Wildwood Summer Theatre
The Washington area’s only all-youth theatre company
Presents…

WEST SIDE STO{}RY

Book by
Arthur Laurents

Music by
Leonard Bernstein

Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Entire Original Production Directed and
Produced by
Jerome Robbins

July 26, 27, August 2, 3, 4, 9, 10
Quince Orchard High School

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the
Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County.
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Producer
Kelly Theim

Music Director
William White

Director
Nathan Claridad

Technical Director
Harrison Long

Choreographer
Lauren Beth DeRocco

Vocal Director
Jennifer Bartlett

Scenic Designer
Jared Goldstein

Stage Manager
Cecilia Bellagamba

Conductor
William White

Properties Designers
Denise Levitan

Rehearsal Accompanist
Shira Yasur

Costume Designer
Daniel Rehbehn

Lighting Designer
Kevin Danielson

Sound Designer
Harry Glaser

Hair & Make-up Designer
Joshua Rodgers

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the
Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

West Side Story is presented with special arrangement with and all authorized performance
materials are supplied by Music Theatre International.
About Wildwood Summer Theatre

Based in lower Montgomery County, Maryland, we are the only fully independent all-youth summer theatre in the Washington, DC area. Created and sustained by an unbroken chain of young people, who first learn and gradually come to teach the practical realities of mounting a full, theatrical production, Wildwood has produced at least one musical each summer since 1965. The most remarkable thing about this record of accomplishment is that all members of WST are between the ages of 14 and 25.

Wildwood Summer Theatre is literally all-youth. No one over 25 regulates, enforces, decides, creates, manages or supervises the theatrical endeavors of WST. It is a young people’s theatre, from the technicians and chorus members up to the Producer, Director, and Board members. This provides a unique learning experience in all aspects of theatre, including the very rare opportunity to participate in institutional and production management as well as design, performance, and technical crafts.

Besides, we like it that way...

Wildwood Summer Theatre Board of Directors

Cynthia Trevor, Acting Chairman and Parliamentarian

Alejandra Aspiazu, Secretary

Courtney Tisch*
Kelly Theim
Nathan Claridad^

Harrison Long**
Josh Rodgers
William C. White

Becky Wexler***
Lauren Beth DeRocco
Joellen Mallard

Liza Kaplan

Cecilia Bellagamba

*Annual Cast Representative   **Annual Crew Representative
***Annual Orchestra Representative   ^Ex-officio Member
Musical Numbers

Act One

Prologue ................................................................. Orchestra
Jet Song ........................................................................ Riff, Jets
Something's Coming ................................................... Tony
The Dance At The Gym—Blues ...................................... Orchestra
Promenade ...................................................................... Ensemble
Mambo .......................................................................... Ensemble
Maria ........................................................................... Tony
Balcony Scene .................................................................. Maria, Tony
America ........................................................................ Rosalia, Anita, Shark Girls
Cool ................................................................................... Riff, Jets
One Hand, One Heart (Marriage Scene) ................................ Tony, Maria
Tonight ........................................................................... Jets, Sharks, Anita, Tony, Maria, Riff, Bernardo
The Rumble ..................................................................... Ensemble

Act Two

I Feel Pretty ..................................................................... Maria, Consuela, Rosalia, Francisca
Ballet Sequence .......................................................... Tony, Maria
Somewhere ...................................................................... Tony, Maria
Procession and Nightmare ........................................... Tony, Maria, Company
Gee, Officer Krupke ....................................................... Tony, Maria
A Boy Like That/ I Have A Love ....................................... Anita/Maria
Finale ............................................................................ Maria, Tony

Congratulations to the Cast, Crew, and Orchestra of
West Side Story from the WST Producers Association!

