

The Acton Cooperative Theater

PRESENTS THE YOUTH EDITION OF

THE WIZARD of OZ

By **L. Frank Baum**

With Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

Background Music by
Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements
by **Peter Howard**

Orchestration by **Larry Wilcox**

Adapted by **John Kane** for the
**Royal Shakespeare
Company**

Based upon the Classic
Motion Picture owned by
Turner Entertainment Co.
and distributed in all media
by **Warner Bros.**

Adaptation and support materials
for the Young Performers' Edition
Developed by **iTheatrics**
Under the supervision of
Timothy Allen McDonald



APRIL 14, 2023

6:30 PM DINNER
7:30 PM SHOW

APRIL 15, 2023

11:30 PM BRUNCH
12:30 PM SHOW

Acton Congregational Church-Hartman Hall: 12 Concord Rd., Acton, MA

Dinner/Brunch meal tickets are **\$20pp** and must be pre-purchased before April 10th. (Show not included)
Show tickets are **\$15pp** and can be ordered in advance or will be available at the door.

For meal and/or show tickets, please call **(978) 760-2577**

www.the-act.org



theA.C.T. ACTON COOPERATIVE THEATER

We are a unique non-profit cooperative theater for children and teens in kindergarten through high school. Our mission is to foster creativity and self-confidence in our actors as they develop and improve their skills in various areas of the performing arts. Lynda Burgess, who brings almost 30 years of theater experience with her, founded the A.C.T. in 2010.

Please visit our website for more information about our organization.

www.the-act.org

Kindly silence all cell phones and other noise making devices.

Photography, video recording and the use of any electronic device with a lit screen is strictly prohibited.

Sweet Treats from Over the Rainbow

To: Your favorite cast member!

Message: Send a note & sweet treat!

**CANDYGRAMS
AVAILABLE IN
THE LOBBY!**



\$2.00

From: You!

PLOT SUMMARY

DOROTHY GALE, A YOUNG GIRL LIVING ON A KANSAS FARM WITH HER AUNT EM AND UNCLE HENRY, DREAMS OF ESCAPING HER MUNDANE LIFE (“OVER THE RAINBOW”). THE FAMILY’S MEAN NEIGHBOR, MISS GULCH, THREATENS TO IMPOUND DOROTHY’S CHERISHED DOG, TOTO, SO DOROTHY AND TOTO RUN AWAY. THEY MEET UP WITH KINDLY PROFESSOR MARVEL, WHO SUBTLY CONVINCES DOROTHY TO RETURN HOME. SUDDENLY A CYCLONE HITS, AND DOROTHY AND TOTO, SEEKING SHELTER IN THE HOUSE, ARE TRANSPORTED TO THE LAND OF OZ.

IN OZ, DOROTHY MEETS GLINDA, THE GOOD WITCH OF THE NORTH. APPARENTLY, DOROTHY’S HOUSE HAS LANDED UPON – AND FATALLY STRICKEN – THE WICKED WITCH OF THE EAST. THE MUNCHKINS, NOW FREED FROM THE WICKED WITCH OF THE EAST, CELEBRATE AND HAIL DOROTHY AS THEIR NEW HEROINE (“DING DONG! THE WITCH IS DEAD/MUNCHKIN MUSICAL SEQUENCE”). THE CELEBRATION IS INTERRUPTED AS THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST SUDDENLY APPEARS, SEEKING VENGEANCE. UNABLE TO RECLAIM HER SISTER’S SHOES, WHICH ARE NOW ON DOROTHY’S FEET, THE WITCH VOWS TO RETURN AND QUICKLY VANISHES. DOROTHY, SEEKING A WAY BACK HOME TO KANSAS, SETS OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD OF OZ (“FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD”).

