

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Bringing a classic childrens' novel to the stage is a huge responsibility – something I take seriously. When approached to direct *Bend In the Road*, I couldn't contain my excitement. I wanted to be sure this musical would showcase the heart and soul of our freckle-faced red-headed orphan girl and her new family and friends. Lucky for us, *Bend In the Road* shows us that and much more.

As we have been rehearsing I have discovered many wonderful moments that we all would relate to. The words leap right off the page of LM Montgomery's books into this lovely script by Benita Scheckel – and the beautiful songs by Michael Upward showcase the spirit of our Canadian neighbors on Prince Edward Island. I am so thrilled and honored to be directing the PNW premiere of this production and even more honored to be directing at KFT for the first time. Thank you to the staff, cast, crew, band and all who support KFT and the Mountaineers for allowing me to bring Anne onto this lovely stage. It has been a huge team effort! Enjoy the show!

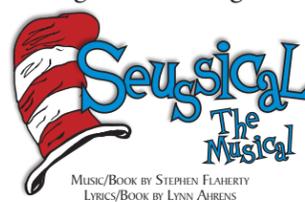
- Trina Williamson

## ANNOUNCING OUR 2023 SEASON!

The Kitsap Forest Theater has been alive with music and the power of imagination for 100 years (1923-2023). Celebrate our Centennial with two fabulous musicals perfect for all ages. In *The Sound of Music*, an exuberant young governess brings music and joy back to a broken family, only to face danger and intrigue in



1930's Austria. *Seussical, The Musical*, celebrates friendship, loyalty, family and community with the best-loved characters from Dr. Seuss' magical books.



### KITSAP FOREST THEATER *BEND IN THE ROAD* CAST BIOS

**Eileen Balet** is incredibly excited to be in her 2<sup>nd</sup> show at KFT! Favorite roles: Annie (*Annie*) & Westleton (*Frozen Jr*). She thanks the incredible cast/crew of *Bend in the Road* and her family/friends. (she/her)

**Miette Blood** is over the moon to be performing at KFT for the first time. Recent roles: Florinda (*Into the Woods*) Charon (*Lightning Thief*), Lucy (*Good Man Charlie Brown*). Miette thanks family/friends/teachers.

**Dawn Brazel** has appeared in productions at Village Theater, Seattle Musical Theater, Pioneer Square Theater, and Tacoma Little Theater, to name a few. Favorite roles include Joanne in *Company*, Ruth in *Calendar Girls*, and Miss Hannigan in *Annie*. Last summer she played Aunt March in *Little Women* at KFT.

**Carol Chollar** is delighted to be participating in her first KFT production. She's been doing theater in Kitsap County since 1994. Some favorite moments on stage have been under the direction of Trina Williamson!

**Sarah Conte-Bacolini** 1<sup>st</sup> show at KFT was *Mamma Mia!* in 2019. She is excited to be back & play this role which includes not just "stirring the pot" but also learning how to love and connect again. Previous roles: Lady Clapham (*Something Rotten!*), Marian Paroo (*Music Man*) & Annie Sullivan (*The Miracle Worker*).

**Bella Cummings** is extremely excited to start her first show at KFT! Some previous roles include Kitty Bennet (*Pride and Prejudice*), and the Unexpected Cop (*Clue*). She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Olivia Finkelstein** has loved her 1<sup>st</sup> KFT experience! A junior at Illinois Wesleyan Univ., she studies acting & film studies. Recent performances include *Airline Highway*, *Bells are Ringing*, *Dog Sees God*. (she/her)

**Walt Foster** started appearing on stage in 1988 and has since acted in more than forty different productions. Favorites: Cogsworth (*Beauty & the Beast*, 2008), and Reverend (*Footloose*). Now that he has accumulated some life experience, he relishes the challenge of bringing that life experience to the role of Matthew.

**Becca Gray** is honored and delighted to play Anne Shirley! This is her first show with KFT and was last seen as Maria in 2018 Leavenworth's *The Sound of Music*. She works at Kings preschool teaching music and theatre to adorable children! She thanks Jesus for this wonderful experience and opportunity!

**Juliette Jones** first performed with KFT in 2013. You may have recently seen her here as Beth (*Little Women*, 2021) and Wendy (*Peter Pan*, 2018). Other credits include Martha (*Spring Awakening*), Lady Capulet (*Romeo & Juliet*), and ACT Theatre's *A Christmas Carol*. She can't wait to bring this childhood classic to life!