Kelly Theim '02
Lauren Beth DeRocco '01
Isabel Hernandez-Cata '00
Quinn T. McCord '95,'98, &'99
Seth Meyers '99
Josh Feldman '97
David Morenoff '96
Blake Reid '94
Loren Sklar '93
Laurel Portnoy '92
Timothy S. Emerson '85 & '91

Michael B. Klein '90
Gerald Hodgekins '89
Neil McFadden '88
Dan Schultheisz '87
Christopher W. Murphy '86
Raymond H. Cahill '83 & '84
Veronica J. Mariani '82
John M. Hines '81
James P. Knowles '80
Martin F. Packer '79
Thomas R. McDonald '78
Jeffrey M. Knetsch '77

Mark E. Taylor '76
William D. Casson '75
Stan Corfman '74
Jonathan Nehmer '73
Karen Hazlett '72
Thomas Murphy '71
Brian Auslander '70
Christopher Watson '69
Roger Lyndon '68
Cynthia Kurz '68
Frank Burroughs '66 & '67
Richard Bigelow '66
Jonathan Hadary '65
Performance Staff
Director ................................................................. Nathan Claridad
Choreographer ........................................................... Lauren Beth DeRocco
Conductor ..................................................................... William White
Vocal Director .................................................................. Jennifer Bartlett
Assistant Director ............................................................ Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
Assistant Conductor .......................................................... Zach Stamler
Concertmistress .............................................................. Jennifer Jo

Business Staff
Producer ......................................................................... Kelly Theim
Associate Producers ........................................................ Cynthia Trevor & William White
Business Manager ............................................................. Cynthia Trevor
Director of Public Relations ............................................... Jason Lee Nellis
Director of Fundraising ..................................................... Liz Bullock
Assistant Director of Public Relations .................................. Emily Narkis
Director of Audience Development ..................................... Denise Levitan
Graphic Designer ................................................................ Harrison Long
House Manager ................................................................... Karyn Wiseman
Program Designer ............................................................. Jason Lee Nellis
Web Site Design ............................................................... Harry Glaser
Webmaster ....................................................................... Jason Lee Nellis

Production Staff
Technical Director ............................................................ Harrison Long
Stage Manager ................................................................... Cecilia Bellagamba
Scenic Designer .................................................................. Jared Goldstein
Sound Designer .................................................................. Harry Glaser
Lighting Designer ............................................................... Kevin Danielson
Assistant Stage Manager ...................................................... Anh Dang
Properties Designer .......................................................... Denise Levitan
House Manager ................................................................... Karyn Wiseman
Make-up Designer ............................................................. Joshua Rodgers
Paint Crew Chief ............................................................. Jessica Verest
Costumes Designer ............................................................ Daniel Rehbehn
Dresser ........................................................................... Kristi Sherk
Assistant Technical Director ................................................. Brian Szabo
Master Carpenter .............................................................. David Peckarsky
Assistant Sound Designer ...................................................... Emily Gallivan
Cast

Jets:
Riff ................................................................. Adam Rast
Tony ................................................................. Danny Pushkin
Action ............................................................. Kenneth Arcieri
A-rab ............................................................... Kevin O'Reilly
Baby John ......................................................... Michael Saffan
Snow Boy ......................................................... Daniel Rehbehn
Big Deal ........................................................... Michael Simione
Diesel ............................................................... Roger Whyte
Gee-Tar ............................................................ Yevgeniy Tyurmin

Their Girls:
Graziella ................................................................ Helene Ford
Velma .................................................................. Sarah Karp
Minnie .................................................................. Ashley Kaplan
Clarice .................................................................. Eileen Cuff
Anybodys ................................................................ Courtney Tisch

Sharks:
Bernardo .............................................................. Andre Danylevich
Maria .................................................................. Leah Pappas
Anita .................................................................. Evelyn Zilberman
Chino .................................................................. Chris Wilson
Pepe .................................................................... Utkarsh Ambudkar
Indio .................................................................. Jonathan Gadsden
Luis .................................................................... David Allen
Anxious ................................................................ Christian Liu
Toro .................................................................... Rahul Kak

Their Girls:
Rosalia .................................................................. Liza Kaplan
Consuela ................................................................ Joellen Mallard
Teresita .................................................................. Taisha Cameron
Francisca ................................................................ Martita Galindo
Estella .................................................................. Amelia Meyers

