m covered,” and isn’t that the truth? At the end of our journey, it is the adventures we have taken and the people we have met along the way that provide our home. Family is not just the people related to us by blood, but also the people we choose to be our family. We are covered by those we love and have loved, and I am blessed to have had a great adventure.

I hope you enjoy this musical that has a little bit of everything - a giant, a witch, tap dancing patriotic dancers, a western themed nightmare, deep endless love, unlikely friendships, heartache, and humor. My wish is that seeing this show inspires you to share your stories and ask for other people’s stories. At the end of this big messy life, all we have is each other and our adventures.

Rhonda Marie Schmidt
Director and Managing Artistic Director
I was first introduced to the story in college, when I walked across the street from my dorm to the campus movie theatre to see this new fantasy movie starring Ewan McGregor. I was transfixed by the fairytale-like stories of mermaids, witches, a circus, and a never-ending field of yellow daffodils. Even then, I thought that this story was meant for the stage due to its theatrical nature.

When I saw the stage production, I again fell in love with this story. The beautiful songs and lyrics only enhanced the plot.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Waukesha Civic Theatre, thank you for letting us share *Big Fish* with you. A story that reminds us to hold on to our imaginations and wonderment about the world, especially in a world full of pessimism and cynicism. A story that reminds us that sometimes truth is stranger than fiction. A story that reminds us that we are all writing our own stories, so go be the Hero of your own story!

Peter Kao
Board of Directors
Secretary

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**WAUKESHA CIVIC THEATRE MISSION STATEMENT**

WCT’s mission is to provide quality live theatre performances and educational opportunities that enrich, challenge, and entertain both participants and audience members.

**WAUKESHA CIVIC THEATRE PERSONNEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEATRE STAFF</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managing Artistic Director</td>
<td>Rhonda Marie Schmidt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education And Outreach Administrator</td>
<td>Doug Jarecki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>Meghan Hopper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Marketing</td>
<td>Jackey Boelkow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box Office Supervisor</td>
<td>Ian Hueston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Amy Holley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Development Consultant</td>
<td>Jeffrey Robb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Staff</td>
<td>Makenna Cooley, Sarah Gramz, Emilie Grunfelder, Sue Marose, Ky Peters, Alejandra Razo, Ava Shuman-Messplay, Alyssa Stein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACAP PlayMakers</td>
<td>ACAP Players, Mark Cage, Patty Chones, Doug Jarecki</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES**

**Board of Directors**
- Curt Andrews, Jenny Erato, Scott Fudali, Brian Goeller, Richard Johnson (Treasurer), Peter Kao (Secretary), Eric Larson (Vice President), Jim Mallmann, Nancy McCaskey, Sara Mertz, Kitty Messplay (President), Rhonda Marie Schmidt (Staff), Scott Trindl, Kelly Vance (Past President), Keith Yahn

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Mitch Weindorf, Zach Zembrowski

Waukesha Civic Theatre is always looking for new volunteers for our committees,
performing groups, and ushers. If you are interested in more information, please email
rschmidt@waukeshacivictheatre.org

PRODUCTION/NON-PRODUCTION COORDINATORS:
Costume Coordinators ......................................................... Lee Piekarski, Sharon Sohner
Props Coordinators .............................................................. Gwen Ter Haar, Cindy Velcheck
Set Construction Coordinator .................................................. TBD
Scene Shop Coordinator ............................................................ Scott D. Prox
Control Booth Coordinator .................................................... Aaron J. Schmidt
Building Maintenance Coordinator ......................................... TBD
Civic Broadway Singers ........................................................... Abby Lorenz
Civic Senior Players .............................................................. Carol McLean
Cast Meal Coordinator ............................................................ Allen Schuh
Usher Coordinator ................................................................. Phillip Alonge
Usher Coordinator Assistants ................................................. Andy Gratke, Julia Klemm, Aidan Thiele
STAFF SAVERS

Computer Consultant ................................................................. Scott Fudali
Clerical Support ................................................................. Phillip Alonge, Sara Toenes
Storage & Cleaning .......................................................... Andy Gratke, Rich Labinski, Allen Schuh
Poster Distribution .......................................................... Andy Gratke, Ken Schenian
Facilities Maintenance ......................................................... Andy Gratke, Rich Labinski, Allen Schuh
Staff Parking ........................................................................... Waukesha State Bank
Photographers ........................................................................ Carroll Studios of Photography, Lauren Kerwin
Garden Display ......................................................................... Allen Schuh
Archivists ........................................................................ Debbie Volden
Cookies ................................................................................ Melody Cookies
Beverages ............................................................................... Water Doctors, Discount Liquor

