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'The Music Man' Marches into Kelsey Theatre May 8-17

4/16/15

West Windsor, N.J. – Fast-talking con man Harold Hill is up to tricks and the unsuspecting folks of River City, Iowa, are about to buy into his scheme to create a Boys Marching Band – starring their children! Join the Yardley Players for "The Music Man" at Mercer County Community College's (MCCC's) Kelsey Theatre in May.

Dates and show times for this enduring Broadway classic are: Fridays, May 8 and 15 at 8 p.m.; Saturdays, May 9 and 16 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays, May 10 and 17 at 2 p.m. Kelsey Theatre is located on MCCC's West Windsor campus, 1200 Old Trenton Road. An opening night reception with the cast and crew follows the May 8 performance.

When Harold Hill arrives in the sleepy town of River City, he goes right to work convincing the townspeople that they need a marching band to keep their boys out of trouble. Expensive instruments and uniforms follow. The only problem is that "Professor" Hill doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef and the local folks are getting suspicious. Plus, Hill has fallen for Marian, the town's librarian. When Harold is forced to face the music – literally – how will he prove himself to the town and the woman he loves?

Based on the book, music, and lyrics by Meredith Willson, "The Music Man" came to Broadway in 1957, winning five Tony Awards. It was made into a 1962 film starring Robert Preston as Harold Hill and Shirley Jones as Marian Paroo. Among the songs that have become classics of American theater are: "Goodnight, My Someone," "Till There Was You," "Gary, Indiana," "Shipoopi," and the show-stopping "Seventy-Six Trombones."

The cast stars Christopher Neuman of Hamilton as Harold Hill and Elizabeth Rzasa of Lawrenceville as Marian Paroo. Also starring are Laurie Hardy of Hamilton as Mrs. Paroo; Nicky Torchia of Langhorne, Pa., as Winthrop Paroo; James Zimmerman of Hamilton as Marcellus; Shealyn Davis of Newtown, Pa., as Amaryllis; David Danner of Newtown, Pa., as Mayor Shinn; Liz Wurtz of Levittown, Pa., as Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn; Christina Pullen of New Egypt as Zaneeta Shinn; Abigail Kenna of Robbinsville as Gracie Shinn; James Kenna of Robbinsville as Tommy Djilas; and Ron Sangiovanni of Burlington as Charlie Cowell.

Appearing as salesmen and in other roles are: Evan Bilinski of Franklin Park, Nicholas Kianka of Hamilton, Jonathan Logan of West Windsor, Michael Marrero of Hamilton, Daniel Montero of



Elizabeth Rzasa stars as Marian and Christopher Neuman is Harold Hill.



James Kenna as Tommy Djilas and Christina Pullen as Zaneeta Shinn.

Ewing, Dan Mucha of Yardville, Nathan Parker of Manalapan, Joseph Stockette of Bensalem, Pa., and Michael Torchia of Langhorne, Pa.

Featured as Pick-A-Little Ladies are: Carolyn Anzuini of East Windsor, Pam Booth of Belle Mead, Cathy Coryat of Cream Ridge, Stephanie Harden-Giunta of Lawrenceville, Leslie Kraus of Levittown, Pa., Caitlyn McCloughan of Lambertville, Gina Migliaccio of Hamilton, Ashley Patrick of Langhorne, Pa., Lindsey Rearic of Lawrenceville, Bridget Sweeney of Hamilton, and Charlotte Singh of Princeton Junction.

The teen/children's ensemble features: William Alena of Princeton, Emma Behrens of East Windsor, Alex Bischoff of Hamilton Square, Addison Blumberg of Yardley, Pa., Mary Rose Brendel of Cranbury, Teddy Brendel of Cranbury, Hayden Clark of Lawrenceville, Quinten Darling of Morrisville, Pa., Margaret DeLucia of Robbinsville, Alana Greener of Princeton Junction, Dylan Katz of West Windsor, Makenna Katz of West Windsor, Marina McLaughlin of Columbus, Clara Rice of Lambertville, Tara Misiura of Hightstown, Jimmy Weinstein of Princeton, and Kaitlyn Young of Robbinsville.

The production staff includes Producer Kristy Davis, Director Marge Swider, Music Director Pat Masterson, Choreographer Laura Murey Ghaffoor, Stage Managers Gene And Whitney Pullen, Set And Sound Designer Mike Almstedt, Costumer Louisa Murey, and Publicist Liz Wurtz. Props Are By Jill Katz And Patty Walsh and cast photos are by Dennis McLaughlin.

Tickets for "The Music Man" are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$16 for students/children. Free parking is available next to the theater. Tickets may be purchased online or by calling the Kelsey Box Office at 609-570-3333. For a complete listing of adult and children's events, visit the Kelsey website or call the box office for a brochure.



Amaryllis (Shealyn Davis) and Winthrop (Nicky Torchia).



A future band member! From left, Marian (Liz Rzasa), Winthrop (Nicky Torchia) and Harold Hill (Chris Neuman).



"Professor" Hill (Shealyn Davis, Nicky Torchia) schemes with Marcellus (John Zimmerman).



The ensemble includes, front row, Dylan Katz, left, and Makennna Katz; back row, from left, Alana Greener, Jonathan Logan and Charlotte Singh.

For the complete events schedule and more at Kelsey Theatre, visit:

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Mamma Paroo (Laurie Hardy) advises daughter Marian (Elizabeth Rzasa).

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