Adults:
Doc ................................................................. Danila Apasov
Lt. Schrank ........................................................ Andy Schlosberg
Officer Krupke ................................................... Harrison Long
Glad Hand ......................................................... Jonathan Schneider

Swing .............................................................. Julia Clasper, Leigh Friedman, Stephanie Lin, Owen McKain
A Girl ................................................................. Martita Galindo
Dream Maria ..................................................... Stephanie Lin
Dream Tony ....................................................... Kenneth Arcieri
Set Crew

Elise Alkire
Cameron Beigel
Kate Broderick
Tom Broderick
Camilla Cippa
Tim Crowley
Anh Dang
Kevin Danielson
Tracy Flanders
Emily Gallivan
Harry Glaser
Jared Goldstein
Ed Hicks
Megan Israel
Katherine Kingsley
Shira Kolnik
Garrett Larson

Denise Levitan
Thomas Lincoln
Lauren Moore
Alexandra Nemcosky
David Peckarsky
Betsy Quilter
Josh Rodgers
Justin Rodgers
Irene Rodgers
Brian Szabo
Jessica Verest
David Wagner
Hannah Wald
Lisa May Walker
Carolyn Walter
Mandy Yu

Orchestra

Violins
Jennifer Jo
Michael Galvin
Soo Han
Jeremy Hartman
Alice Hawfield
Yi Zhang

Cello
Jeffrey Mufson
Jessica Bolden
Ellen Bryan

Trumpet
Nate Street
Josh Keller
James Hazen

Trombone
Joan Keller
Nat Silberg

French Horn
Ram Subramanian

Flute
Michelle Gaffney
Yaara Kolnik

Clarinet
Kate Leary
Rebecca Wexler
Zach Stamler
Kate Shoemaker
Ben Davis, E-b Clarinet

Saxophone
Paul Hazen
Zach Stamler
Ben Davis

Oboe
Jennifer Murray

Bassoon
Jenny Goldhammer

Percussion
Emily Narkis
Greg Jukes
David Spencer

Guitar
Ross Holberg
Who’s Who in the Production

Elise Alkire (Crew) is very happy to have her status as “nameless crewperson” changed to “nameless crewperson who gets a bio in the program.” She’s had a great time working with WST this summer. Enjoy the show!

Utkarsh Ambudkar (Pepe) is making his Wildwood return after a summer away. He is currently an acting major at NYU, studying at the Stella Adler Conservatory. He’d like to thank all those that he loves, and all those that love him. Peace, Sunshine, and Beautifulness to all those that made this show possible—praise be the stage.

This is David Allen’s (Luis) third show, 2nd musical, and first WST production. David is so excited to know he was picked to be part of such a great thing, he promised to give it his all from the beginning.

Danila Apasov (Doc) is a perplexing character. Not quite an actor, and not quite anything else, he’s actually a complete oddball! Why, crazies like Danila don’t even need a bio! GASP! Exclamation point! Danila says, “Don’t thank people; Spank people.”

This is Kenneth Arcieri’s (Action, Dream Tony) first year with WST, but he has performed many roles at RMHS in the past three years, including Joe Boyd in this year’s Damn Yankees. He will be attending UMCP in the fall. Enjoy the Show!

Jennifer Bartlett (Vocal Director) is ecstatic to be a part of WST. She recently received her Bachelor’s in Music Education from Elon University and will be a Montgomery County Public Schools Music Educator in the fall.

Cecilia Bellagamba (Stage Manager) is excited to be in her 4th show with WST. Past shows with WST include Singin’ in the Rain, Sugar, and Guys and Dolls. Good luck to the Cast, Crew and Pit!

Kate Broderick (Crew) graduated St. John’s College HS in 2001 where she participated in theater and softball. She is happy to be returning for her 4th summer at WST.

Taisha Cameron (Teresita) is thrilled to be in her first WST Production. Next year she will finish studying theater performance and dance at UMCP. She’d like to thank the cast for an exciting summer.