ALONG THE WAY, DOROTHY MEETS THREE NEW FRIENDS, EACH OF WHOM LACKS A CRUCIAL CHARACTERISTIC: THE SCARECROW (“IF I ONLY HAD A BRAIN”) THE TINMAN (“IF I ONLY HAD A HEART”) AND THE LION (“IF I ONLY HAD THE NERVE”). TOGETHER, THE FOUR NEW COMPANIONS MAKE THEIR WAY TOWARDS OZ (“WE’RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD”). THE WITCH ATTEMPTS TO SEDATE THE TRAVELERS WITH A POISONOUS FIELD OF POPPIES, BUT GLINDA REVERSES THE SPELL WITH HEALING SNOWFLAKES (“POPPIES/OPTIMISTIC VOICES”).

THE TRAVELERS, ARRIVING AT THE EMERALD CITY, ARE DELAYED BY A STUBBORN GATEKEEPER, BUT DOROTHY’S TEARS CONVINCED HIM TO RELENT AND LET THEM IN (“MERRY OLD LAND OF OZ”). AS THE GROUP AWAITS ITS AUDIENCE WITH THE WIZARD, THE LION BOASTS HE IS “KING OF THE FOREST.” FINALLY, THEY MEET THE IMPOSING AND IRRITABLE WIZARD, WHO DEMANDS THE BROOMSTICK OF THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST.



PLOT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

THE FOUR FRIENDS TRAVEL DEEP INTO THE HAUNTED FOREST. SUDDENLY, THEY ENCOUNTER JITTERBUGS, WHO MAKE THEM DANCE UNTIL THEY COLLAPSE FROM EXHAUSTION (“THE JITTERBUG”). THE WICKED WITCH’S

FLYING MONKEYS SWOOP DOWN, CAPTURING DOROTHY AND TOTO. AT THE CASTLE, THE WITCH VOWS TO TAKE DOROTHY’S LIFE. MEANWHILE, THE LION, SCARECROW AND TINMAN INFILTRATE THE CASTLE DISGUISED AS WINKIE GUARDS. THE FOURSOME AND TOTO ARE REUNITED, BUT THE WICKED WITCH INTERFERES, THREATENING THE SCARECROW WITH FIRE. DOROTHY, DOUSING THE FLAMES WITH A BUCKET OF WATER, ACCIDENTALLY STRIKES THE WITCH, WHO SMOLDERS AND MELTS INTO NOTHING (“DING DONG! THE WITCH IS DEAD” REPRISE). THE FOUR FRIENDS, TRIUMPHANT, TAKE THE WITCH’S BROOM BACK TO THE WIZARD.

THE WIZARD REMAINS IMPERIOUS AND IMPOSING, BUT TOTO PULLS ASIDE A CURTAIN TO REVEAL A MEEK AND ORDINARY MAN SPEAKING INTO A MICROPHONE. THE WIZARD, REVEALED TO BE A “HUMBUG,” NONETHELESS GRANTS EACH TRAVELER’S REQUEST, GIVING THE SCARECROW, THE TINMAN AND THE LION EACH A TOKEN OF HIS NEWLY ACQUIRED ABILITY. THE WIZARD OFFERS TO TAKE DOROTHY BACK TO KANSAS IN HIS HOT-AIR BALLOON, BUT THE BALLOON ACCIDENTALLY TAKES OFF, AND DOROTHY IS LEFT ALONE AND CRESTFALLEN. GLINDA APPEARS AND EXPLAINS THAT DOROTHY HAS ALWAYS HAD THE POWER TO RETURN HOME. ALL SHE HAS TO DO IS CLOSE HER EYES, TAP HER HEELS TOGETHER THREE TIMES, AND REPEAT TO HERSELF, “THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.”

BACK IN KANSAS, DOROTHY AWAKENS, CONFUSED, WITH A BUMP ON HER HEAD. REUNITED WITH ALL HER LOVED ONES, AND RELIEVED TO LEARN THE STORM HAS LEFT MISS GULCH INCAPACITATED BY A BROKEN LEG, DOROTHY SHARES THE TALE OF HER MIRACULOUS JOURNEY, CELEBRATING THE JOY AND HEALING POWER OF HOME.