Read More About It ........................................................................ Mary Wegener

Civic Broadway Singers


Civic Senior Players

Linda R. Bohan, Lee Conrad, Jerry Friday, Greg Jenks, Erling Kolstad, Cheryl Loveland, Carol McLean, Dexter Meise, Lee Piekarski, Patricia Stright, Chris Vilar

Usher Volunteers

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Waukesha Civic Theatre

NEWS ITEMS

Show
Silent Sky
The Secret Case of Sherlock Holmes
Miscast

Audition Dates
March 9-11, 2020
March 23-25, 2020
April 9, 2020

Director
Dustin Martin
Phil Stepanski
Ryan Albrechtson

Auditions for all shows will be held at the Margaret Brate Bryant Civic Theatre Building at 264 West Main Street, Waukesha. For more information call (262) 547-4911 or visit www.waukeshacivictheatre.org.

Waukesha State Bank Art Gallery

Located just outside the Mardi Bryant Jones Mainstage inside the Margaret Brate Bryant Civic Theatre Building, the Waukesha State Bank Art Gallery features the work of local artists. A new artist’s work is displayed during the run of each of WCT’s productions. The work of the artists can be viewed whenever the box office is open. The art displayed during Big Fish is Bill Lemke.

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WHEN YOU SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT, Mention “FOOTLIGHTS” to receive a FREE LUXURY ROBE! (while supplies last)
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you give yourself, your children and
generations to come.

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WCT has a number of opportunities for people who are looking to volunteer some of their time.

**Ushers** - WCT is always in need of ushers. Ushers must be at least 14 years old but can be younger at the discretion of the Usher Coordinator. Usher duties include interacting with patrons in a variety of positions. Active ushers receive one complimentary ticket to the Preview performance of each of WCT’s Mainstage productions! If you are interested in being an usher please call (262) 547-4911 ext. 101 or send an e-mail to ushercoordinator@waukeshacivictheatre.org.

**Raffle Sellers** – Would you like to help WCT raise money while enjoying a performance at the same time? Then volunteer to sell raffle tickets during performances. Sellers must be over 14 years old or accompanied by an adult. Proceeds benefit WCT’s operating fund. Please call the business office at (262) 547-4911.

**WCT** is also looking for volunteers to help with scenery construction, lighting, sound, costumes, props, and painting. For more information call WCT at (262) 547-4911.

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**THEATRE INFORMATION**

Waukesha Civic Theatre is proud to be established as a downtown institution performing at the Margaret Brate Bryant Civic Theatre building located at 264 West Main Street.

**BUSINESS OFFICE** is open from noon to 5:00 pm Tuesday through Friday and can be reached by calling (262) 547-4911.

**BOX OFFICE** is open from noon to 5:00 pm Tuesday through Friday, noon through intermission on show Fridays, and two hours before curtain through intermission on show weekends. The Box Office can be reached at (262) 547-0708. On weekdays access to the building is through the Main Street entrance only.

* Regular Business Office and Box Office hours are subject to change due to holidays, inclement weather, and all major WCT events.

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**TICKET SALES**

**TICKET SALES** Box Office staff will be available to answer your questions and requests during the Box Office hours listed above. In-person sales can be purchased using cash, credit card, or check. Phone sales must be purchased using a credit card. Mail order sales must be purchased using a credit card or check. All ticket prices include tax and service fees. Credit cards accepted are Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. All sales are final, and there are no refunds. There is no fee to exchange tickets to another performance of the same show.

**ONLINE TICKET SALES** for all open seats are available through our website at www.waukeshacivictheatre.org. You will find “Buy Now” buttons on almost every page of our website. If you would like more information please contact the Box Office during normal business hours. All sales are final and include tax and service fees.

**MAINSTAGE TICKET PRICES** are $27.00; $24.00 for seniors (aged 60 and up) and military, $21.00 for subscribers and groups of ten or more; $18 for teens (13-19); $15 for children (12 and under) and $10.00 for
educational groups of ten or more. Ticket prices include tax and service fees. Visit our website or call us for more information about Pay What You Can and other ticket discounts.

**SUBSCRIPTION TICKET PRICES** are a 20% to 33% savings on all tickets, and all packages come with incredible benefits, including purchasing additional tickets at subscriber rates for all of our shows, either a 22% or a 30% savings, depending on the regular ticket price; no charge for ticket exchanges; and a WCT Subscriber Benefits Card, giving our subscribers discounted offers at 17 downtown restaurants. (Visit our website for additional information).

