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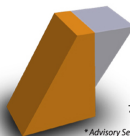
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Musical Theatre of Anthem  
Anthem, AZ

MUSICAL THEATRE OF ANTHEM'S  
PRODUCTION OF

## OUR TOWN

by  
Thornton  
Wilder



**December 3 - 6, 2020**



42201 N 41st Drive, Suite B100, Anthem, AZ 85086  
Visit our website for more information and to buy tickets.

**MusicalTheatreOfAnthem.org**

Our Town is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals  
235 Park Avenue South, Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10003, (866) 979-0447

Welcome to MTA's Lucky 13th Season! With eight full stage productions, a Holiday Show, Minis Program, and Benefit this season is sure to excite our audience members!

It takes so many people to make a production come to life. I give many heartfelt thanks to the hard-working production staff, amazing volunteers, our donors and sponsors, the Board of Directors, and our very talented performers.

Please continue to check our website at [www.musicaltheatreofantherm.org](http://www.musicaltheatreofantherm.org), or sign up for our mailing list for detailed audition and performance information.

It is MTA's hope that you will return to future productions, as audience members and performers, so that we may continue to offer "high quality theater to performers and patrons alike."

--Jackie Hammond

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### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Thornton Wilder designed *Our Town* to reflect the simplicity and beauty of small-town life while highlighting the importance of relationships and family. The set of the play is sparse and representational, allowing the audience to focus on the relationships and dialogue between characters. Many props are pantomimed to suggest their existence without taking away from the simplicity of the moments in each scene.

As Emily reflects in Act Three, "It goes so fast. We don't have time to look at one another." Wilder believes, and we along with him, that the whole earth is just "too wonderful for anybody to realize." And it simply flashes before our eyes. The family relationships in the Webb house and the Gibbs house are designed to serve as every American family in 1901. Siblings squabble, boys play baseball, parents admonish and fuss, spouses plan and reminisce, and townsfolk gossip and meddle.

As we watch Emily's life unfold, we are reminded that life is fleeting and that we must learn to cherish "every, every minute." This same rule is true for Mrs. Gibbs who longs to see Paris, France, but never gets the chance. There is a sense in the play that everyone must learn to seize the day and not let life slip away without realizing its potential.

Wilder's play invites us to savor the everyday moments of life, really taking the time to see one another and know one another deeply. In this way we will fully experience joy.

It was a great joy to be able to direct this masterpiece. I was so fortunate to have this extremely gifted cast who were so professional and accepting. Special thanks to Jessica and Sierra for all their help and incredible work on this play. Finally, a big thank you to Jackie and all the MTA family for this opportunity and making me feel so welcomed.

-- Jim Gradillas

# OUR TOWN

by  
Thornton Wilder

Generously sponsored by Evon Kishbaugh in loving memory of Lyle Kishbaugh, MTA Founding Board Member, Loving Husband and Father. We dedicate this production, our 100th production, in Lyle's memory.



## Production Staff

**Jackie Hammond:** Producer

**Jim Gradillas:** Director

**Jessica Kishbaugh:** Co-Production Stage Manager

**Sierra Litman:** Co-Production Stage Manager

**Brett Carlson:** Light Designer and Tech

**Jim Gradillas:** Sound Designer and Tech

**Samuel Baldwin:** Tech Supervisor

**McKenna Carlson:** Tech Supervisor

**Karin Ikesaki:** Costume Designer

**Jessica Kishbaugh:** Hair and Makeup Designer

**Michelle Trautman:** Show Coordinator

## Setting

The entire play takes place in Grovers Corners, New Hampshire, beginning in May of 1901.

**Act I - Daily Life**

**5 minute intermission**

**Act II - Love and Marriage**

**15 minute intermission**

**Act III - Death and Eternity**

*Our Town* is presented by special arrangement with  
[Samuel French, Inc.](#), a Concord Theatricals Company | 229 West 28th Street New York, NY

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## CAST

**Stage Manager**.....Ann Emilie Tjorhom  
**Emily Webb**.....Ashley Bragg  
**Mr. Charles Webb**.....J.R. Momeyer  
**Mrs. Myrtle Webb**.....McKenna Carlson  
**Wally Webb**.....Isaac Ternes  
**George Gibbs**.....Collin Gourley  
**Dr. Frank Gibbs**.....Jeff Viso  
**Mrs. Julia Gibbs**.....Jessica Kishbaugh  
**Rebecca Gibbs**.....Jenna Trautman  
**Joe Crowell**.....Libby Ikesaki  
**Si Crowell**.....Isaac Ternes  
**Howie Newsome**.....Jacob Deal  
**Simon Stimson**.....Jadyn Momeyer  
**Constable Warren**.....Samuel Baldwin  
**Mrs. Soames, Stage Manager Understudy**.....Kate Mills  
**Professor Willard**.....Melayna Johnson  
**Joe Stoddard**.....Jenna Trautman  
**Sam Craig**.....Maya Uddin