This is Nathaniel Claridad’s (Director) 3rd summer with Wildwood Summer Theatre. This past year he has worked with Helen Hayes award winner Nick Olcott in the University of Maryland’s production of The Music Man, starring Johnny Holiday. Later this summer, he will appear in the Source Theatre’s Original Works Festival and this fall he will appear as Mr. Kirby in You Can’t Take It With You, directed by John Vreeke, producer of the hit TV series Northern Exposure. Favorite shows include Pippin (The Leading Player), Godspell (Jesus), Fashion (T. Tennyson Twinkle), The Bald Soprano (Ensemble), A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Demetrius).
Julia Clasper (Swing) is happy to be performing in her second WST production. She is currently a sophomore music education major/musical theater minor at Westminster Choir College, where she studies voice under the instruction of Julia Kemp. She was last seen on the Westminster stage, playing the role of Monteen in Parade.

Eileen Cuff (Clarice), 18, will attend Towson next year, and has recently played "Mercutio" in R+J and "Maggie Jones" in 42nd Street at Gonzaga HS. Her second Wildwood season has been great; she thanks the Academy and all the little people.

Anh Dang (Assistant Stage Manager) is happy to be working on her third show with Wildwood Summer Theater. This is Anh's 9th mainstage production. She would like to thank the wonderfully talented cast, pit, and crew. Thanks to the staff, Shira, Garrett, Kt, Danila, and friends. Eat all the old people. Thanks people.

This is Lauren Beth De Rocco’s (Choreographer) fourth year with WST. Next year she’ll be studying in Italy, and will definitely miss WST. She’d like to thank her family, dance captains, and the company for making this incredible summer one she’ll never forget.

Leigh Friedman (Swing) is entering her second year as a journalism student at Emory University. The company has made West Side Story - Leigh's first show with WST - a memorable experience. Her most recent appearances on stage have included the shows Hot ‘N Throbbing (Layla) and Annie (Lily St. Regis).

Martita Galindo (Francisca, A Girl) is thrilled to make her WST debut this summer. She recently graduated from Wootton High School and will be attending Temple University this fall as a vocal performance major. She thanks cast, friends, family and Josh for their amazing support.

Emily Gallivan (Crew, Assistant Sound Designer) is happy to be participating in her 2nd WST production (Singin’ in the Rain, West Side Story). Yay for scary sound equipment. Banger Twins! Bad Sweeper to One-Sided Dustpan. Izzyworship!

Alice Hawfield (Violin) has found a second home playing violin in the pit for both WST and WJ S*T*A*G*E. Thanks to everyone involved in West Side Story, with special thanks to the orchestra and Will for making her first year so wonderful.

Megan Israel’s (Crew) bio time! Mmm... Paint... This is her 2nd show, and she declares she will never paint bricks again! She sees bricks in her sleep. She is madly in love with WST, and everyone in it. But those bricks are spooty!

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (Assistant Director) was last seen on stage as Pseudolus in St. John's Theatre's production of Forum. A recent graduate of SJC, he has appeared in a nearly one dozen different SJTO productions. Also an aspiring writer, Branden has achieved national recognition for his work and will be attending Princeton University next fall.
Rahul Kak (Toro) is thrilled to be participating in his first WST production. He’s that Shark guy dancing with fences and, um, not dancing in that first part of the gym scene... He is an incoming freshman at Duke University this fall. Omivishnu!

Ashley Kaplan (Minnie), 16, will be a senior at Kennedy HS. She has performed in *The Fantasticks* (Louisa) & *Into the Woods* (Baker’s Wife) at KHS, *A Chorus Line*, *Pippin*, and others w/MTC (where she is a member of the YAW), and was in *SITR* w/WST last summer. Much love and thanks to the cast for making this an unforgettable summer.

Liza Kaplan (Rosalia), 20, is a rising junior and musical theater major at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. This is her fourth summer with WST after playing Kathy Selden in *SITR* last summer. To my wonderful family and friends, thanks for believing in me.

