



**WATERSHED
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Little Women The Musical

Book by
Allan Knee

Music by
Jason Howland

Lyrics by
Mindi Dickstein

Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott



September 30, 2022 7:00 pm
October 1, 7 & 8, 2022 7:00 pm
October 2 & 9, 2022 3:00 pm

Cherry Theater, Hickman Building
Columbia State Community College



John M. Schweri, MBA
Attorney at Law

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Little Women

The Musical

Book by
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Music by
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Mindi Dickstein

Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott

Directed by Cammy Harris

Cast

Jo March	Jessica Fonville
Meg March	McKenna Steel
Beth March.....	Hallie Long
Amy March.....	Jaclyn Wood
Marmee.....	Kay Ayers
Laurie	Bradley Cusack
Professor Bhaer.....	JR Knowles
Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk.....	Deb Meeks
Mr. Brooke.....	Tyler Worden
Mr. Laurence	Mark Henderson
Jo March Understudy.....	Sami Bearden
Meg March Understudy.....	Charlotte Nickell
Beth March Understudy	Rachel Calvosa
Amy March Understudy.....	Victoria Mensel
Marmee/Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk Understudy	Katelyn Rust
Professor Bhaer/Mr. Brooke Understudy.....	Tim Rust

Production Team

Director.....	Cammy Harris
Music Director.....	Cheri Hughes
Stage Managers	Susan Gaw, DeAnna Parker
Dramaturg.....	Beverly Mitchell
Costume Design	Melissa Durmon
Scenic & Properties Design.....	Morgan Matens
Light Design.....	Eva Orman-Garrett
Sound Design.....	Kristin Carter
Intimacy Consultant	Rachael Murray
Technical Director.....	Justin Blackburn
Scenic Painter.....	Krista Totten
Costume Coordinator.....	Sarah Kennedy
Costume Assistant.....	MaryAnne Luther
Wig/Hair Assistant.....	Charlotte Nickell

Musicians

Piano Duncan Bohannon
Percussion..... Neil Rutland
Violin..... Kenton Lanier
Trumpet Casey Brefka
Clarinet..... Cheri Hughes
Flute..... Lillie Anderson

Musical Numbers

Act One

Operatic Tragedy
Better
Our Finest Dreams
Here Alone
Could You
Delighted
Take a Chance On Me
Better Reprise
Off to Massachusetts
Five Forever
More Than I Am
Take a Chance On Me Reprise
Astonishing

Act Two

The Weekly Volcano Press
Off to Massachusetts Reprise
How I Am
Some Things Are Meant To Be
The Most Amazing Thing
Days of Plenty
The Fire Within Me
Small Umbrella in the Rain
Volcano Reprise

There will be one 15-minute intermission between acts.

LITTLE WOMEN is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

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The Cast



Kay Ayers (Marmee) is thrilled to return to the WPT stage where she was last seen in *Romeo & Juliet* and *A Victorian Christmas Carol*. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with this amazing company again! An Illinois native, Kay has become a staple in middle Tennessee's theatre scene for more than two decades. She is a graduate of Millikin University's theatre program, and has graced most of Nashville's stages at some point. She thanks her partner in crime, Michael. "Thank you for supporting live theatre!"



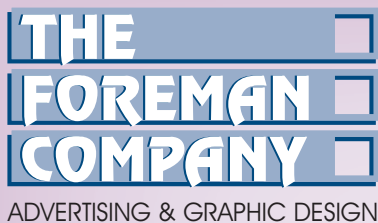
Sami Bearden (Jo March Understudy) is a newcomer to the Middle Tennessee theater scene. She grew up in Quincy, Illinois and participated in many school and community theater productions.



Rachel Calvosa (Beth March Understudy) is making her Watershed Public Theatre debut! Previous performances include Casey in *First Date* (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway), Jordan in *Island Song* (Vanderbilt Off-Broadway), and Jenna in *Be More Chill* (Vanderbilt Off Broadway). She wishes broken legs to all!



Bradley Cusack (Laurie) Bradley is extremely honored to be playing the role of Laurie in his Watershed Public Theatre debut. He would like to thank the entire production team and cast for their all of their hard work as well as his fiancé for all of her continued support. He hopes you all enjoy the show! IG: @bradleycusack



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The Cast *(continued)*



Jessica Fonville (Jo March) lives in Mt. Pleasant with her husband David and cat Bonnie. When she is not onstage she is teaching tiny musicians at Columbia Academy. Recent credits include Henrietta Leavitt - *Silent Sky* (FHU) and Audrey - *Little Shop of Horrors* (FHU). She is excited to make her Watershed Public Theatre debut and hopes you find the show “astonishing!”