### "Audience" Members

**Woman in the Balcony**.....Maya Uddin  
**Man in the Auditorium**.....Jadyn Momeyer  
**Lady in the Box**.....Julia Norden

**Baseball Players:** Libby Ikesaki, Julia Norden

**The Dead:** Libby Ikesaki, Melayna Johnson, Julia Norden, Isaac Ternes, Jenna Trautman

**Choir:** Samuel Baldwin, McKenna Carlson, Jacob Deal, Libby Ikesaki, Melayna Johnson, Jessica Kishbaugh, Kate Mills, Jadyn Momeyer, Julia Norden, Ann Emilie Tjorhom, Jenna Trautman, Maya Uddin

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## AUTOGRAPHS

## CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Zachary Wood

## WHO'S WHO



### Sam Baldwin

(**Constable Warren**) has been at MTA for half a decade and has loved working backstage, in the tech booth, and now returning to the stage for *Our Town*. He plays music, makes bad jokes and loves to jam with his band. Hope you enjoy the show!



### Ashley Bragg

(**Emily Webb**) is a Senior at Anthem Prep. She loves musical theater, singing, reading, writing and spending time with friends and family. This is Ashley's 9th year and 23rd show with MTA. Ashley thanks the production staff and cast for being a part of this wonderful show!



### McKenna Carlson

(**Mrs. Myrtle Webb**) is an 11th grade honors student at Boulder Creek High School where she plays flute and oboe in the band and is involved in various clubs including Key Club, the National Honor Society, and the Science National Honor Society. She has performed in over 30 productions at Musical Theatre of Anthem in addition to working as a tech for *Daddy Long Legs*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* She is so excited to be a part of this beautiful show!



### Jacob Deal

(**Howie Newsome**) is an 11th grade student at Sandra Day O'Connor High School. This is Jacob's 12th production with MTA, having performed in *Junie B. Jones*, *Disney's Mary Poppins*, *Once On This Island Jr.*, and *The Music Man Jr.* When not on stage he loves to play video games, sing, play piano, play guitar, and hang out with his family. Jacob looks forward to performing in *Our Town* and hopes you enjoy the show.

## WHO'S WHO



### Collin Gourley

(**George Gibbs**) is in his 4th production with MTA, having performed in *Disney's Frozen Jr.*, *The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*, and *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* Collin loves to record/write music to post online on YouTube. Collin hopes you enjoy the show!



### Libby Ikesaki

(**Joe Crowell**) is a freshman at Boulder Creek High School. She has been participating at MTA for 7 years and has done over 30 shows, favorites including *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, and *Disney's Moana Jr.* Libby would like to thank the production staff for being able to put on a great show. She is excited to be getting back on the stage and hopes you enjoy the show!



### Melayna Johnson

(**Professor Willard**) is a 10th grade honors band and choir student at Boulder Creek High School. This is her 4th show at MTA, previously being in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, where she played the Mad Hatter. She is so excited for this show.



### Jessica Kishbaugh

(**Mrs. Julia Gibbs**) graduated from Southwest Institute of Natural Aesthetics and obtained her Esthetics license in August of 2018. She previously Directed *Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon KIDS* and *A Year With Frog and Toad KIDS*. She enjoys working at MTA year round as the Assistant to the Producing Artistic Director and is especially thrilled to be working on MTA's 100th show which she dedicates to her beloved father, Lyle. Jessica has been performing with MTA since its inception and is now enjoying working on the production side of things. Her true passion is makeup artistry so she is very excited to be designing the hair and makeup for this production. She appreciates all of the opportunities Jackie Hammond and MTA has given her the past 10+ years. Aside from MTA, Jessica spends most of her free time at her esthetics business, Skin Esteem LLC. Check out her website and social media's for more information! [@SkinEsteemAZ](http://SkinEsteemAZ.com)

## CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Please consider joining this list of families dedicated to help MTA! Payments begin on March 1, 2021 for our next season of T20 and ST20! The Terrific 20 is a \$100/month donation (flexible payment options available) and includes two season tickets for our 2021-22 Season or one free show tuition, your family name on a theater seat in our auditorium, your family name on a special plaque in the lobby, and your family name in every program.