Sarah Karp (Velma) is a senior theater major at University of Maryland. Recent roles include Echo in *Polaroid Stories*, Balladeer in *Assassins*, and Mrs. Squires in *The Music Man*. She wants to thank the cast and crew for a wonderful experience.

Josh Keller (Trumpet) is a Music Education major at University of Maryland where he studies trumpet with Chris Gekker. In July he toured the UK with the Federal Focus Jazz Band, a traditional jazz group. He is excited to be in his first WST production.

Shira Kolnik (Crew) is working on her 8th mainstage show. She has recently graduated from Walter Johnson High School and will be going to the University of Maryland at College Park in the Fall. She would like to thank Anh, Yaara, Roxanne, some people, and some other kids. Thanks kids. I’m not condensation. love peace and chicken grease.

Denise Levitan (Props Designer, Director of Recruitment and Audience Development) just completed 14 years with Montgomery County Public Schools. She’s glad there won’t be a fifteenth; she will attend Yale University next year instead. She thanks Branden, Allison, Rahul, the crew, anyone reading this boring bio, and, as always, booboohead.

Stephanie Lin (Dream Maria, Swing) is thrilled to be making her WST debut. She is currently a sophomore at NYU. She wishes to thank Lauren for her leadership and Kenny for his love and encouragement. You have made this experience unforgettable. Good luck everyone!

Thomas Lincoln (Crew) is honored to be in his first WST production. A freshman at the College of Wooster, he is looking forward to continuing the theater life that he began in high school. He enjoys participating in this entirely student-run production.

Christain Liu (Anxious) has been involved in cast, crew, and orchestra in various productions at Poolesville High School. He would just like to thank everyone for making his first year great, and Rose for dragging him along to the auditions.

Joellen Mallard (Consuela) is thrilled to be in her fourth production with WST. It was a joy sharing this experience with so many wonderful people. Lots of love to everyone who made this summer amazing, you know who you are.
Amelia Meyers (Estella) is thrilled to be a part of her first WST show, after several years of being yelled at for not auditioning. She will be attending Hofstra University as a theater major in the fall. Love to all! Enjoy!

Emily Narkis (Percussion, Assistant Director of Public Relations) is happy she's in her first WST show. She owes love to Molly for being awesome, her friends for laughs, Jason for hugs and getting her into this, and Joe for bearing with her until she realized she loves music.

Jason Lee Nellis (Director of Public Relations) will be attending Northwestern University this fall as a theater major. Past productions include Wait Until Dark (Roat) and Pippin (Charlemagne), as well as his self-written, -directed, and -produced show, High Expectations. Thanks to the PR Crew!

Alexandra Nemcosky (Crew) is happy to be involved in her first WST production! After a 4-year run with WJ STAGE, she is excited to continue her involvement with theater.

Leah Pappas (Maria) is an elementary music teacher in Montgomery County. She is psyched to be playing Maria and thanks her family and friends who traveled from far and near to come support her!

David Peckarsky (Master Carpenter) has returned from far-off College Park for his third summer with WST. He worked on Wildwood's productions of Sugar and Singin' in the Rain. Thanks to: Mom, Dad, Jill, and all the crazy people who make WST fun.

Danny Pushkin (Tony), has been performing in WST since Guys and Dolls, thus making this his 4th year. Since this is his dream role, Danny can now die a happy man. Or at least be content until next summer.

Betsy Quilter (Crew) thanks her family and friends. Are you still reading this? You are?! Why? Have you stopped yet? Of course not, or else you wouldn’t be reading this right now! HA! Thanks also to Jack Benny and Harvey.

Daniel Liam Rehbehn (Snowboy, Costume Designer) is delighted to be part of WSS for his 2nd WST show. He would like to thank his family; everyone who entertained him between his job and rehearsal, Harrison’s mom, rides, &everyone-who-is-just-2cool2-have-their-names-written-here. Also thanks Nathan+Jenny+Branden+allthose director-type-people. *muah!