**Brian Lindvall** is pleased to be in his 25<sup>th</sup> show at this magical place. He's webmaster and historian for KFT.

**Olivia Markle** is excited to be in her 2<sup>nd</sup> KFT show! She loves musical theatre, singing, composing music, playing the piano and snuggling with her two dogs. She was Chip in *Beauty and the Beast* this spring at KFT.

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**Clara Pettross** is delighted to return to Kitsap for her fifth show at the theater. Previously she did sound for *Beauty and the Beast* (KFT) but can't wait to be back on the stage! (she/her)

**Stewart Shusterman** appears on stage with no lines. He was the Arch and the Door in *Beauty and the Beast*.

**Noah Skillman** is so excited to perform his first show with KFT! He graduated from CWU with his BFA Musical Theater in 2020 and his favorite recent role is Ted Hanover (*Holiday Inn*). Noah loves Green Gables and is so honored to play Gilbert Blythe. (he/him)

**Carol Stanley** is so honored to be performing on this magical stage once more. This is her 16<sup>th</sup> show at KFT. Favorite roles: Liza (*Peter Pan*), Mother (*Tarzan*), Queen Lillian/Mad Hatter (*Shrek*), and Grace (*Honk!*).

**Ashlyn Templin** is thrilled to be in her first show at KFT! She loves musical theater, painting, and singing. She wants to thank her family and friends, and her cat for all their support.

**Isaac Tian** first theatre production was this spring's *Beauty in the Beast* here at KFT. His previous performing experience includes competitive marching band (Drum Corps International) and UW chamber singers. Aside from music he plays and coaches competitive eSports and is a doctoral candidate in computer vision.

**Spencer Weidman**, after playing Lumiere in KFT's spring show, *Beauty & the Beast*, is pleased to lend his talents to this show. Previous performances include Danny Zuko (*Grease*) & Gaston (*Beauty and the Beast*). He enjoys playing rugby, being with friends and looks forward to being a kid again!

### *BEND IN THE ROAD* PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

**Greg Brown** has happily been doing sound for the Mountaineers Players since 1973.

**Ila Faubion Dreessen** is happy to be helping out at her favorite theater! Ila is a self-taught seamstress with a passion for costumes of all genres, and is excited to help this show come to life. She costumed *Little Women* last year and designed and made Belle's dresses (and played Belle) for *Beauty and the Beast*. (she/they)

**Mark Jackson**'s been involved in theatre since 1997 where he met his wife Trina at auditions for *Godspell*. He enjoys playing drums & being onstage. Favorite roles: Alf (*Peter & Starcatcher*), Eddie (*View from Bridge*).

**Linda Kappus**'s professional performing career spanned rodeos to operas & her vast stage experience informs her private and college teaching. She and her husband Paul often bring their grandchildren to KFT. It has been a joy to be part of the talented creative team and cast presenting this new musical in this idyllic setting.

**Laura McFarlane** is excited to be involved in her 7<sup>th</sup> show at KFT! She started with *Shrek* in 2015 and has been involved ever since. Laura has choreographed for various theatres including Driftwood Players, Red Curtain Foundation & local school productions. Favorite roles: Olive (*Spelling Bee*), Helene (*Sweet Charity*).

**Gala Lindvall** is excited to be producing this postponed show from 2020 (her 32<sup>nd</sup> show for KFT). She directs Kitsap Forest Adventure Camp and helps her husband, Brian, manage the property. The beauty of this place and the incredible actors and production staff keep her coming back year after year.

**Leann Markle**, an independent artist & illustrator, feels so fortunate to have found KFT; it's truly a magical place. She loves being backstage painting sets, helping out, and supporting her daughter, Olivia. It's a joy to work with such an amazingly talented cast and production team and to help make the magic happen!

**Kuran Pettross** is excited to be back at KFT for his 4<sup>th</sup> time running sound after running sound for *Beauty & the Beast* this season. He loves the amazing memories these productions create. (he/him)

**Guillermo A. Peguero** holds a BA in violin performance from the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music and has been part of countless milestone events and performances with many different ensembles. He played for *Beauty & the Beast* in the spring and feels privileged to be back for his second show.