**2019 – 2020 SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS CARD RESTAURANT PARTNERS** include Allô! Chocolat, Bernie’s Tap Room, Crush Wine Bar, Dave’s Restaurant, Eric’s Porter Haus, Five Points Pub, Magellan’s, Mainstream Bar & Grill, Mia’s, Milwaukee Pizza Co., People’s Park, Plowshare Fair Trade Marketplace, Rochester Deli, The Salty Toad, Spring City Wine House, and The Steaming Cup.

**2019 – 2020 WCT SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:**

**Mainstage Season Ticket Package** is our best value! All seven of our sensational Mainstage shows with the same confirmed seats for each show for only $126. Available through September 29, 2019. Save 33%

**Fabulous Flex Pass Membership** has four tickets and countless possibilities. Good for anything we produce or present, excluding fundraisers. $84. Available through June 27, 2020. Save 22%

**GROUP SALES** Groups of ten or more qualify for the discounted ticket price of $21.00 per ticket. Full payment for ten seats is required and all additional seats will be held on reserve as a courtesy. Final group count and full payment for all unpaid seats is required three weeks before the performance. Educational group tickets are $10.00 each for groups of ten or more from any educational organization, as well as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. All ticket prices include tax and service fees.

**TERRIFIC TICKETS** During the run of all Mainstage shows, we are offering a special called Terrific Tickets. You can use your ticket stub to come back to see the same show again for half price! One ticket per ticket stub, and the ticket stub must be turned in to receive the discount. Use it yourself, or give it to someone you think would enjoy the show!

**PAY WHAT YOU CAN** Every first Saturday evening and third Saturday matinee of a Mainstage show, any patron can pay what his or her budget allows. Available at the box office on the day of the show.

**PLEASE DON’T BE A “NO SHOW!”** If you have tickets but cannot make the performance, why not give your tickets to friends to enjoy or let us resell them? You may be able to consider the price of the tickets that you turn in as a tax-deductible donation.

**CIVIC BROADWAY SINGERS** Are you looking for upbeat entertainment for your next special event? The Civic Broadway Singers perform year-round in southeastern Wisconsin under the musical direction of Abby Lorenz. The 30-voice group sings memorable Broadway favorites for a variety of events from company picnics and Christmas parties to corporate lunches and grand openings. The Civic Broadway Singers provide their own piano and sound system and will perform for groups of all sizes in exchange for a donation to the theatre. To schedule the Civic Broadway Singers at your next event, please call Abby at (414) 350-8713 or e-mail her at AbbyLorenz@wi.rr.com.

**CIVIC SENIOR PLAYERS** The Civic Senior Players – Traveling to make you laugh! We are a fun-loving group of performers who love to entertain others. We’ll bring our unique comedy-variety show to your senior organization community group or any event looking for a laugh in exchange for a donation to the Waukesha Civic Theatre. To schedule an event or if you have an interest in becoming a performer, please call Carol at (262) 549-1091 or e-mail her at wctplayers@wi.rr.com.
ACAP PLAYMAKERS The PlayMakers provide daytime and weekend performances (often of original works) based upon school curricula themes and ideas relevant to children at various stages of their education. These family-friendly shows are great for public, private, and home school groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, senior centers, and your family! Please call (262) 547-0708 for ticket prices and information. PlayMakers rehearse and perform in the daytime and are always looking for new actors and technical personnel.

ACCESSIBILITY The Margaret Brate Bryant Civic Theatre Building is fully accessible, and WCT is proud to offer a number of services for our patrons who have special needs (a four-week notice is required and services are based upon availability). For the hearing impaired we have a T-Coil Loop System, T-Coil Listening Devices, and FM listening devices that will amplify the sounds of the performance. Patrons must have hearing aids with telecoils installed and activated to use the Loop System. Patrons who are blind can receive audio descriptive services for the performance. Wheelchair accessibility is available in two forms: transfer seats and wheelchair positions.

PATRONS Please refrain from wearing highly-scented colognes, perfumes, hand cream, or aftershave to performances as many people have allergies or respiratory problems. WCT is concerned for all patrons, and we appreciate your cooperation.

PARKING Parking is available on Main Street, in the Riverfront Plaza parking area behind the Theatre, off Barstow Street, in the parking facility on Broadway, and at other locations in downtown Waukesha.