Laura Rehbehn (Crew) is thrilled about her first WST production, in the past she has participated in WJ S*T*A*G*E… You’re a loser, *$s trips/ my chair. Thanks to all my losers (i.e. fellow crewies), my family, and anyone who drove us around.

Michael Saffan (Baby John) has made his debut in WST with WSS. Previous experience includes five STAGE shows and One-Acts. Thanks to his mom and dad, Roxanne, Mike & Joey. He hopes to continue musical theater in the future.
Jonathan Schneider (Glad Hand) is pleased to be returning for his third shot at portraying The Bum, a role he has been refining since Kiss Me Kate. If this happens again he’ll know he’s been typecast. Shoutout to bums everywhere!

Brian Szabo (Assistant Technical Director) is a SJC alumnus (’95) and currently a student at MC. He has been building theatrical sets for over 11 years now and is happy to be helping WST with the construction of West Side Story.

Michael Simione (Big Deal) is thoroughly enjoying his 2nd year in WST. He plays Big Deal with the Jets. He loves acting, soccer, and composing music. He just graduated from Walter Johnson HS and will be attending USD in the fall.

Zach Stamler (Assistant Conductor), 20, is a Jazz Studies major at Ithaca College. This is his first attempt at anything other than just playing, and he hopes that he did an alright job. Thanks to anyone who deserves it.

Kelly Theim (Producer) is a rising Junior Psychology major at Amherst College in Massachusetts. After 4 years with Wildwood, she is breathing a sigh of relief that she didn’t “screw up anything huge,” and would like to thank everyone, especially her parents, who convinced her she wouldn’t.

Courtney Tisch (Anybodys), a junior at the University of Delaware, sends many thanks to Nathan, Kelly, Will, and Branden for everything MAJOR, LBD and Jenny for their patience, the rest of the company for making the summer so lunarious, her family for putting up with her (I love you) and her other friends from near and afar for coming to see the show…they’re the best…ENJOY!

Cynthia Trevor (Business Manager, Associate Producer) is pleased to be a part of her 5th WST production. She thanks all who keep the money rolling in! Thanks to family, friends, and the Zetas for everything! ;) ☺ Come visit her in College Park!

Carolyn Walter (Crew) is pleased to have Rahul write her bio, because she is too busy cookin’ up some Shake n’ Bake to bother with this program. She hopes you’ll appreciate the crew’s hard work, because isn’t this an amazing set? Praise Vishnu!

Yevgeniy Tyurmin (Gee-Tar) is glad to be cast in his first, but not last WST production. He thanks his parents, brother and all others that had to put up with his coming home late every day. You rock his world! Ciaociao.

This is Jessica Verest’s (Paint Crew Chief) 3rd year w/WST. She fervently works as paint crew and running crew. This year she has graduated to Chief of Paint Crew. Yay!

Becky Wexler (Clarinet), a music major at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, feels lucky to have had the opportunity to play the music of Leonard Bernstein while also being in the company of such great friends.
Chris Wilson (Chino) has performed in many productions at St. John’s including: Waiting for Godot (Estragon) and A Funny Thing Happened...(Hero). He was also in WST’s production of Singin’ in the Rain. He would like to thank his family for constant rides!

As a young composer/conductor himself, Will White (Music Director, Conductor, Associate Producer) has idolized Leonard Bernstein for several years, and it is his dream come true to conduct West Side Story. THANKS: Jenny, Zach, Izzy, Quinn, Paul, MH, the Super Talented Pit Orchestra, and the Incredible Cast!

Roger Whyte (Diesel) has recently worked as the Production Stage Manager for St. John’s College High School’s production of Waiting for Godot. He has also stared as Sefton in Stalag 17. This is his first season with WST. “Thanks for all the support!”

Karyn Wiseman (House Manager) is from Great Bend, PA and graduated from Middle Tennessee State University, with a bachelor’s degree in outdoor recreation. She recently moved to Rockville for work and is very active in high school theatre and some college, including, Annie, Guys and Dolls, Hair, Music Man, Wizard of Oz, Alice in Wonderland and Rumors.