**George Pledger** loves the magic of Kitsap Forest Theater, has been part of various productions since 2014.

**Jay Rauchenstein** pushes buttons. Some of the buttons make pretty sounds when they're pushed just right. This is his first time pressing pretty sound buttons in this forest.

**Stewart Shusterman** is so excited to be returning for his 10<sup>th</sup> season at this magical place that he is speechless. He thanks his loving wife who taught him everything he knows, and doesn't know, about props.

**Trina Williamson** has been directing for the past 24 years and is thrilled to be working here at KFT for the first time. Theatre is a family affair for her and she is happy to have her husband, Mark, in the band (say hi to the drummer!). Next on her plate is directing *Mary Poppins* for BCT in 2023.

**Benita Scheckel** (Book & Lyrics) is a public school administrator, artist and mom living in Southern California with her seismic analyst husband, Dominic. As a former opera singer, actor and recurring character on Disney's hit animated series, *Phineas and Ferb*, Benita is thrilled to see her co-written musical theatre piece make its northwest premiere at the beautiful Kitsap Forest Theater.

**Michael Upward** (Music & Lyrics) is a composer, pianist and musical director who has a Master of Arts in Music Composition. As well as writing many choral works, he has written several full length musicals. He has been musical director for several churches and for theaters throughout Southern California and won the Inland Empire's Best Musical Director award.

## Kitsap Forest Adventure Camp play ★ explore ★ create

We offer two one-week day camps for kids in grades K-4<sup>th</sup> every July at this beautiful forest property with a Friday overnight for families? It's a great way to unplug your kids. It fills up fast – sign-ups start in January. See our web site for details and to register.



**KITSAP FOREST THEATER** THEATER INSPIRED BY A MAGICAL PLACE

July 30, 31 • August 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 • 2 pm

**BEND in the ROAD**

**The Anne of Green Gables Musical**  
Book and Lyrics by Benita Scheckel • Music and Lyrics by Michael Upward

**DIRECTOR:**

**Trina Williamson**

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:**

**Linda Kappus**

**CHOREOGRAPHER:**

**Laura McFarlane**

**COSTUMES:**

**Ila Faubion Dreessen**

**SETS:**

**George Pledger**

**PROPS:**

**Stewart Shusterman**



The Mountaineers Players are excited to present this Northwest premier of *Bend in the Road, The Anne of Green Gables Musical*, a new musical adaptation inspired by "Anne of Green Gables", written by Lucy Maud Montgomery and published in 1908. Book & Lyrics by Benita Scheckel • Music & Lyrics by Michael Upward



### FOREMAN'S FOREST WORKS • 360-536-8960

Travis Foreman, the Kitsap Forest Theater caretaker, has left his mark all over the property – the benches, fences, arbors, swings, and mushrooms. Contact him for a custom piece of yard art.

**HELP ENSURE FUTURE GENERATIONS EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC!**

**Thanks to the donors/volunteers who keep this magical theater thriving. Donate your time and money today to keep the tradition alive!**

Please visit [www.ForestTheater.com](http://www.ForestTheater.com) and click the *donate* tab for more info. Call 206-542-7815 or email [players@foresttheater.com](mailto:players@foresttheater.com) with questions.

**Thanks for your support of the Mountaineers Players/Kitsap Forest Theater.**

[www.ForestTheater.com](http://www.ForestTheater.com)

# Bend in the Road, The Anne of Green Gables Musical

## Synopsis of Scenes

Avonlea, Prince Edward Island, Canada (1896 - 1901)

### ACT ONE

- SCENE 1 Bright River Train Station – Fall, 1896**  
*A Home for Me* ..... Anne & Company
- SCENE 1A Buggy Ride to Green Gables**  
*Anne with an E* ..... Anne, Matthew
- SCENE 2 Marilla's Kitchen – the next morning**  
*Rachel's Surprise* ..... Rachel, Marilla
- SCENE 3 Anne's Room – That night**  
*The Lord's Prayer* ..... Anne, Marilla, Company
- SCENE 4 The Road to School – the next day**  
*Walk Like Sisters (Kindred Spirits)* ..... Anne, Diana
- SCENE 5 School House – same day**  
*Math and Mayhem* ..... The Students
- SCENE 6 Marilla's Kitchen/Matthew's Work Bench – early Spring**  
*Nellie, Dear* ..... Anne  
*That Girl* ..... Marilla, Matthew
- SCENE 7 Tea Party at Green Gables – a month later**  
*The Feud* ..... Marilla, Rachel, Mrs. Barry

