

wesley players theatre company

***Pirates of Penzance* delighted audiences at 3 sold out shows** and accomplished our donation goal to help build a home for a family in need in Guatemala! Thank you to everyone who participated and/or attended, supporting our return to live theater and creating so much community and sheer fun.

Isn't it amazing how much a few months can change things? In February, we were still rehearsing in masks and we were not sure if we would be able to fill up the audiences due to the pandemic. While we know that we need to remain cautious, we are optimistic about the next season. The safety of our cast, crews and audience is of utmost importance. We will continue analyzing the data, listening to our health leaders, and creating opportunities to work together and our love for theater.

Many have asked why it takes so long for Wesley Players to announce what's next. Well, let us tell you! Our fabulous artistic team, led by Melanie Kirkpatrick, evaluate several variables to come up with our season. These include the casting needs/cast size, whether there are other local theater organizations doing the show, budget, ability to draw an audience, technical and dance complexity, as well as timing to reserve space with all the exciting Performing Arts Academy and St. Luke's events that are taking place.

Licensing rights for shows also need to be purchased in advance. While we would love to be able to announce our season 2-3 years out, as a small community theater with limited funds, we look at the spring and fall shows roughly one year out. This year took a little longer as we needed to consider the state of

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2022/2023 Season

In addition to our spring and fall shows, we are thrilled to be involved in two other performance opportunities. The first has Wesley Players partnering with St. Luke's in a fundraising "community raiser," *Broadway Under The Stars*. In addition, our own Jack Kennedy is writing an original readers theater piece, incorporating themes from your holiday favorite movies. *A Mountainville Christmas* will be performed in early December.

In the Fall we will be doing a concert-style version of *Guys and Dolls*. A concert version performs the script of the show, but without sets, costumes, and staging. It allows for larger cast participation but is much simpler technically. We are excited to bring the music alive in this alternate-style musical!

Wesley Players will perform the musical *Little Women* in the Spring. It was a favorite when performed 10 years ago, and we are excited to bring it back. Able to be performed in the sanctuary during the Lent season, this show will welcome families and all performers age 8+ to perform a story of love, hope, resilience and family.

We are always on the lookout for family friendly shows that can be performed in a sacred space that can be executed with the volunteer community that supports us. Do you have an idea? Send us an [email!](#)

Wesley Players is a non-profit organization with a goal of giving back to the mission programs at St. Luke's, which is how we started. Typically, ticket sales cover approximately 60% of the cost of a show.

It is through generous donations from our patrons that we have been able to continue to fund shows and continue mission donations. If you feel like you are able to contribute to our future success, we ask that you please donate via our website, WesleyPlayers.org.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at a future show!

Help Wanted: Web Design, Grant-Writing

If you have skills in these areas and you are interested and available to volunteer some time to work with WPTC Board members please contact Board Chair, [Leigh Ramsey](#)

What's Coming Next?

Wesley Players is excited for the future! We plan to continue our tradition of offering family-friendly shows for everyone 8+.

SUMMER COMMUNITY OUTREACH

JUNE 26 - *Broadway Under the Stars*

FALL PRODUCTION

NOV. 4 & 5 - *Guys and Dolls Concert Version*

READER'S THEATER

DEC. 3 - *A Mountainville Christmas*

SPRING 2023 SHOW

MAR. 10-12 - *Little Women*

Our shows rely on volunteers from the community. If you are interested in performing, playing in the pit orchestra, helping with sets, or other tech roles, please let us know! We would love to have you join our theater community!

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