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 PERMIT NO. 412  
 WENATCHEE, WA  
 98807

# Music Theatre of Wenatchee *Script Notes*

Music Theatre of Wenatchee, Inc.

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

VISIT OUR WEB SITE!

JOIN OUR

WWW.MTOW.ORG

FACEBOOK PAGE!

### MTW Board:

President: Jeff Heminger  
President-Elect: Daina Toevs  
Secretary: Tiffany Mausser  
Treasurer: Colleen Bowen  
Past-President: Sheryl Sutherland

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Cynthia Brown  
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 Sue Lawson  
 Mike Magnotti  
 John Mausser  
 Nita Paine  
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 Steve Zimmerman

Provide us your e-mail address and you can get notices of upcoming projects, meetings, and other great information. It's an easy way to stay informed of MTW happenings.

Music Theatre of Wenatchee needs your membership to continue producing quality plays and musicals. Becoming a member of MTW is a great way to show your support.

### Membership Benefits:

- Our quarterly newsletter
- Early notice of ticket sales
- Ticket discounts for "Member Nights"
- Invitation to semi-annual meetings
- Members at the Associate Producer level or above are listed in each show program.

### There are Six levels of sponsorship:

- \$25.00 — Sponsor (no program listing)
- \$50.00 — Patron (no program listing)
- \$100.00 — Associate Producer
- \$250.00 — Producer
- \$500.00 — Executive Producer
- \$1,000.00 — Benefactor

Contact us online for the membership form and mail your check or money order to P.O. Box 3042, Wenatchee, WA, 98807. Your membership is very important to us.

## Children of Eden

at  
 The Riverside Playhouse

**Performances are:  
 April 24, 25, 26, May  
 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 at  
 7:30pm**

**Tickets are on sale at  
 the PAC box office, by  
 calling 509-663-ARTS,  
 or at www.pacwen.org**

The 2014 Apple Blossom Musical *Children of Eden* opens April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Riverside Playhouse and all of us at MTW can't wait for you to see this charming and beautiful show. To give our audience a better perspective of why we do what we do, we sat down with the directors and some of the cast members to get their take on what this production means to them.

**Tiffany Mausser, Director and Choreographer & John Mausser, Director and Set Designer**

Q. What attracted you to this show?

A. We fell in love with *Children of Eden* when we first heard the beautiful music. Stephen Schwartz, who wrote the music for "Wicked", has crafted a stunning and varied score that is utterly unforgettable with a mix of everything from solo power ballads to impressive choral numbers with soaring harmonies, and even a show-stopping gospel number. We have both seen this show onstage multiple

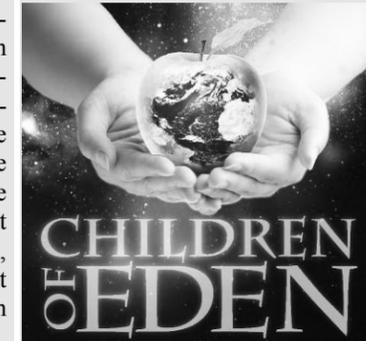
times and discovered something new and exciting each and every time. John also directed *Children of Eden* at Cascade High School in 2004. We are very grateful to have the opportunity to work on the show together and present it with an amazing creative team, a talented cast, and the support of a dynamic arts organization like MTW.

Q. What is the show about?

A. The story of *Children of Eden* is both familiar and yet surprisingly creative and fresh. Writer John Caird takes the most familiar stories from the book of Genesis - Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the ark - and relates them to profound and universal human experiences. While Caird does re-imagine some details from the source material, these new elements only enrich and enhance the characters and the plot. While the show delivers an inspiring and thought-provoking message, it never feels preachy.