Mark Henderson (Mr. Laurence) is a graduate of Centre College and Vanderbilt University Law School. He enjoys his retirement by traveling with his wife Tiffany and homeschooling his two teenage sons. He has been in several Watershed productions since 2019, including *Alice in Wonderland*, in which he played the King of Hearts. This is his first musical production. He lives in Mount Pleasant with his wife, sons, and retired racing greyhound, Sable.



JR Knowles (Professor Bhaer) will always be grateful for a wonderful year with Watershed Public Theatre and Columbia. Love to the whole team, his family, and thank you for supporting your local arts. Follow J.R.'s next project @jr_knowles. Enjoy the show!



Hallie Long (Beth March) is thrilled to be doing one of her favorite shows! She graduated from Belmont with a BFA in Musical Theatre and is currently getting her Masters in Education at MTSU. She has worked at many theaters in town including: Franklin Light Opera (*Cinderella*), Street Theatre (*Brooklyn*), Studio Tenn (*Gypsy*), Chaffins Barn (*Sister Act*), and Springhouse Theatre (*Oklahoma*). She is currently the theatre teacher and director at Sunset Middle School and also teaches at Acting All Around in Nolensville.



Deb Meeks (Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk) has been donning a costume and taking the stage to share her love of theatre with audiences for more than forty years — years filled with characters and costumes and stories and shared experiences. She holds an M.Ed. in Speech & Theatre and considers it a joy to be able to continue to do what she loves — whether from a classroom, a director's chair, or in front of an audience like yourselves. As a relative newcomer to the Nashville area, Deb is thrilled to join this incredibly talented cast of *Little Women...* what a beautiful story to tell!



Victoria Mensel (Amy March Understudy) has spent the past five years perusing the performing arts wherever they can find them including on stage as a vocalist, in the studio as a songwriter and performer, and as an illustrator, a graphic artist, and a painter. After graduating as salutatorian from the creative arts school Renaissance High School, they've been passionately seeking any way to express themselves.



Charlotte Nickell (Meg March Understudy/Wig & Hair Assistant) is thrilled to have gotten to be a part of *Little Women* by understudying! She loved watching the show come to life! Her favorite past roles include Chiffon (*Little Shop of Horrors*) and Penelope Pennywise (*Urinetown!*) at Colorado State University.



Katelyn Rust (Marmee/Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk Understudy) has previously been seen in Watershed Public Theatre's *Pride and Prejudice*. Some favorite past roles include Amy in *Little Women*, Darlene in *Balm of Gilead*, and Terry in *Stage Door*. Katelyn received musical theatre training from California State University of Fullerton.



Tim Rust (Professor Bhaer/Mr. Brooke Understudy/Crew) is happy to work on his second production with Watershed Public Theatre, having last appeared onstage in *Pride and Prejudice*. He grew up spending some time in the Portland Children's Choir. He has been Rapunzel's Prince (*Into the Woods*), Twimble (*How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*), and Stone (*City of Angels*). His love to Katelyn and their boys.



McKenna Steel (Meg March) is a performer from Boise, Idaho and, being the oldest of four kids herself, she is thrilled to play the oldest of the March sisters. Previous credits include: Roman Captain in *Cymbeline* (Nashville Shakespeare Festival), Williamina Fleming in *Silent Sky* (BYU-I), Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (BYU-I). She would like to thank her husband, Christian, their cat, Nott, and the members of her podcast "Improv Tabletop" for supporting her pursuit of her dreams!

The Cast *(continued)*



Jaclyn Wood (Amy March) has loved the story of *Little Women* since she was young and she is thrilled to be bringing her favorite March sister to life. Previous credits include: Ocean - *Ride the Cyclone* (MTSU) Ensemble - *Kiss Me, Kate!* (MTSU). She recently spent the summer training in New York City in Lindsay Mendez and Ryan Scott Oliver's Actor Therapy program. jaclynbwood.com



Tyler Worden (Mr. Brooke) is ecstatic to be playing Mr. Brooke in this production! They have previously played in Nashville Shakespeare Festival's *Twelfth Night* (Valentine/Malvolio u/s), 2nd Theatre Company's *26 Pebbles* (Actor 3), Lipscomb University's *When She Had Wings* (Sound-Op), *Mamma Mia!* (Ensemble/Harry u/s) and *Bright Star* (Ensemble). They'd like to thank their friends and family for supporting them and the cast and crew for making this experience a blast.

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The Musicians

Lillie Anderson (Flute) is a junior at Trevecca Nazarene University studying flute performance. She hopes to make a career out of performing in pit orchestras. *Little Women* is her second show after playing *Once Upon a Mattress* with the Larry Keeton Theatre in June.