Mandy “Shadow” Yu (Crew) is thrilled to participate in her first WST production, and would like to point out to certain people that she did actually show up...<cough>. Props to Lismalai [Banger twins!], Izzard the omnipotent, and Harrison’s crowbar. Fire.

Evelyn Zilberman (Anita), 19, is going to be a junior theatre performance major at the University of Maryland, College Park. Last summer she trained in acting at the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Arts in London, England. Recent Performances: For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuf (UMD) and Little Murders(UMD).

Special Thanks

The Arts Council of Montgomery County
Bethesda First Baptist Church
Blast Promotions
The Bullock Family
Robin Fields
Green Acres School
Isabel Hernandez-Cata
Instant Mailings, Inc
Bob Jones
Tom Lange
La Panetteria Ristorante Italiano
William Levitan and Jackie Lewis

Emilie Long
Quinn McCord
Quince Orchard High School
The Rast Family
Ken and Molly Rehbehn
St. Jane de Chantal School
Tim Scott
Eileen and Ray Theim
Eddi and Ron Tisch
Nancy Trevor
The Walker Family
WST Alumni Association
Zohra’s Salon at Cabin John
WST would like to thank the following people for their very generous donations:

**Benefactors:**
David Morenoff
Mary and Philip Moyer

**Sponsors:**
Anita and Mark Davis
Amy Delouise
Isabel Hernandez-Cata, the “Faithful Alum”
Barbara Riordan and John Corcoran
Michael Levin
Bob and Barbara Flanders
James and Diane Pappas
Dan Rinzell
Dick Scanlan
Eileen and Ray Theim
Eddi and Ron Tisch

**Patrons:**
Kristin Krebill McCabe
Marian and David Saffan
Dale and Margaret Bell
Veronica J. Mariani
Tom Murphy

**Friends:**
Ellen and Joe Kaplan
William Levitan and Jackie Lewis
Jennifer Timberlake

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Join our very low traffic mailing lists!
Send a blank email to the following addresses:
The Audience List:  **Wst_Audience-**subscribe@YahooGroups.com (a very low traffic group for those interested in show times, locations, etc.)
The JoinWST List:  **JoinWST-**Subscribe@YahooGroups.com (another very low traffic group for those interested in participating in the company next season)
**Director’s Note**

“The kids have nothing, nothing. They own nothing - they have no room to exist - to be - to breathe...They own nothing and are treated as nothing - constant noise - constant fighting - under constant pressure. Like war prisoners in a concentration camp.”

- Jerome Robbins: ‘Notes on the context of West Side Story’

The 1950’s. New York City. Racial tensions. The American Dream. Hate. Love. West Side Story, arguably the most successful and most popular musical in history, is undoubtedly thematically complex. Its definition: a musical that occurs in 1950’s New York, during a time in which the racial tensions between the Puerto Ricans and the Americans has reached an all time high. Within this chaotic world, two lovers - one Puerto Rican, one American - find each other and, despite the disapproval of their family and friends, attempt to find a place where their love may thrive.

While this definition of West Side Story may serve well as a synopsis, it is hardly what the musical is about. Given the complexities of such a musical, it is expected that the answer to its core are just as complex. The answer, however, is rather simple. West Side Story is about kids. Kids placed in an extraordinary situation, forced to grow up before their time.

What you will experience tonight is not only one of the greatest musicals of all time. You will experience one of the greatest musicals of all time performed solely by kids. The crew, from the lights to the set you see built before you - all kids. The pit, playing some of the most difficult music - kids. Their conductor: eighteen years old. The producer: twenty years old. The entire design staff, from the set designer to the vocal director to the assistant director: all under the age of twenty five years old. As for myself: twenty years old. Here before you is not only one of the greatest and most difficult shows in musical theatre, it is the greatest and most difficult show put on entirely by an all-youth company. Here before you are kids - kids placed in an extraordinary situation, putting on the most extraordinary of all shows.

