

MARATHON COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS...

THE WIZARD of OZ

BY L. FRANK BAUM



THE WIZARD OF OZ is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2025-2026 MCT season! Become a member today and enjoy discounts on tickets for all of our main stage shows that feature a diverse selection of entertainment to showcase the gifts of our local talents. We are a volunteer organization and welcome all who want to become involved on stage, behind the scenes, or in the front of the house – so many opportunities!

Here is a look at our main stage plays:

The Wizard of Oz: November 13-29, 2025

The Odd Couple: January 8-31, 2026

Little Shop of Horrors: February 26-March 21, 2026

Wait Until Dark: April 16-May 2, 2026

We have added two matinees to each show!

Our website, www.marathontheater.org, has all the latest information about upcoming events. A summer musical program for school-aged children is organized in June. Check us out on Instagram and Facebook as well!

Another benefit of MCT membership is access to free dance classes for all levels of experience including tap, ballet, jazz, belly dance and more. Dancers are highlighted in our summer Tah-Dance showcase.

Our historic building houses both Marathon Community Theatre and Marathon Community Cinema, and we are working diligently to pay off the loan for our new roof. Please consider a donation to help us continue to provide access to the arts here in our hometown. As the current president of the MCT board, I take great pride in our connection to our local community and businesses. On behalf of the board, I thank you very much for your patronage and encourage you to become a member to enjoy all of the experiences we have to offer.

Sincerely,

Linda Schaefer, President



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MARATHON COMMUNITY THEATRE

PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE WIZARD OF OZ

WRITTEN BY: L FRANK BAUM

STARRING

Destiny Lee *as Dorothy Gale*
Cheryl Wilcox *as Auntie Em*
Josh Mothner *as Uncle Henry*
John Schaefer
as Hickory/Tinman
Shannon Wiley
as Hunk/Scarecrow
Dale Coburn
as Zeke/Cowardly Lion
Stephanie Smith
as Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch
Alex Rickert
as Professor/Wizard of Oz
Michelle Macoskey *as Glinda*
John Hunt *as Oz Guard*
Aubrey Anthony Kehn *as Nikko*

Adult Ensemble:

Sarah Brignac, Tanya Crisp, Victoria Fairbrother-Smith, Vicky Iverson Stead, Allison Sayer, Stephanie Zajac

Children's Ensemble:

Cora Beckett, William Chapman, Cheyane Countryman, Lilly Hutchinson, Journey Nichols-Jones, Landry Sayer, Jordan Spalten, Alice Tupciauskas, Lucy Tupciauskas, Casey Torres, Gabrielle Wiebe

Flying Monkeys:

Kaylynn Coburn, Kensley Keller, Hamill Hunt, Noah Zajac



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AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Lyman Frank Baum (May 15, 1856 – May 6, 1919) was an American author of children's books, best known for writing *THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ*, published in 1900.



One of the most successful novels in American literature, *THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ* sold out instantly, became a cultural sensation, and sold over three million copies before entering the public domain in 1956.

Baum wrote 13 novel sequels, nine other fantasy novels, and a host of other works, including 83 short stories, over 200 poems, and 55 novels. He made numerous attempts to bring his works to the stage and screen. Baum's writings remarkably anticipated innovations including television, augmented reality, laptop computers (*THE MASTER KEY*), wireless telephones (*TIK-TOK OF OZ*), women in high-risk, action-heavy occupations (*MARY LOUISE IN THE COUNTRY*), and the ubiquity of advertising on clothing (*AUNT JANE'S NIECES AT WORK*).

SYNOPSIS

THE WIZARD OF OZ musical is based on L. Frank Baum's classic 1900 novel, popularized by the iconic 1939 MGM film. The stage musical closely follows the movie's plot, featuring beloved songs like "Over the Rainbow," "Follow the Yellow Brick Road," and "We're Off to See the Wizard."