Duncan Bohannon (Piano) is a professional pianist, composer and arranger based in the Nashville area. He studied piano and composition at Indiana University and completed his graduate studies in Film Scoring at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Until late 2020 Duncan worked in Los Angeles, CA, where he composed scores for a variety of projects and was a faculty and staff member of AMDA Los Angeles and the University of Southern California. He is now on faculty at Belmont and Lipscomb Universities, and he accompanies and music-directs regularly in theatres and churches across Middle Tennessee. Duncan lives in Columbia with his wife and daughter.

Casey Brefka (Trumpet) is a graduate of Berklee College of Music, and is an award-winning composer, arranger, and trumpet player. He is the founder and musical director of the Music City Big Band, a professional large jazz ensemble, and among other engagements has performed with the Artie Shaw Orchestra, Maria Schneider, McCoy Tyner, and Postmodern Jukebox.

Kenton Lanier (Violin) is originally from Kansas City. Kenton has spent many years playing in orchestras and chamber ensembles and leading church music. He and his wife are the owners of Muletown School of Music, where they enjoy passing on a love of music to the kids of Columbia, Tennessee. Kenton holds Masters degrees in Viola Performance and Musicology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. When not playing or teaching music, he enjoys baseball, barbecue, LEGO building, and spending time with his son Jordan.

Neil Rutland (Percussion) recently relocated back to his home state of Tennessee after 28 years of teaching and performing as a Professor of Music at Eastern New Mexico University. During his time there, he was Associate Director of Bands and Chair of the Department of Theatre and Digital Filmmaking; he taught percussion, music technology, and classes in sound for film and directed the percussion and steel-drum ensembles. Prior to that, Neil was principal percussionist with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra for eight years and performed in musical theatre and opera with the Knoxville Opera Company's summer musical series, the Cumberland County Playhouse, Nashville Tennessee's Opryland, and was music director/percussionist for Dino Kartsonakis's Branson, Missouri Show "Somewhere in Time." Neil is happy to be back in Middle Tennessee and performing in musical theatre!

The Production Team

Justin Blackburn (Technical Director) is excited to work with Watershed Public Theatre on his first stage production since moving to Tennessee. Previously, while living in North Carolina, he was actively involved in Theatre Charlotte and worked a variety of jobs on several productions. He resides in Mount Pleasant with his amazing wife Joyce and dogs Ralphie and Rickie. Thank you for supporting local arts!

Kristin Carter (Sound Designer) has traveled the country and world as a sound engineer/designer. Kristin's credits include: Disney on Ice, Princess Cruise Lines, Smoky Mt. Opry, *Church Basement Ladies*, *Menopause: The Musical*, *Evita*, *Gilligan's Island: The Musical* and *The Medora Musical* — just to name a few. She lives in Duck River, Tennessee with her daughter Jean and is very happy to be a part of Watershed Public Theatre.

Melissa Durmon (Costume Design) holds an MFA in Theatrical Costume, Hair and Makeup Design from California State University Fullerton and a BS in Speech & Theatre from Middle Tennessee State University. She feels fortunate to have worked in film, theatre and television productions for more than two decades spanning from the Southeast to the West Coast. Melissa loves the creative process and thoroughly enjoys traveling. She happily resides in Franklin with her children and her partner.

Susan Gaw (Stage Manager) holds a degree in theatre from Winthrop University and has been a “theatre person” since fifth grade. She toured with *Sesame Street Live* for two years as an assistant company manager. For the past 12 years, she has worked in the concert industry. She is glad to get back to theatre.

Cammy Harris (Director) is thrilled to make her Nashville directing debut with a story that generations of women have seen themselves within. She completed a degree in Theatre & History, with a concentration in directing for the stage, from Northwestern University in 2019. Notable directing credits include *Into the Woods* (Jewish Theatre Ensemble), *Pippin* (Arts Alliance), *Passion Play* (Wirtz Center), and also *White* (Wirtz Center) as an assistant, as well as many readings and workshops. Cammy additionally works at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum as a Creative Project Manager. Infinite gratitude to her family. “Let us be elegant or die!” — L.M. Alcott

The Production Team *(continued)*

Cheri Hughes (Music Director) has enjoyed bringing this delightful production of *Little Women* to the stage. She has been involved in close to 80 musical productions over the last 35 years, either as director, musician, actor or music director. Some of her favorite performances have been as Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Mrs. Hannigan in *Annie*, and Patsy Cline in *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* and *Always, Patsy Cline*. She helps run her family's business in Columbia and is an instructor with Kindermusik by Treble Tots. She is a graduate of Missouri State University with a B.S. in Music Education. She resides in beautiful Santa Fe with her husband Bud and enjoys her current role of grandmother to Elam, Farren and Gus.