Q. Why did you want to do this show with MTW?

A. We thought this show would be a great fit for MTW for many reasons. We wanted to get back to a large-scale Apple Blossom musical that brings the community together and provides an opportunity for people who may have never been onstage before to experience the thrill of performing and the camaraderie of being a part of MTW. We are overjoyed to have an extremely talented cast of 33 performers,



with a fascinating mix of MTW favorites and fresh new faces. The large ensemble of Storytellers spends a lot of time onstage singing, dancing, and carrying the story with energy and charisma.

We also thought this show would really come alive in an intimate space like the Riverside Playhouse where the audience can get up close and personal with the story. We always enjoy directing as a team and wanted to find a production that we could create together, even going so far as to do all of the choreography (Tiffany) and set design (John).

*Children of Eden* is a show that truly has it all. There are moments of fun and whimsy, particularly the clever introduction of the snake that tempts Eve in the Garden of Eden and when pairs of animals parade onto Noah's ark. There are large impressive dance numbers with talented featured dancers, fantastic roles for both men and women, and a dynamic ensemble that drives the show along as all-seeing Storytellers.

*Children of Eden* is a show the whole family can enjoy together and we hope people will get lost in the magic of this production.

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### MTW NEWS:

### MTW Website

Unfortunately, Our website is still down. Our web master continues to work on the issues to get this working again. We know that this is a great way to keep up with what we are doing and what is happening. The site should be working by the end of April!

## Children of Eden

(continued from page 1)

### John Merritt, Father

John Merritt is no stranger to MTW, both on and off stage. He's been a part of Music Theatre of Wenatchee for over 14 years and has served as President and a board member.

Q. What are some of your favorite roles you've played throughout the years?

A. I've been so fortunate to play some amazing roles with MTW. I've played those roles that all of us as actors dream about, including the lead role in *Sweeney Todd*, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, and as Billy Flynn in *Chicago*. And now I can add the character of Father to the list.

Q. What drew you to the role of Father?

A. The music more than anything. I really like Stephen Schwartz's music. I've been singing bass for over 30 years, and this role is really stretching my vocal ability. It's been a challenge to sing more as a tenor, but definitely a fun challenge.

Q. What is your favorite number in the show?

A. That has to be the opening number "Let There Be" which is about the creation of heaven and the earth. Also because everyone is on stage -all 33 of us and the whole stage is alive. And I love singing with the ensemble. My other favorite is "The Hardest Part of Love" since I get to sing with Dave Williams, who I was fortunate enough to sing with in *Sweeney Todd* and *Sa-*

*lem*. I really like singing with Dave, not only for the quality of his voice, but he's a great actor and fun to work with.

Q. How would you describe your character?

A. He is the Father, however, I really like that He is humanized because it gives me hope that as flawed as humankind can be, we can still impress God by doing certain things. The Father has created the world, but as perfect as His act of creation was, His creations weren't perfect. And this gives the Father the opportunity to see his flawed people aspire to do good and please Him.

### Amy Edwards, Eve

Q. This is your first performance with MTW. How did you find out about our theatre and this fabulous production?

A. I ran into Tiffany at LST's *Sound of Music* last summer and she told me about the show and said I should audition. Since I haven't been in a show since I graduated from college in 2009, I thought this would be the perfect opportunity to get back into the theatre world.

Q. Can you tell us about your theatre background?

A. I'm currently a vocal coach in Leavenworth and I have a bachelor's degree in voice performance from Central Washington University where I mostly performed opera. I attended Cascade High School where I played Yonah in *Children of Eden*, also

directed by John Mausser. Tiffany and I also went to high school together and it's great to be working with both of them on a professional level.

Q. What is your favorite song from the show?

A. It has to be "Ain't it Good" because of Colleen Bowen and how she blasts it out there. It was the first number we worked on together as a cast, and it brought us together as a group. I also love "Pursuit of Excellence," which is about the snake enticing Eve to eat the apple from the Tree of Knowledge. It's just a fun song and I get to dance with a snake!

Q. What is your character Eve really like?

A. Secretly I think she's defiant. She questions everything Father says at the beginning of the show. She has questions but no one gives her straight answers. After they leave the garden, she's more regretful but wouldn't change what she did.