Setting: Kansas and Over the Rainbow

Time: 1900s

ACT ONE

Scene:

Scene 1-4:

Scene 5:

Scene 6:

Scene 7:

Scene 8/9:

Scene 10/11:

Scene 12:

Scene 13:

Location:

Kansas Prairie

Twister

Munchkinland

Wicked Witch

Cornfield

Outside Tinman's cottage

Wild Forest

Poppy field

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Scene:

Scene 1:

Scene 2:

Scene 3:

Scene 4:

Scene 5:

Scene 6/7:

Scene 8/9:

Scene 10:

Scene 11:

Scene 12:

Scene 13:

Scene 14:

Location:

Gates of Emerald City

Emerald City Town Square (Welcome to Oz)

Wizard's Chamber

Gates of Emerald City

Witch's Castle

The Haunted Forest

Witch's Castle

Witch's Chambers

Wizard's Chamber

Emerald City Town Square (Balloon Ascent)

Farewell to Oz

Kansas Prairie

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: Kara Pascucci

Music Director: Allison Sayer

Children's Director: Stephanie Zajac

Choreographer: Sarah Brignac

Producer: Cheryl Wilcox

Stage Manager: Kym Momaly

Set Design: Nando Bonilla, Stephanie Zajac,
Sam Merrell

Set Construction: Nando Bonilla, Sam Merrell,
Javier Reyes, Stephanie Zajac, Phil Vachon,
Alex Rickert, Josh Mothner, Dale Coburn, Scott
Frierson, Kara Pascucci

Set Decoration: Devon Beckett, Kym Momaly, Sam
Merrell, Stephanie Zajac

Lighting Design: Nick Colella, Alex Rickert

Lighting Technician: Jo DeLaTour

Oz Effects: Alex Rickert

Sound Design: John Schaefer

Sound Technician : Phil Vachon

Props: Karen Foley

Costumes: Riet Steinmetz, Robin Kuhn

Makeup: Claudia McEwen

Photography: Larry Benvenuti

Videography: Bob Young

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CAST



DESTINY LEE (DOROTHY)

is thrilled to return to the Marathon Community Theatre stage in what can be only described as her childhood dream come true. Miss Lee graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2023 with a degree in Youth Theatre/Puppetry, and has been involved in theatre since she was 5 years old. Past credits include the Usherette in *THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW*, Sister Mary Amnesia in *NUNSENSE*, Deb in *ORDINARY DAYS*, Mother/Georgette in *THIS IS NOT A PIPE DREAM* and the assistant/music director of Marathon High School's *FOOTLOOSE*. She is grateful for every opportunity at MCT and hopes that you enjoy the show!



CHERYL WILCOX (AUNTIE EM/ENSEMBLE/PRODUCER)

has been a member of MCT since 2001. Behind the stage, she has worn many different hats as part of various productions. She has appeared in Christmas concerts, *One Weekend Only*, *Tah Dance* and teaches the MCT intermediate tap class. Cheryl was assistant choreographer in *CHICAGO* and *ACT NOW* and choreographer for *GIGI*, *ONCE UPON A MATTRESS* and *SUNSET VILLAGE*. She has performed in *FOLLIES*, *KISS ME KATE*, *COMPANY*, *THE AMOROUS AMBASSADOR*, *9 TO 5*, *FOUR OLD BROADS*, *VAGINA MONOLOGUES*, and *THE CAROL BURNETT SKITS*. Tonight, she hopes to put a smile on your face and a little joy in your heart.