Sarah Kennedy (Costume Coordinator) is enjoying yet another Watershed Public Theatre experience. By day she is the director of Ghostlight Books in Spring Hill, which benefits programming at Midsouth Youth Theatre & Arts, for which she also serves as Artistic Director. In between peddling books, teaching, directing and keeping up with her 6-year-old son Benjamin and miscellaneous pets, she also coordinates youth arts field trips and advises for youth arts and education in multiple organizations regionally and nationally, including serving as WPT's Education & Outreach Manager.

MaryAnne Luther (Costume Assistant) has been creating costumes and historic garments for 25 years. When not making things she also enjoys gardening, exercising, and reading.

Morgan Matens (Scenic/Properties Designer) is thrilled to be working with such a dedicated community of artists on her first Watershed Public Theatre show. Morgan graduated from the University of Tennessee with an MFA in Set Design. She has designed scenery for The Clarence Brown Theater (*Ain't Misbehavin'*), Nashville Shakespeare Festival (*Othello*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Henry V*), Wishing Chair Productions (*Puss in Boots*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Lorraine*, *Momotaro*). She has been working in Nashville as a puppet designer and fabricator, puppeteer, set designer, freelance illustrator and sculptor for the past 10 years. Follow her on Instagram @theaterweirder for more.

Beverly Mitchell (Dramaturg) is a retired professor of English at Columbia State Community College and a life-long theatre enthusiast. She has written and directed numerous plays and especially enjoys working with Shakespeare. When she grows up, she hopes to be a cross between Jo March and Elizabeth Bennet (from her other childhood favorite). Mitchell is very appreciative of CSCC for being so generous with providing rehearsal and performance spaces.

The Production Team *(continued)*

Rachael Murray (Intimacy Consultant) Rachael is a director, intimacy choreographer, deviser, playwright, and producer with roots and ties to Virginia, Tennessee, DC, and New York. Intimacy Credits: *RENT* (Nashville Rep); *Macbeth*, *Pericles*, and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Match: Lit's BARDcore series, Brooklyn); Interested In Season 2 (Assistant, Episode 3). Selected Directing: *Failure: A Love Story* (SRDS New Jersey); *The Desk Set* (Fordham University); *#MomVlogLyfe* (NTC/The Tank); *The Right and Left Plays* (Elemental Women); *Sioux Falls* (Mead Theatre Lab DC); *ClickB@it* (NTC/CapFringe) and *R.U.R.* (NTC/CapFringe). Her play, *Better Angels*, has been produced in festivals around New York and virtually, and was published in *Best New Ten Minute Plays, 2020*. Rachael is a founding company member of Naked Theatre Company. www.rachaelwithanamurray.com. Upcoming: Intimacy Choreographer, *When We Were Young and Unafraid* (Actor's Bridge Ensemble).

Eva Orman-Garrett (Lighting Designer) is a media specialist with a focus on lighting design and programming. She earned a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and holds an associate degree in video production. Much of her experience as a lighting designer was gained while working in Nashville as a concert technician. A lifelong Tennessean, she lives in Columbia with her wife and dog.

DeAnna Parker (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working on this production of *Little Women*, her third stage management position. She was assistant stage manager for Lee University's production of *Sense and Sensibility*, and stage manager for Building Block's recent production of *Newsies*. This is her first production with Watershed Public Theatre, and she looks forward to future projects with them.

Krista Totten (Scenic Painter) is a scenic artist who is honored to be working with Watershed Public Theatre. She recently worked with WPT on *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* and *Alice in Wonderland*. She began painting sets in 2003 in Indianapolis with Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre. She studied under Kristopher Steege of Marian College. One of her favorite sets was for a childrens production, *The Curious Quest for the Sandman's Sand*. Krista sends a heartwarming thank-you to family and friends for supporting the local arts!



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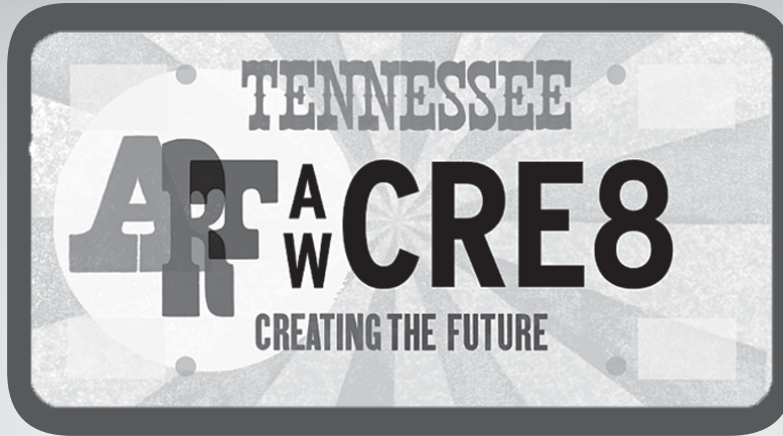
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