### ACT TWO

- SCENE 1 Porch of Green Gables – later that evening**  
*Trouble is Trouble* ..... Matthew & Anne
- SCENE 2 Outside the School House – a week later**  
*What do you call a Boy?* ..... Josie, Anne, Diana, Gilbert, Students
- SCENE 3 Path Home from School – same day**  
*That Girl* (Reprise) ..... Gilbert  
*I Could Have Gone Alone* ..... Anne, Gilbert
- SCENE 4 Marilla's Kitchen - same day**
- SCENE 5 Rachel's House - next day**
- SCENE 6 Path Home through the Woods - same day**  
*The Haunted Wood* ..... The Company
- SCENE 7 Diana's House – a month later**  
*Trouble is Trouble* (Reprise) ..... Anne
- SCENE 8 Marilla's Kitchen – three years later (1900)**  
*One Little Drop* ..... Matthew, Anne
- SCENE 9 School Yard - Graduation Day - one year later (1901)**
- SCENE 10 Green Gables – two weeks later**
- SCENE 11 Graveyard/Bright River Train Station – same day**  
*One Little Drop* (Reprise) ..... Anne  
*Bend in the Road* ..... Anne, Gilbert, Company

Singing with Ila • The Voice Studio of Ila Faubion  
 Serving Poulsbo and Kitsap County • (425) 205-1341 • singingwithila@gmail.com  
 Are you interested in learning more about the magical instrument all of us carry within us? Ila is a vocal coach specializing in teaching musical theater and classical voice, as well as pop, folk, and bluegrass styles.

## Cast of Characters

- ANNE SHIRLEY ..... Becca Gray  
 MATTHEW CUTHBERT ..... Walt Foster  
 MARILLA CUTHBERT ..... Dawn Brazel  
 DIANA BARRY ..... Juliette Jones  
 GILBERT BLYTHE/SOLDIER ..... Noah Skillman  
 RACHEL LYNDE ..... Sarah Conte-Bacolini  
 MRS. CAMILLE BARRY ..... Carol Chollar  
 SALESMAN/BILLY ANDREWS ..... Spencer Wiedmann  
 SALESMAN/MR. PHILLIPS ..... Isaac Tian  
 MINNIE MAE BARRY ..... Olivia Markle  
 JOSIE PYE/WIFE ..... Olivia Finkelstein  
 RUBY GILLIS ..... Bella Cummings  
 PRISSY ANDREWS ..... Eileen Balet  
 CHARLIE SLOAN ..... Clara Pettiross  
 ROSE WRIGHT ..... Ashlyn Templin  
 EDWARD WRIGHT ..... Miette Blood  
 STATION MASTER ..... Brian Lindvall  
 MOTHER ..... Carol Stanley  
 TOWNSPERSON ..... Stewart Shusterman

## Dance & Music Staff

- Music Director** ..... Linda Kappus  
**Choreographer** ..... Laura McFarlane  
 Dance Captain ..... Carol Stanley  
**Accompanist** ..... Jay Rauchenstein  
 Drums ..... Mark Jackson  
 Violin ..... Guillermo Peguero

Putting on a show at our unique theater takes an army of volunteers who sell tickets, house manage, take charge of parking, sell concessions, take tickets, usher, help park and cook for cast and crew. **Thanks to all of you who are the backbone of our organization, helping to staff these positions for our shows.** Without you, there would be no shows.

If you would like to volunteer to usher, park, cook or fill any other position, please call 206-542-7815 or email [players@foresttheater.com](mailto:players@foresttheater.com) to sign up. And see the show for free!

Be a theater ambassador and let your friends and family know about our hidden gem of a theater. Word of mouth is our best advertising!