The Super Terrific 20 is a \$200/month donation (flexible payment options available) and includes four season tickets for our 2022-22 Season, or two free show tuitions (or a combination of both), your family name on a theater seat in our auditorium, your family name on a special plaque in the lobby, and your family name in every program, and a featured performance opportunity at MTA's Annual Benefit! Please see Jackie or Jeff for more information!

You can also call 623-336-6001 or send an email to Jackie at [musicaltheatreofanthem@gmail.com](mailto:musicaltheatreofanthem@gmail.com). Thank you!

## CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Show Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator: **MICHELLE TRAUTMAN**

Costume Designer: **KARIN IKESAKI**

Masks: **CLAUDIA HUBER**

Props Coordinator: **SIERRA LITMAN**

Set Construction: **ALEX BRAGG**

Set Painting: **JESSICA FLETCHER**

House Managers: **KAREN KELLY-DAVIS, BETSY HAUGE, JODY KRING**

Box Office: **EVON KISHBAUGH, JOY MOMEYER**

Bios and Messages: **KATE MILLS**

Raffle Ticket Sales: **JOY CARLSON, RILEIGH MCDONOUGH, LINDA NORDEN, SCOTT TERNES**

Lobby Sales: **CORRIE DEAL, AMANDA JOHNSON, MARCELLA MILLS, JOY MOMEYER, JENNIFER TERNES**

Baked Goods: **CORRIE DEAL, AMANDA JOHNSON, MARCELLA MILLS, JOY MOMEYER, JENNIFER TERNES**

Ushers: **JOY CARLSON, MARY DAVIS, CORRIE DEAL, HANNAH KRING, MARCELLA MILLS, LINDA NORDEN**

Costume Seamstresses and Assistants: **CLAUDIA HUBER**

Grand Prize Basket: **SHANNON MCCARTHY**

Program: **JEFF HAMMOND**

## WHO'S WHO



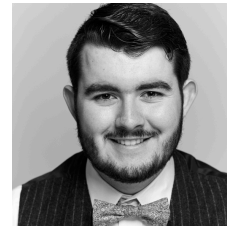
### Kate Mills

**(Mrs. Soames, Stage Manager Understudy)** is a junior at Boulder Creek High School and is actively involved in marching band, piano, and NHS. This is her 10th production with MTA, having most recently performed as the White Rabbit in *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* Some of her favorite MTA shows include *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Sebastian), *Annie Jr.* (Grace Farrell), and *The Wizard of Oz* (Professor Marvel/Wizard of Oz - NYA nomination). She hopes you enjoy the show!



### Jayden Momeyer

**(Simon Stimson)** is a senior at Boulder Creek. This is Jady's 18th production at MTA, having performed in *The Wizard of Oz* as Scarecrow/Hunk (NYA), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* as Schwartz, *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* as Chef Louis/Andrina, *Decided* as Whatever Deja, and *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* as the Queen of Hearts. She is in the Honor Choir and the Heart & Soul Show Choir at school. She enjoys running, playing piano, drawing, and hanging with friends. "Enjoy the show!"



### J.R. Momeyer

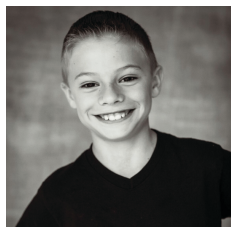
**(Mr. Charles Webb)** is excited to be joining MTA in this fantastic production! He is currently a student at ASU working on his Bachelor's in Vocal Performance. You may have seen him on the MTA main stage as William Morris Barfée (*The 25th Annual Putnam Country Spelling Bee*), Jervis Pendleton (*Daddy Long Legs*), and Mal Beineke (*The Addams Family*). He would like to thank his friends and family for all their wonderful support! Enjoy the show!

## WHO'S WHO



### Julia Norden

**(Lady in a Box)** is a Dual Enrolled Sophomore in Highschool and Freshman at GCU. Our Town is Julia's first performance with MTA. Julia has spent several years performing with MoezArt Theater Productions where she held lead roles such as Snoopy in *Snoopy the Musical* and The Cheshire Cat in *A Spotlight for Judy/Alice in Wonderland*. Julia loves to sing, paint, and perform and she is looking forward to working with MTA.



### Isaac Ternes

**(Si Crowell/ Wally Webb)** is a 6th grade student at Diamond Canyon. This is Isaac's 14th production with MTA. He loves to dance, sing, act, play Among Us and hang out with friends. His favorite role has been Jonah in *Magic Treehouse: Pirates Past Noon KIDS*. He is excited to be a part of *Our Town* and hopes you enjoy the show!