MUSICAL NUMBERS

OVER THE RAINBOW

MUNCHKINLAND MUSICAL SEQUENCE (PART 1)

MUNCHKINLAND MUSICAL SEQUENCE (PART 2)

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

IF I ONLY HAD A BRAIN

WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD DUET

IF I ONLY HAD A HEART

WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD TRIO

IF I ONLY HAD THE NERVE

JITTERBUG

OPTIMISTIC VOICES

INTERMISSION

THE MERRY OLD LAND OF OZ

IF I WERE KING OF THE FOREST

WINKIES MARCH

OVER THE RAINBOW (REPRISE)

WINKIES MARCH (REPRISE)

DING DONG THE WITCH IS DEAD



PRODUCTION TEAM



Lynda Burgess
*Executive Producer/
Director*



Emily Jones
Stage Manager



Ruth Bendig
Music Director



Troy Fanton
Set Designer



Nicole Flaherty
Choreographer



Marie Robb
Costume Designer



CAST MEMBERS

(ALPHABETICALLY BY LAST NAME)



Maxwell Aron
*Nikko, Rowboat Man
#2, Tough Kid #3, Apple
Tree #3*



Amelia Blankenship
*Tot #1, Crow, Optimistic
Voice/Emerald City
Chorus, Winkie Guard*



Audrey Blankenship
*Tornado, Coroner,
Jitterbug, Crow, Leader
of the Winkies*



Lucas Bratton
*Uncle Henry, Doorman,
Mayor, Optimistic
Voice/Emerald City Chorus*



Rose Doherty
*Lady in the Rocking Chair,
Tot #3, Optimistic
Voice/Emerald City Chorus,
Oz Woman with Cat*



Annebelle Egbert
Hunk/Scarecrow



Simone Folk
Aunt Em, Jitterbug,



Vivian Jolivette
Toto



Abigail Lewis
*Glinda, Optimistic
Voice/Emerald City
Chorus*



Harry Lymberopoulos
Rowboat Man #1, Tough Kid #1, Apple Tree #1, Winged Monkey



Kali Lymberopoulos
Barrister, Jitterbug, Crow, Winkie Guard



Jonathan Melanson
Cow, Tough Kid #2, Apple Tree #2, Winged Monkey



Nora Newsham
Dorothy



William Newsham
Zeke/Lion



Lizzie Spring
Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch



Henry Sullivan
Professor Marvel, Wizard, Oz's Voice



Miriam Sullivan
Tot #2, Optimistic Voice/ Emerald City Chorus, Ozian Guard, Winkie Guard



Amelia Wald
Hickory/Tin Man

CREATIVE TEAM

AUDITIONS ASSISTANTS

CARRIE BENDIG
ERIN BLANKENSHIP
BROOKE BRANDT
OLIVIA BURGESS

BIO BOARD CHAIR

SUSAN NEWSHAM

BIO BOARDS

RUTH BENDIG
ALYSSA ROBINSON

COSTUME DESIGNER

MARIE ROBB

COSTUME ASSISTANT

ASHLYN McCAMMON

CUERS

APRIL EGBERT
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

FOOD SERVICE

LYNDA BURGESS
MIKE BURGESS
MARNI ZELNICK
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

FRONT OF HOUSE CHAIR

MOLLY WALD

FRONT OF HOUSE

THE ARON FAMILY
THE BERMAN/LYMBEROPOULOS FAMILY
THE BLANKENSHIP FAMILY
THE BRATTON FAMILY
THE DOHERTY FAMILY
THE EGBERT FAMILY
THE LEWIS FAMILY
THE NEWSHAM FAMILY
THE SPRING FAMILY
THE ZELNICK/JOLIVETTE FAMILY

