



News Release

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<http://woodsidetheatre.com/press-page>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Woodside Musical Theatre Presents
Steve Martin & Edie Brickell's Musical
BRIGHT STAR

October 14 – October 23, 2022

Music, Book & Story by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell

Woodside, CA, August 27, 2022 — Woodside Musical Theatre (“WMT”) is proud to present *Bright Star*, with music, book and story by comedian Steve Martin, and pop singer-songwriter Edie Brickell..

The show will run from October 14, 2022 through October 23, 2022: Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm, Sundays at 2pm. There will also be a 2pm matinee performance on Saturday, October 22. All performances will take place at the Performing Arts Center on the campus of Woodside High School, located at 199 Churchill Ave, Woodside, California. Tickets are \$25-\$55 each, with group discounts available. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://www.woodsidetheatre.com/bright-star-tickets>.

Synopsis:

Inspired by a real event and featuring the Grammy-nominated score by Steven Martin and Edie Brickell, Broadway's *Bright Star* tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s. When literary editor Alice Murphy meets a young soldier just home from World War II, he awakens her longing for the child she once lost. Haunted by their unique connection, Alice sets out on a journey to understand her past – and what she finds has the power to transform both of their lives. Propelled by an ensemble of onstage musicians and dancers, the story unfolds as a rich tapestry



of deep emotion, beautiful melodies and powerfully moving performances. An uplifting theatrical journey that holds you tight in its grasp, **Bright Star** is as refreshingly genuine as it is daringly hopeful.

The music of Bright Star is pure Bluegrass, yet the show appeals to audiences that would not have expected to enjoy this musical genre. Songs include “If You Knew My Story,” “Way Back in the Day,” “What Could Be Better,” “Sun is Gonna Shine,” and “At Long Last.”

Woodside Musical Theatre’s *Bright Star*:

Bay Area director, choreographer and actor Gary Stanford, Jr., is returning to direct his third WMT Broadway musical at the beautiful Woodside High School Performing Arts Center. His previous directorial efforts for WMT include **Ragtime** (2016) and **Annie** (2017).

When asked about the **Bright Star** experience, he replied, “imagine yourself immersed in a live band performance of your favorite Bluegrass Hits featuring some of your favorite Bay Area vocalists. Now, imagine a compelling, engaging story is added into the mix. That is probably the best way to describe the powerful experience of seeing **Bright Star**, the musical. Bluegrass is one of the least-represented in the historical great American music standards. Featuring a cast of 28 top-tier bay area actors, WMT’s **Bright Star** cast performs dance styles of the 1920s and 1940s, including Charleston, Swing and Country-Western step dancing from North Carolina. The exquisite musical soundtrack features some serious toe-tapping, hand clapping, bluegrass music. It’s a feel-good story for the entire family.”

Stanford will be supported in bringing this vision to the stage with Vocal Direction by Renée Lubin, Musical Direction by Brett Strader, Scenic and Lighting Design by Don Coluzzi, and Costume Design by Jo-Ann Birdsall.

Starring in the leading roles are Katherine Bonn as “Alice Murphy”, Jack Bloome as “Jimmy Ray” and Jason Mooney as “Billy”. Rounding out the leading characters are Michele Schroeder as “Margo”, Jason Engleman as “Daddy Murphy”, John Tondino as “Daddy Cane”, and D’Artagnan Riviera as “Mayor Dobbs”. A very talented group of local and regional actors complete the cast and ensemble.

Woodside Musical Theatre is a nonprofit community theater organization with the goal of promoting the theatrical arts for the mid-peninsula of the San Francisco Bay Area and the surrounding area. WMT has been entertaining audiences since 1957 and currently offers one major Broadway musical each year.

<http://woodsidetheatre.com/>



Bright Star

FACT SHEET

WHAT: *Bright Star* presented by Woodside Musical Theatre

WHO:

Music and Lyrics by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell

Directed by Gary Stanford Jr.

Vocal Direction by Renée Lubin

Musical Direction by Brett Strader

Scenic and Lighting Design by Don Coluzzi

Costumes by Jo-Ann Birdsall

Starring in the leading roles are Katherine Bonn as “Alice Murphy”, Jack Bloome as “Jimmy Ray” and Jason Mooney as “Billy”. Rounding out the leading characters are Michele Schroeder as “Margo”, Jason Engleman as “Daddy Murphy”, John Tondino as “Daddy Cane”, and D’Artagnan Riviera as “Mayor Dobbs”. A very talented group of local and regional actors complete the cast and ensemble.

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WHERE: Woodside High School Performing Arts Center on the campus of Woodside High School, 199 Churchill Ave, Woodside, California

WHEN: October 14 through October 23, 2022

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm;

Sundays October 16 and 23, and also Saturday October 22 at 2pm

COST: \$25-\$55. 20% discount is available to groups of 20 or more at the same performance, contact the box office directly at boxoffice@woodsidetheatre.com

TICKETS: Online at <http://www.woodsidetheatre.com/bright-star-tickets>.

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