CAST



JOSH MOTHNER (*UNCLE HENRY/ENSEMBLE*)

moved to Marathon in 1996 with his wife, Janine Mothner, and his two daughters, Mackenzie Keller and Samantha Mothner. With a career as a real estate agent, banker and consultant, Josh also spent over 29 years serving Marathon's nonprofit community in various capacities. Josh's MCT-related activity includes performing in the COVID-shortened production of HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS, but he has long-time connections to MCT. His mother, Patricia McNally, performed in CAMELOT, THE MUSIC MAN and other MCT productions, as well as the MCT chorus for many years. His daughter Samantha Mothner appeared in several One Weekend Only performances and played Amaryllis in MCT's production of THE MUSIC MAN alongside her grandmother. Kensley Keller, Josh's granddaughter, is performing currently in THE WIZARD OF OZ, keeping MCT all in the family. Josh has written, directed and produced two short films for the Tropic Cinema's 72 Hour Film Challenge, and he played the titular role in "The Devil and Daniel Webster" before moving to the Keys in 1996.



JOHN SCHAEFER (*HICKORY/TINMAN*)

Well, just when I was hoping to get a break from listening to one of my humans singing "Damnit Janet" and "Once In A While" every day, now my solitude is being shattered by "If I Only Had A Heart" and "We're Off To See The Wizard" instead. There should really be a rule against this sort of thing, if for no other reason than the sanity and mental well being of all of us furry creatures having to endure this torturous behavior of our human housemates. Hopefully my other human will talk to someone with the ability to outlaw such cruel and inhumane treatment. It's really bad enough that for some reason he is around the house a lot more lately. Hey Linda, please do something. Oh, and we need more treats. Signed, your tortured housemate Stanley (the cat).

CAST



STANLEY SHANNON WILEY (*HUNK/SCARECROW*)

was born and raised in Florida and developed a love for surfing, fishing, diving and all things “outdoors” in his early days. His love for nature is seen in his distinguished career in fine art and art education spanning four decades. Shannon provides clients with professional art and design services and unique hand-crafted products. Wiley’s portfolio includes paintings, glass etchings, sculptures and large-scale murals found throughout the United States, Cuba and the Caribbean islands. Shannon has collaborated with artists including Carey Chen, Yoslan O’Farrill, and internationally-renowned artist and sculptor Robert Wyland. Shannon’s work is available at shops and galleries in Grassy Key, Marathon, Big Pine Key and in Old Town, Key West.



DALE COBURN (*THE COWARDLY LION/ZEKE*)

is thrilled to roar, whimper, and Rrrfff! his way back onto the MCT main stage. To get into character, he binge-watched 13 hours of cat videos on YouTube, courageously ran from shadows and loud noises and took long lion naps while he should have been doing chores. Dale sincerely hopes this performance doesn’t lead to a lifetime of lion roles. But if it does ... at least he already owns the tail! Finally, a huge thanks to his incredible wife, Courtney, and his amazing daughter, Kaylynn, for letting him spend countless hours rehearsing to be a sissy in public, even though Kaylynn recently told him: “Daddy, no more singing. My ears hurt.”

CAST



STEPHANIE SMITH

(MISS GULCH/WICKED WITCH)

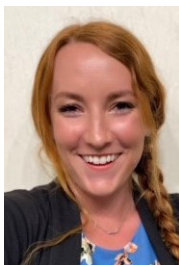
is thrilled to return to the stage after 20-plus years, landing the role of a lifetime — the Wicked Witch of the West! With broom in hand and cackle at the ready, she's embracing the part she was always destined to play. Endless thanks to her daughter Andee for cheering her on every step of the way. "I'll get you, my pretty ... and your little dog too!" After 20 years, it feels good to be bad!



ALEX RICKERT

(PROFESSOR MARVEL/THE WIZARD)

traded in a life of frolicking with dolphins to sling ink by the barrel at the Keys Weekly Newspapers. A complete theater rookie, he took the "just try it" bait from his old coworkers in 2017 for CABARET, and the rest is history. He serves as MCT's Vice President of Production and helped rebuild the theater following Hurricane Irma with a dedicated team of dudes. Off stage, he enjoys spirited debates with sharks, running, convincing himself he's a mechanic and supporting his friend Dale as he moves into the "OK Boomer" phase of life.