Q. What is your favorite part of this production so far?

A. Being new to MTW, I can't believe how many friends I have made. This is a small town and you'd think you know everyone, but that's not true! There are so many amazingly talented people involved in this theatre and I am so excited to be a part of it. Some of my vocal students are also in the show and it has been fun to get to work with them outside of lessons. This experience has allowed us to become friends instead of a teacher and students.

## Nason Creek Scholarship Fundraiser

In July of 2014, MTW was able to get a weekend at Nason Creek rest stop to give out free coffee, cookies, tea, donuts and whatever else we can get. We would love to have you help us.

We will need approximately 100 dozen cookies. Arlene Jones is taking the lead on this project. If you would like to be put on the list to help out, please contact Arlene now so she can contact you in June/July at 884-6835.

Last year, MTW was able to award \$3,500.00 in scholarships to 9 different students. We would like to be able to award more this year. Our concession, wine, and beer sales only get us part way to our goal. Your generosity shows in how much we can give back to our community students. Please take the time to help out. We really appreciate your continuing support.

## New Roof

In January 2014, the roof of the Riverside Playhouse had to be replaced for the first time in over 30 years. The roof did its job admirably. We are excited to know that our structure and belongings are now safe from water damage. (Yes, we knock on wood when we say that!)

Unfortunately, MTW had to take out a loan to cover some of the costs. We have a plan in place to make sure we pay off the loan as quickly as possible. If you want to give a little extra to help us out, we certainly wouldn't say no. We pride ourselves on continuing producing the great plays and musicals that the community expects from us. We have great members and caring individuals in our group. And we appreciate all of the time and talent everyone gives to us. A big THANK YOU to everyone!

## Riverside Playhouse

Auditions August 18, 19 and 20 at 6:30 pm at the Riverside Playhouse. Please put this on your calendar now! We need you!

Coming this Fall

## 9 to 5: The Musical

Directed by Colleen Bowen

Auditions are set!



Coming this fall, we will be presenting this wonderful musical. Based on the hit movie, we follow the lives of Violet, Judy and Doralee.

Dolly Parton wrote some great songs that will have you humming on the way out of the theatre. She was very in-

involved in bringing the movie to the stage.

9 TO 5: THE MUSICAL, with music and lyrics by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, is based on the 1980 hit movie *Nine to Five*.

Pushed to the boiling point by their boss, three female co-workers concoct a plan to get even with the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot they call their boss. They conspire to take control of their company and learn there's nothing they can't do -- even in a man's world. Set in the late 1970s, 9

TO 5: THE MUSICAL is a hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era. Outrageous, thought-provoking, and even a little romantic, 9 TO 5: THE MUSICAL is about teaming up and taking care of business.

The auditions will be August 18, 19 and 20 at 6:30 pm. The production dates will be Oct 16 through November 1. We are looking for approximately 10 women and 6 men for the show. There are great female and male leading roles.

Put this show on your calendar. You won't want to miss it.

Why can't you buy tickets for our shows after 5pm on Friday?  
How to win 2 tickets to "Children of Eden"!

Some of you may have wondered why you can't buy tickets at the PAC to our shows after 5:30 pm on Fridays. Let us tell you.

The box office at the PAC closes at 5:30 pm on Friday. We have to pick up the information on the tickets sold. Since we cannot go on Saturday, they have to stop selling the tickets on Friday. We understand the limitations

that this causes. We are just not able to have any box office or Internet sales after that time. You will need to come to the box office approximately a half hour before the weekend shows to get tickets.

We use the PAC box office so we have one point of purchase for our audiences. MTW is not set up to have our own ticket sales other than at the door.

Hey MTW Members!

Like us on Facebook and you could win 2 tickets to the 2014 Apple Blossom Musical.

Please like our page and share with your friends and family.

We're at [www.facebook.com/musictheatreofwenatchee](http://www.facebook.com/musictheatreofwenatchee).