### Ann Emilie Tjorhom

**(Stage Manager)** is so happy to be back onstage after a lengthy time away. Favorite past roles include Dorothy Brock in *42nd Street* and Mrs. Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. She currently works as a case manager for Catholic Charities. "A big thanks to Mom, Dad, and Tor for your unwavering support and love. Jeg elsker deg!"



### Jenna Trautman

**(Rebecca Gibbs/Joe Stoddard)** is a Freshman honor student at Boulder Creek High School. This is Jenna's 19th production with MTA, her favorites being *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, *The Giver*, *Footloose*, *School of Rock*, *Disney's My Son Pinocchio Jr.*, and *Disney's The Lion King Jr.* She loves to read, watch movies, and hang out with her friends. Jenna looks forward to performing in *Our Town* and hopes you enjoy the show!

## ADS

### UP NEXT

#### WORKSHOPS

**Disney Aladdin KIDS** (Ages 6-12, all youth are cast)

Acting Audition Prep Workshop

Thursday, January 7, 2021 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, January 8, 2021 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**13 the Musical** (Ages 12-15, all youth are cast)

Acting Audition Prep Workshop

Thursday, January 7, 2021 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Godspell** (Ages 15-adult, all youth ages 15-19 are cast)

Acting Audition Prep Workshop

Friday, January 8, 2021 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Winter Improv Squad JR.** (Ages 8-11)

Rehearsals: Mondays - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15 from 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Tech: February 22nd from 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Performance: March 1st 4:45pm Call; 5:30pm Show

**Winter Improv Squad** (Ages 12-17)

Rehearsals: Mondays - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15 from 6:45pm - 8:45pm

Tech: February 22nd from 6:45pm - 8:45pm

Performance: March 1st 6:45pm Call; 7:30pm Show

#### AUDITIONS

**Disney Aladdin KIDS** (Ages 6-12, all youth are cast)

(Pre-registration and limits on enrollment may be required)

Auditions/Callbacks January 9-10, 2021

Performances: March 25-28, 2021

**13 the Musical** (Ages 12-15, all youth are cast)

(Pre-registration and limits on enrollment may be required)

Auditions/Callbacks January 9-10, 2021

Performances: April 29 - May 8, 2021

**Godspell** (Ages 15-adult, all youth ages 15-19 are cast)

Ages 15-adult, all youth ages 15-19 are cast

(Pre-registration and limits on enrollment may be required)

Auditions/Callbacks January 9-10, 2021

Performances: April 8-18, 2021

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**Maya Uddin**

(Sam Craig) is an engineer for a medical device company with a dream of one day playing a small role in a Lifetime or Hallmark movie. This is Maya's first production with MTA. Prior to that, she has been part of plays and theatre camps here and there over the years. Her hobbies include long distance swimming, trail running, and cooking. Maya looks forward to performing and hopes you enjoy the show!



**Jeff Viso**

(Dr. Frank Gibbs) began working in community theatre five years ago and is thrilled to be back on the MTA stage. He is the proud father to Emma and Marisa and husband to Carole. His most recent work with MTA was as Jonas Fogg in *Sweeney Todd*. Jeff enjoys eating spaghetti in the winter and is currently in the midst of a project that will keep him busy the rest of his life.

**Musical Theatre of Anthem's Thirteenth Season**



Ages 8-18  
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Ages 6-18  
Sep. 17-20, 2020



Ages 6-14  
Nov. 12-15, 2020



Ages 15-Adult  
Dec. 3-6, 2020



Ages 6-12  
Mar. 25-28, 2021



Ages 12-15  
Apr. 29-May 8, 2021



Ages 15-Adult  
Apr. 8-18, 2021



Ages 8-15  
June 17-19, 2021



Visit our website for more information!  
[www.musicaltheatreofanthem.org](http://www.musicaltheatreofanthem.org)