### BIG TREE TRAIL

One of the delights of the Mountaineers' Kitsap Forest Theater is being surrounded by the Keta Legacy Foundation Rhododendron Preserve – a 460 acre nature conservancy with over 70 acres of old-growth forest. Ancient western red cedars abound with many other trees, ferns and wildlife. One of the biggest trees on the Kitsap Peninsula is located on the preserve. The trail to 'Big Tree' is about 1/2 mile long and starts near the historic Kitsap Cabin, ending at one of the 10 largest Douglas Fir trees in the world (2<sup>nd</sup> largest in Kitsap County). The tree itself is over 30' in diameter. The hike takes you on a bridge over Wildcat Creek with views of Hidden Valley, blooming trillium, wild rhododendrons and many other native trees and plants. You truly feel as if you have entered another world.

If you hike the trail after the show, please be sure your car is not blocking anyone in. Please note that the first part of the trail is steep – wear walking shoes and enjoy your trek into another time and place!

## Production Staff

- Director** ..... Trina Williamson  
**Costume Design & Construction** ..... Ila Faubion Dreessen  
 Katie McKenna  
**Set Design & Construction/Set Dressing** ..... George Pledger  
 Danette Lam, Leanne Markle, Olivia Markle, Seth Markle, Angela Templin  
**Set Artist/Co-Stage Manager** ..... Leanne Markle  
**Prop Master/Co-Stage Manager** ..... Stewart Shusterman  
 Sarah Conte-Bacolini, Danette Lam, Leanne Markle, Trina Williamson  
**Sound Design** ..... Kuran Pettiross  
**Sound Engineer** ..... Greg Brown  
**Trail Decorations** ..... Ashlyn Templin, Clara Pettiross  
**Publicity Manager** ..... Jerry Dreessen  
 LeeAnn Nolan, *Players' Committee and entire BITR cast, crew & families.*  
**Seabeck Highway Sign** ..... Deb & Tod Harrick  
**Graphic Design, T-shirts, Buttons, Program** ..... Gala Lindvall

### Special Thanks to:

- Michael Upward, Composer, for traveling to Seattle to initially teach the music*  
*Tom Vogl, CEO of The Mountaineers, Matt Simonson, VP of Properties, and*  
*Mountaineers staff for their unwavering support of The Mountaineers Players.*  
*Prestige Copy & Print (printing & mailing); Absolute Graphix (t-shirt printing)*  
**Producer** ..... Gala Lindvall  
**Shuttle Driver** ..... Les Bagley  
 Thanks to *Around the Sound Transportation* for use of Shuttle Bus

### MOUNTAINEERS PLAYERS HISTORY

The rich history of The Mountaineers Players and the Kitsap Forest Theater began on a Spring day in 1909. A 'local walk' to view the wild blooming rhododendrons around Wildcat Lake began one of The Mountaineers most enduring traditions. The 'misguided' group of 66 Mountaineers wandered into Hidden Valley Ranch and met Edward Paschall and his family. A fast friendship was forged on that day.

Those early Mountaineer visitors did skits around the campfire. The skits grew into a production of *Robin of Sherwood* on June 17, 1923. The audience moved from clearing to clearing as different scenes were presented. The performance marked the birth of The Mountaineers Players who went on to produce an annual spring show (and adding a summer show in 2007) every year to the present day – except the four years during World War II and 2020.

The Players decided to build a permanent theater facility, dedicated in 1926. Wings were constructed out of cedar bark. A lush row of fern footlights and rhododendrons and dogwoods filling the back drop are just a few of the natural wonders of this unique space that you are sitting in right now!

The Mountaineers Players are one of the oldest, continuously operating community theater groups in the country, performing in one of the oldest outdoor theaters in North America. Visit our website to learn more about our history and early shows.

### THE MOUNTAINEERS PLAYERS COMMITTEE (2021-2022)

- Kitsap/Players Coordinator ..... Jerry Dreessen  
 Players' Chair ..... Jenny Dreessen  
 Vice-Chair ..... Laura Howell  
 Treasurer ..... Walt Foster  
 Secretary ..... Carol Stanley  
 Committee ..... Joan Barrera, Ila Dreessen, Jerry Dreessen, Kelly Flynt, Holly Girouard,  
 Danette Lam, Andrea McDonald, George Pledger, Cindy Raven, Stefanie Somers  
 Kitsap Cabin co-Chairs ..... Gala & Brian Lindvall  
 Gardner Hicks Theater Chairs ..... George Pledger & Chris Stanley  
 Costume Rental Manager/Kitsap Cabin Kitchen Manager ..... Jenny Dreessen  
 Kitsap Property Caretaker ..... Travis Foreman