MICHELLE MACOSKEY (GLINDA/ENSEMBLE)

is beyond delighted to be making a particularly bubble-y entrance to Oz! You may have just seen her as a ballerina nun in the musical NUNSENSE, as a newlywed in BAREFOOT IN THE PARK, or the governor's assistant in THE OUTSIDER. Originally born and raised in Southern California, she moved to the Keys in 2020 for a job opportunity. Michelle has a bachelor's degree in Marine Science and is currently a teacher and head cheerleading coach at Marathon High School. She would like to say a huge thank you to all the other cast and crew for their hard work and dedication, and supporters who came to see the show.

CAST



JOHN HUNT (*OZ GUARD*)

is excited to return to the MCT stage after a long hiatus. His past roles as Georges, the cabaret owner, in *LA CAGE AUX FOLLES* and the cameraman in *THE OUTSIDER* are distant memories. The Emerald City Guard beckoned to him as a perfect way to come back to the stage. After all, what is better than “getting up at twelve and starting to work at one, taking an hour for lunch and at two being done?!” But he is most excited to share the stage with his 5-year-old grandson, Hamill. Hamill, who already has a flair for drama, plays one of the Flying Monkeys. John hopes this experience will jump-start Hamill’s joy for music and theater, just as some early school plays did for John. Enjoy the show!



AUBREY ANTHONY KEHN (*NIKKO*)

As a lifelong Wizard of Oz fan, Aubrey Anthony Kehn is thrilled to stretch their wings in MCT’s production. They would like to extend a million thanks to Kara for allowing them to contribute.



ZEKE (*TOTO*) is thrilled to be making his stage debut as Toto in *THE WIZARD OF OZ*! A 9-year-old adventurer born in San Antonio, Texas, Zeke has also called Oklahoma and now Marathon home. His favorite activities include exploring the world with his mom, Darby Sheehan, playing with his brothers, finding hermit crabs at Sombrero Beach, enjoying tasty snacks, and, of course, big snuggles. Zeke loves his Marathon community and was honored to

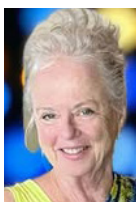
be named the Best of Marathon’s Pet Celebrity. He’s excited to bring his star power (and a few tail wags) to the stage.

ADULT ENSEMBLE



TANYA CRISP

Her true talents lie in animal care, but she does enjoy theater. She has, many moons ago, performed in high school theater. She also did some performances while working as a fundraising coordinator.



VICKY IVERSON STEAD

Vicky has been a resident, both full-time and part-time, since 1994. She has enjoyed productions at MCT, but never thought about being part of a production – that is, until just recently, when she was approached about auditioning after a spirited scripture reading at St. Columba. So she did, and to her great surprise, here she is! An Ozian and a Winkie.



VICTORIA FAIRBROTHER-SMITH

has lived in the Florida Keys for 50 years and helped her family prepare the food for the very first Seafood Festival in Marathon. She opened and operated the Victoria Insurance agency in 1982 and sold it in 2000 to finish her bachelor's degree and begin her second career as a special education teacher. Victoria is an active member of the Island Harmony barbershop chorus and also sings in a quartet. She enjoys volunteering in the community with the American Legion Auxiliary. She has enjoyed performing in the MCT holiday shows and One Weekend Only for several years. This is her second MCT musical, her first being an ensemble member in HELLO DOLLY – way, WAY back in history, when the shows were recorded on VHS.

KIDS ENSEMBLE



LANDRY SAYER

is a fifth grader at Stanley Switlik who has lived in Marathon her whole life. She began her journey at Marathon Community Theater before she was even born, when her very-pregnant mom auditioned for THE PRODUCERS in 2014. At Switlik she performed in WILLY WONKA (Matilda) and FROZEN (Olaf), and she has also been in several variety shows over the years at MCT. She is very excited about being in this show with her mom and her best friends. Enjoy the show, and always remember: There's no place like home!