REMINDER As a courtesy to those who arrive on time, latecomers will be seated at the first break!
Aging & Disability Resource Center
of Waukesha County

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES

SERVICES

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- Aging Services
- Caregiver Support
- Senior Dining & Home Delivered Meals
- Specialized Transportation
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- Elder & Disability Benefits Counseling
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CONTACT
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Have your business recognized by the more than 20,000 people who come to the Waukesha Civic Theatre every year. For information on becoming a sponsor please call the business office at (262) 547-4911.

CIVIC SUPERSTARS

The donors in this group have given a cumulative lifetime donation of at least $25,000. If you feel that you should be included in this list but are not listed below, please let us know. We are working with 62 years of donation records and could quite possibly have missed a Superstar or two.

Anonymous
Bielinski Brothers
Anthony & Andrea Bryant
John J. Bryant III
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John & Kelli Cramer
Thomas & Maripat Dalum
David & Velma Geraldson,
Precision Gears Inc.
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Dorothy A. Heale
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Rich & Cathy Labinski
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Scott & Nancy McCaskey and Family

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Dick & Carol Richards
Bryce & Anne Styza
Don & Carol Taylor
Sara Toenes
Waukesha State Bank
Waukesha Women's Club
Wisconsin Arts Board

CURTAIN CALL CLUB

By including the Waukesha Civic Theatre in your future estate plans, you can help ensure the theatre’s future. Please consider joining these generous supporters who have remembered the Waukesha Civic Theatre in their estate plans. If you already have made plans that include WCT and you are not listed here, please let us know!

Scott & Angila Allen
Anthony & Andrea Bryant
John J. Bryant III
June Burrowes
John Cramer
Warren & Frieda Hart

Dorothy A. Heale
Ron & Sherrie Hinderman
George & Anita Ransome Kuchler
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Ralph M. North III
Mary Rynders
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Midge Verhein
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Operating, Capital, and Endowment Donor Categories:

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Angel $10,000 to $99,999
Celebrity $5,000 to $9,999
Thespian $2,500 to $4,999
Producer $1,000 to $2,499
Director $500 to $999
Playwright $250 to $499
Designer $150 to $249
Stage Manager $50 to $149
Run Crew $49 & under

WAUKESHA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

Contributors from July 1, 2002 to Present

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Bryce & Anne Styza Fund

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($10,000 - $99,999)
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- Anthony & Andrea Bryant
Family Fund
Waukesha County Community Foundation

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Drake & Evie Reid

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($1,000 - $2,499)
William & Michele Holcomb
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($500 - $999)
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John, Kelli, Elena, & Jude Cramer
Fred & JoAnne Portz

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Jim Mallmann
Joseph Piatt & Traci Huntemann-Piatt
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Designer
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In Honor of Charles Periman
Alfred & Sharon Loehr:
In Honor of Charles Periman

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Patricia Ayers
Jergen L. Barber
Valarie R. Baumann
Dr. William Davies Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Sune Ericson

Run Crew
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Richard F. Johnson
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Dennis R. Lauber
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Mr. & Mrs. Brian Packham
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Alan & Linda Thompson
Ms. Jennifer Thompson-Davies & Dr. Chris Davies

Mr. & Mrs. Sune Ericson

Big Fish 29
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### Celebrity
($5,000-$9,999)
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- Bryce & Anne Styza
  - Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Donna & Sherman Swanson

### Thespian
($2,500-$4,999)
- Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

### Producer
($1,000-$2,499)
- Jenny & Chris Erato
- Rich & Cathy Labinski
  - Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

### Director
($500-$999)
- Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

### Designer
($150-$249)
- Anonymous (1 Gift)
- Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

### Playwright
($250-$499)
- Sue & Chuck Bilkey
- John Bolger
- Patricia Church
- John & Kelli Cramer
- Robert Crivello
- Tom & Maripat Dalum
- Jane Dauffenbach
- Carol Z. Dolphin
- Scott & Kimberly Fudali

### Stage Manager
($50-$149)
- Anonymous (14 Gifts)
- Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

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**Angel ($10,000+)**
- Anthony & Andrea Bryant

**Celebrity ($5,000-$9,999)**
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- Jane Dauffenbach
- Carol Z. Dolphin
- Scott & Kimberly Fudali

**Stage Manager ($50-$149)**
- Anonymous (14 Gifts)
- Through Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Nancy J. Watts
- Sandra Zingler

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2019-2020 OPERATING FUND CONT.