PAINT CHAIR

RACHEL BERMAN

PAINTING

KRISTA BRATTON

JANIE DOHERTY

ALYSSA ROBINSON

PHOTOGRAPHER

KRISTA BRATTON

PLAYBILL DESIGNER

MARNI ZELNICK

PROPS CHAIR

MEG SPRING

PROPS

RACHEL BERMAN

PUBLICITY CHAIRS

RUTH BENDIG

LYNDA BURGESS

REHEARSAL ASSISTANT
SET ARTIST
SET BREAKDOWN

BROOK BRANDT
TROY FANTON
ZAC ARON
MIKE BURGESS
ZEB EGBERT
TROY FANTON
BILL NEWSHAM
MIKE WALD
TROY FANTON
ZAC ARON
TROY FANTON
NICK LYMBEROPOULOS

SET CREW CHIEF
SET CONSTRUCTION

BILL NEWSHAM
LYNDA BURGESS
TROY FANTON

SET DESIGN

SET LOAD-IN

ZAC ARON
MIKE BURGESS
ZEB EGBERT
TROY FANTON
BILL NEWSHAM

STAGE CREW

MIKE WALD
CARRIE BENDIG
MIKE BURGESS
STUDENT VOLUNTEER

TICKET COORDINATOR
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
WRANGLERS

ALYSSA ROBINSON
LYNDA BURGESS
ARON BLANKENSHIP
JAMIE DOHERTY

*We would like to thank all the parents, guardians and
volunteers who gave many hours of their time and
effort to help make this production possible!*



Lucas, we are so proud of you and excited to see your first show on stage. We know you'll be great and this is only the beginning!

Love Mom, Dad,
Owen, Munchkin,
and Hampter

Amelia- We are so proud of your hard work as the Tin Man. We love watching you on stage.

Love, Mom, Dad, Ben,
Eloise & Jax



Break a leg, Toto!



Love, your biggest fans!



*Jonathan, we are
so proud of all
your hard work
and dedication to
The Wizard of Oz.
We love you!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Lilly,
and Ben*

*Born for the
spotlight!*

We love you!



Break a leg to the Cast of The Wizard of Oz!

And, a big shout out to Nora and Will!

From, Dr. Gigi and the Sugarbug Staff



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978.458.2616

To everyone's favorite Good Witch,
Fabulous job, Abby!



Love you,
Mom, Dad, & Cam



Simone, we are
excited to see
you in your
first
performance at
ACT! We are
very proud of
you! Love
Mommy,
Dadda, Violet,
Meatball and
even Buddy.

Photos
by
Krista Jaye

**NEWBORN AND FAMILY
PHOTOGRAPHY
BERLIN, MA**

781-999-4362
KRISTAJBRATTON@GMAIL.COM
PHOTOSBYKRISTAJAYE.MYPIXIESET.COM
FACEBOOK: @PHOTOSBYKRISTAJ
INSTAGRAM: @PHOTOSBYKRISTAJAYE



BRUNCH CATERING PROVIDED BY:



**LOCATED IN THE NAGOG MALL!
PLEASE VISIT US AT 3 NAGOG PARK, ACTON, MA.**

Lizzie, break a
broom!

Love, Mom & Dad



Break a leg, Annie!

We are so proud of all of your
hard work and dedication. You
continue to amaze us!
Congratulations to you and the
entire cast of The Wizard of Oz!

We love you!

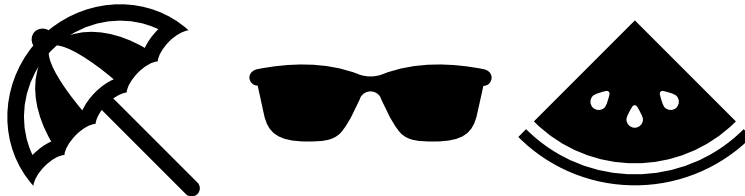
Love,

Mom, Dad, Josie, Grant & Isaiah



New This Year:

Summer Programming by the A.C.T.!



Stay tuned for Fall 2023 Production!

Registration will open in early June.

Auditions in early September.

We hope you will join us!

www.the-act.org