JOURNEY NICHOLS-JONES

is an aspiring actress, with this being her fourth year at MCT along with Switlik productions. She is 11 years old and thrives in theatre. She was born a conch and is excelling in fifth grade. She stays involved in many school activities and functions, along with sports and theatre. This is her first show with the adult cast, and although she says it is a lot of work, she is loving every second of it. Journey hopes to continue her theatre journey for years and productions to come, and she hopes that everyone will enjoy the show.



JORDAN SPALTAN

is a 10-year-old theatre enthusiast who loves being on stage. She has appeared in seven productions between community theatre and school and is excited to be making her debut in her first adult production. Known for her vibrant and robust personality, as well as her love for performing, Jordan brings enthusiasm to every role, including dance and gymnastics, which she participates in outside of theatre. She is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to learn from her fellow cast members, and for the love and support from her family and friends who inspire her to continue growing as a performer.

KIDS ENSEMBLE



WILLIAM CHAPMAN

was first introduced to the stage in Stanley Switlik's performance of CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY. Since then, he has performed in Switlik's FROZEN musical and spent the past summer at various theater camps around the state. He played the lead in a production of TREASURE ISLAND and performed in a music and movement workshop at American Stage in St. Petersburg. He is excited and thankful that MCT has included children in its latest production. There's no place like MCT! William would like to dedicate his performance to his own Toto – only her name is Zoey!



CASEY TORRES

is thrilled to take the stage in The Wizard of Oz! She has previously performed in FINDING NEMO JR., FROZEN KIDS, ALICE IN WONDERLAND JR. and WILLY WONKA KIDS. Casey loves the theater and enjoys bringing characters to life on stage. She would like to thank her directors and family for their encouragement and support.



LUCY TUPCIAUSKAS

is a 9-year-old currently in her second play and absolutely loving it. She loves to travel, and has been traveling with her family for the past 4-1/2 years. Her passion for theatre doesn't only come from the acting itself, but also the connections and friendships she has made from it. Gymnastics is one of her other major passions, and she has a drive to learn and push herself. Her favorite holiday is Halloween, with Christmas as a close second. Lucy would like to thank Miss Stephanie, Miss Kara and her family for giving her this opportunity and supporting her.

KIDS ENSEMBLE



ALICE TUPCIAUSKAS

is an 11-year-old who travels full-time with her family in her RV for the past 4-1/2 years. They have now decided to stay in the Florida Keys because they love it so much and have never felt more at home. She and her sister Lucy found out about MCT's children theatre and wanted to give it a try. After learning and seeing a few shows, she quickly realized it was a passion she had to explore. She is now in her second play and hopes to go out for a lead role in her next play. As the oldest of six siblings, her first passion is her family. She would like to give a huge thanks to Miss Stephanie, Miss Kara and her family for all of their love and support.



GABRIELLA WIEBE

discovered her love for theater this summer in her very first play, where she got to be Peach the Starfish in FINDING NEMO. She loves singing, acting and bringing lots of energy to the stage. When she's not performing, you can usually find her playing guitar, piano or spending time with any animals she can. Her favorite Bible verse is John 3:16. Gabriella thinks theater is the perfect place to use her imagination and make people smile, and she can't wait for more adventures on stage.



CHEYANE COUNTRYMAN

is currently a fifth grader at Stanley Switlik Elementary. She performed in FROZEN last year and was in FINDING NEMO over the summer here at MCT's children's theater camp. She hopes to continue with theater in the future.

KIDS ENSEMBLE



LILLY HUTCHINSON

is a 5th grader at Switlik school and loves music and dance. She played Young Elsa in Switlik’s production of FROZEN last year.



CORA BECKETT

loves dance, theater, books and Barbies. She has a Dorothy, Glinda & Wicked Witch doll. She’s very excited to be an iconic Lul-laby League munchkin.