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Robert & Joanne Kraklow
Ruth Kraus
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Ann & Terry Krueger
Mona Lange
Jill Littlefield
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dEdward & Arlene Raether
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Robert Vrakas
Laura & Tom Wanta
Jim & Karen Ward
Lew & Renee Warren
Miriam Wellford
Rich & Carol Williams
Barbara Wilson
Helen & Nick Wrbmanatz
Mark Yamikoski
Jay & Anna Zimmerman
Therese Zivney

Run Crew
($1-$49)
Anonymous (18 Gifts)
Elaine Abshire
Helen Ackley
Larry Alber
David Alessi
Janet Bashirian
John Bauman
Cathy Bellovary
Jacob Berg
Sharon Biehl
Shannon Bishop
Matthew Blessinger
Dennis Bodden
Linda Bohan
Faye Bonini
David Boyd
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Meredith Cullen
Thomas Curler
Daniel Dekarske
Jamie Ditman Rebholz
Laura Doerr
Lauri Eckmann
William Edwards
Anna Egofske
Mindi Eineichner
Robert Emerick
Roy & Rhonda Ericson
Jenica Flores
Steve & Linda Franz
Bonnie Frederick
Carol Jean Fritz
Margaret Frost
Lori Gabay
James Gaboury
Martha Gibson
Joan Goedland
Anna Goedland
Carol Goeman
Lynn Gomez
Emma Gonet
Brendaette Grubb
Teri Gumienny
Wayne Haase
Sara Hanaway
Mel Hanke
Allise Henley
Jim & Carol Herrle
James Hinchman
Ron & Sherrie Hinderman
Terry & Kathryn Hoeppner
James L. & Margaret N. Hoppe
Mary Rynders &
Greg Horbachevsky
Andy Hulen
Robin Jaeger
Kristy Janet
Sherrie Janowak
Victoria Jasiek
Ann Marie & Steven Johnson
Kenneth Kauer
Kim Kelln
Elizabeth & Zachary Kirchenwitz
Chele Kirsch
Kyle & Kristi Klett
Fran & Ray Klumb
Timothy Koceja
Susan Kocher
Juli Koestler
Chris Kraco
Kyle & Gale Kramer
Tamas Kriska
Jennifer Kropiwiec
John & Mary Kay Lammers
Janet Larson
Jan & Bill Leech
Dennis & Geri Lucchesi
Kelly Maddern
Ellen Majowski
Ryan Marciniak
Julie McHale
Randy & Diana Melody
Katherine Meylink
Leslie Miles
Mark & Linda Mindel
Barbara Mudrock
Dennis & Joan Mullens
Jeff Nawrocki
Ron & Deb Nollen

Big Fish 31
Laura Oakley  
Travis Ottelien  
Debra Patterson  
Duane Paulson  
Jason Pechloff  
Deborah Penzkover  
Roxanne Piagentini  
Michael Pittel  
Tea Pittman  
Christopher Plautz  
Katie Pleuss  
Stacy Powers  
Tamara Price  
Carin Quinones  
Nancy Reeve  
Linda Remm  
Barbara Rezner  
Karen Richie  
Thomas Ridenour  
Janina Rinelli  
Thomas Rodenkirch  
Kathy Rosen  
Adam Rowland  
Gail Rust  
Emily Salas  
Carl Scheid  
Amanda Schellinger  
Michael Schreiber  
Kathy Schuetz  
Donna Schultz  
M Schweitzer  
Stefani Seidemann  
Harold & Jane Senkbeil  
Theresa Sieg  
Mark & Bonnie Siegel  
Larry & Edie Simons  
Richard & Barbara Simons  
Stephen Simpson  
Nilda Skowronek  
Charlene Slater  
Doris Small  
Amy Sprengel  
John & Cindy St. Clair  
Charles & Shirley Stern  
Patricia Stoffel  
Lois Stoll  
Stultz Family  
Terry J. Tauschmann  
Frank & Susan Till  
Liz Tobolt  
Sara Toenes  
Joanne Treu  
Thomas Turks  
Jose Uribe  
Nicole Vanderboom  
Barbara Varsik  
Joan Vehlow  
Lara Verdone  
Elizabeth Warden  
Waukesha County Community Foundation  
Waukesha North High School  
Kathy Weber  
Lawrence Weidmann  
Mark Weller  
Nancy Wellhoefer  
Therese Wendt  
Mackie Westbrook  
Sarah Westerman  
Tracy Yorkey  
Lawrence Young  
Sally Zarling  
Michelle Zastrow

WCT is proud to announce our Summer Academy Production!

Seussical The Musical

Rehearsals begin: June 22, 2020

Performances:
July 24-26 and July 31-August 2, 2020

Registration open now!