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**Jackie Hammond (Producing Artistic Director/Co-Vocal Director)** is a two-time ariZoni Award-winning Musical Director and National Youth Arts Award-winning Musical Director who has been teaching music and theatre for over 25 years. She graduated with honors from San José State University (Creative Arts and Musical Theatre). Jackie is a graduate of the American Musical Theater Artists' Institute where she rigorously trained in voice, dance and acting, as well as Shakespeare, improvisation, and stage combat. She also spent a summer studying opera with the chairman of the music department of Manhattan School of Music in New York City. Jackie has extensive experience in the performing arts and professional theatre where she has played leading roles in many musical productions, and has also received ariZoni Nominations for her portrayal of Cinderella in *Into the Woods*; she is a eleven-time ariZoni nominated Vocal Director and has received four NYA Nominations as Director and Vocal Director, as well as an NYA Award for her vocal direction of *CATS*, with co-vocal director Shawna Weitekamp. Favorite roles have included Gino/Harpo Marx in *Day in Hollywood/Night in the Ukraine*, Annie (twice) as Lily and Miss Hannigan, Cathy in *The Last Five Years*, the Witch in *Into the Woods*, and Fantine in *Les Misérables* alongside her daughter Noelle Hammond who played the role of Little Cosette. Jackie has worked with performers ages 2-adult. She composed original arrangements of songs for San José State's Touring Group, "Company One" where in her college years, she performed with them, as well. Jackie has vocal directed, directed, and choreographed for many theatres in CA and AZ, including one of the nation's largest youth theaters in San José. Directing and performing experience includes well over 100 shows to her credit with prestigious theaters such as American Musical Theatre of San José (Equity Theater), Cabrillo Stage, Foothill Music Theatre, This Side of the Hill Players, Second Stage West, University Theater, Desert Foothills Theater, Theaterworks, West Bay Opera, Children's Musical Theatre of San José, Young People's Theater, iTheatre Collaborative, Phoenix Theatre, and Arizona Broadway Theatre performing in Jeff Kennedy's *Christmas Cabaret*. In addition to working in theater, Jackie teaches private voice lessons and held the title of Miss Santa Clara County. She would like to thank her husband, Jeff and her helpful mom for their support. Jackie loves spending time with the lights of her life., her twin children, Lennon and Noelle who always fill her days with entertainment, smiles and love.

**Jim Gradillas (Director/Sound)** has been teaching /directing youth theatre for 28 years. He has been a professional actor, teacher, director, and writer all over Arizona during this time. Jim has won Fourteen AriZoni Awards for Theatre Excellence, which includes five for original writing. He has also won several National Arts Awards and Child Empowerment Awards. He was also a teaching artist for the Arizona Commission on the Arts. He has directed and taught for Mesa Arts Center, Valley Youth Theatre, Theater Works, East Valley Children's Theatre, Phoenix Theatre, Greasepaint Youth Theatre, and has directed and wrote for Scottsdale Christian Academy, Montessori Kingdom of Learning and Mesa Arts Academy. He currently produces, directs and writes for a youth theatre, Acting Zone in Goodyear, AZ and directs performance troupes and theatre programs at SNAP in Scottsdale. Jim is thrilled to be back to be a part of Musical Theatre of Anthem. He absolutely loves it at MTA. Thank you Jackie for the opportunity! He would like to thank his amazing casts and super talented production staff.. Jim lives with his lovely wife, Michelle (and writing partner), and two beautiful dogs in West valley.




**Karen Kelly-Davis**  
Realtor

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**Sierra Litman (Co-Production Stage Manager)** is a teacher, director, stage manager, and performer who has spent a majority of her life in the theatre. Sierra graduated with her bachelor's of science in elementary and special education from Northern Arizona University and went on to teach English (grade 6) and theatre (grades preK-6). While she loves performance, Sierra finds the most joy when she is directing, teaching, and stage managing for productions. Sierra spends her summers working with MTA on curriculum implementation, costume design, and props design. She has recently worked on *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, *Disney's Moana Jr.* (MTA), *Annie Jr* (MTA), and *Disney's The Lion King Jr.* (MTA). She has directed musical productions of *Annie Jr.*, *Seussical Jr.*, and *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* for both the Paseo Hills and Black Mountain school drama programs.

**Jessica Kishbaugh (Co-Production Stage Manager/Hair and Makeup Designer)** graduated from Southwest Institute of Natural Aesthetics and obtained her Esthetics license in August of 2018. She previously Directed *Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon KIDS* and *A Year With Frog and Toad KIDS*. She enjoys working at MTA year round as the Assistant to the Producing Artistic Director and is especially thrilled to be working on MTA's 100th show which she dedicates to her beloved father, Lyle. Jessica has been performing with MTA since its inception and is now enjoying working on the production side of things. Her true passion is makeup artistry so she is very excited to be designing the hair and makeup for this production. She appreciates all of the opportunities Jackie Hammond and MTA has given her the past 10+ years. Aside from MTA, Jessica spends most of her free time at her esthetics business, Skin Esteem LLC. Check out her website and social media's for more information! [SkinEsteemAZ.com/@SkinEsteem](http://SkinEsteemAZ.com/@SkinEsteem)

**Brett Carlson (Lighting Designer)** is a 7th grade honor student at Diamond Canyon Elementary. This is his first production as a tech at MTA, but he has previously performed in *Disney's The Aristocats KIDS* with his sister. In his free time he enjoys foraging in nature, playing video games, and cooking. He is so excited for this new experience!



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