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CREW



KARA PASCUCCI (*DIRECTOR*)

Kara grew up as a “theater kid” in the Boston area. She moved to Marathon in 2008 and did her first show at MCT in 2010. She has been on stage and behind the scenes ever since. She has co-directed the children’s theater program for the last 15 years, but this is her first time directing a main-stage production with adults and kids (and a dog!). In real life, Kara works as a behavior analyst with children and families in Marathon. All the thanks to her amazing cast and crew for all their help and support in making this show come to life. Enjoy!



SARAH BRIGNAC (*CHOREOGRAPHER*)

is from the swamps of south Louisiana, where she was a “Ragin’ Cajun” Cheerleader at the University of Louisiana Lafayette. She has lived in Marathon for over 20 years now and works at Dolphin Research Center. Sarah was convinced by friends to audition in 2009 for GUYS AND DOLLS and has danced in and choreographed many shows since.

CREW



STEPHANIE ZAJAC (CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR)

started her career at a young age sitting with mom or sleeping on her lap in the church choir, later becoming a lead cantor at 17. At a young age, Stephanie started classical voice lessons, and by 15 she was singing opera solos. Later she was taught Bel Canto, which is a very specific style of Italian courtly solo singing. Through her school years she was part of an award-winning chorus and a quartet which sang the national anthem at Shea Stadium, and performed in many musical theater productions including summer programs at New York's Gateway Playhouse. Stephanie joined the MCT family with her debut in *HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING*. She has helped direct children's theater for the past four years and was music director and Cinderella in *DISENCHANTED*. She is a member of the 79th Street Band, where she fulfills the inner desire to sing rock music. She is the mom of a 4-year-old boy and wife to a very supportive and loving husband.



ALLISON SAYER (MUSICAL DIRECTOR/ENSEMBLE)

has been a part of Marathon Community Theater for the past 12 years. She has performed in *THE PRODUCERS* (Ulla), *CABARET* (Sally), and *LA CAGE AUX FOLLES* (Jacqueline), directed music for the premiere of *THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW* and most recently was the director for *BAREFOOT IN THE PARK*. By day, Allison is proud to be the music teacher at Stanley Switlik Elementary School, where she has taught for the past five years. She is especially thrilled to share the stage for the first time with her daughter, Landry. Much love to her firstborn, Sutton, and endless gratitude to her always-supportive husband, Sean. Allison also thanks her late father, Les White, for instilling in her a lifelong love of the stage. Enjoy the show!

CREW



RIET STEINMETZ (COSTUMES)

Outside of other stage production-related roles such as producer, prop person, set dresser, etc., Riet has enjoyed helping out with costumes for many years, which at times can be as entertaining as the show itself. She is looking forward to another fun, creative season with lots of camaraderie and laughs. And she hopes that many theater friends in the audience decide to join the fun and get involved in volunteering in one way or another. Just talk to a member or call the theater. Applause, applause!



KYM MOMALY (STAGE MANAGER)

started her theater experience in Key West. She enjoys dancing with her family, students and friends. She has been dancing on the MCT stage in belly dancing and tap numbers. Kym has worked backstage as a stage hand, dresser and house volunteer in various positions since the early 1990s. This is her debut as stage manager. When not at the theater, Kym is volunteering in Florida communities, Scouting, teaching, learning and driving to adventures. She hopes you enjoy the show.

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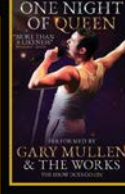
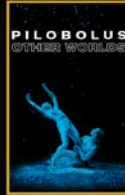
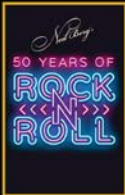
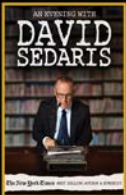
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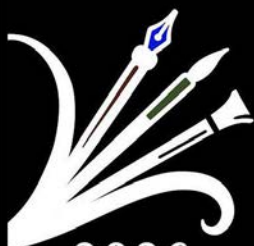
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