Nathaniel P. Claridad
Director
Producer’s Note

During my tenure as Producer of Wildwood, one aspect of WST has become most apparent to me—we are a family. We work for nine months out of the year in high schools, colleges, offices and homes, and then come together each summer for our annual “reunion.” We learn from each other. We trust each other. In some ways, WST can easily mimic West Side Story: a bunch of teenagers forming a sense of loyalty and family without guidance from adults. WST’s story turns out a bit differently, though—even after the occasional ‘rumble’ everyone always survives in the end.

Part of our family reunion includes the alumni who return year after year. We are honored to see some of the members of the 1978 company, who performed WST’s first production of West Side Story. We are indebted to all our alumni who continue to lend their support, and who remember what it was like to mend a broken set at the last minute or search for a forgotten line while onstage. And although we always boast of our all-youth status, every time I see a donation from a parent, or dozens of cookies that an aunt has made for us, or the same parent dropping their kid off at rehearsal night after night, I realize how much we owe to our families.

Thank you to this year’s staff, whose hard work and dedication to this show has been incredible, especially Cynthia and Will, who have been helping me since day one. If you are the relative or friend of someone performing tonight, on or off stage, I only hope you are as proud of him or her as I am of this company. That said, please sit back and enjoy our 40th production, West Side Story!

Kelly Theim
Producer

...and West Side Story makes 40!
WST Through the Years

1965 - Bye Bye Birdie (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1966 - Damn Yankees and The Fantasticks (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1967 - Once Upon a Mattress (Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Bethesda)
1968 - A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (Academy of the Holy Cross, Kensington)
1969 - Guys and Dolls (Academy of the Holy Cross, Kensington)
1970 - The Threepenny Opera (Jewish Community Center, Rockville)
1971 - Fiorello (Jewish Community Center, Rockville)
1972 - Carnival (Jewish Community Center, Rockville)
1973 - Oklahoma! (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1974 - Brigadoon (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1975 - The Music Man (Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Bethesda)
1976 - Hello, Dolly! (Academy of the Holy Cross, Kensington)
1977 - Carousel (Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Bethesda)
1978 - West Side Story (The Commons at Courthouse Square, Rockville)
1979 - Anyone Can Whistle (The Commons at Courthouse Square, Rockville)
1980 - Kiss Me, Kate (The Commons at Courthouse Square, Rockville)
1981 - The Pajama Game (The Commons at Courthouse Square, Rockville)
1982 - Anything Goes (St. Andrew’s Episcopal School, Bethesda)
1983 - Kismet (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1984 - Applause (Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda)
1985 - Fiddler on the Roof (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1986 - Pippin (Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda)
1987 - Grease (Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda)
1988 - Merrily We Roll Along (Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda)
1989 - Working (Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda)
1990 - Wonderful Town (The Landon School, Bethesda)
1991 - Godspell and You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown (Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS, Bethesda)
1992 - Little Shop of Horrors (Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS, Bethesda)
1993 - A Chorus Line (John F. Kennedy HS, Silver Spring)
1994 - The Mystery of Edwin Drood (The Bullis School, Potomac)
1995 - She Loves Me (Quince Orchard HS, Gaithersburg)
1996 - The Baker’s Wife (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1997 - City of Angels (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1998 - How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
1999 - Guys and Dolls (Walter Johnson HS, Bethesda)
2000 - Sugar (Quince Orchard High School, Gaithersburg)
2001 - Singin’ in the Rain (Quince Orchard High School, Gaithersburg)
2002 - West Side Story (Quince Orchard High School, Gaithersburg)
West Side Story is the award-winning adaptation of the classic romantic tragedy, "Romeo and Juliet". The feuding families become two warring New York City gangs- the white Jets led by Riff and the Puerto Rican Sharks, led by Bernardo. Their hatred escalates to a point where neither can coexist with any form of understanding. "West Side Story" is a musical by Arthur Laurents (book), Leonard Bernstein (music), and Stephen Sondheim (lyrics). The musical is based on William Shakespeare’s "Romeo and Juliet". Set in Manhattan's West Side/Hell's Kitchen in the mid-1950s, the musical explores the rivalry between two teenage gangs of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.