



front row centre players present

the Wizard of Oz

Adapted by Frank Gabrielson
Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen & E.Y. Harburg
Background Music by Herbert Stothart



Directed by Joey Sayer

May 23 to June 7, 2008

at the Victor Mitchell Theatre - 2140 Pumphouse Avenue SW

FOR TICKETS CALL 263-0079

or visit www.frontrowcentre.ca



Alberta
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for the Arts



PUMPHOUSE THEATRE

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President's Message



Welcome to Wizard of Oz, Front Row Centre's final show of the 2007-2008 season. On behalf of all our volunteers and members, a small portion of which you will see today, I'd like to thank you for supporting Community Theatre in Calgary. I hope that you will enjoy the show that so many volunteer hours have gone into and that, with your support, FRC can continue to present shows that make all aspects of the theatre – from in the office to on the stage to you the audience - available for the community at large.

Darren Stewart
President - Front Row Centre Players

Community Arts Centre Replacement

Many of the community theatre companies in Calgary are facing a housing crisis. The Community Arts Centre is rehearsal space and home for FRC, Storybook, Morpheus, Cappuccino and many other theatre companies. We will lose the Community Arts Centre possibly as soon as spring 2009 as the Currie Barracks site redevelopment plans progress.

Front Row Centre, partnered with Storybook Theatre and Morpheus Theatre, are actively developing options for a new shared space and your support can help us immensely.

We have instituted a \$2 ticket surcharge effective with Camelot and have begun running a 50-50 draw during our shows to raise funds to either build a new facility or renovate an existing building.

If you are interested in donating either your invaluable volunteer time, or if you have a spare 40,000sq foot building you aren't using, please contact us at info@frontrowcentre.ca or by phone at 403-246-8505.



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Director's Notes



I was a fan of the book first. Growing up overseas, I didn't have TV and access to the multiple televised showings of the movie version of *The Wizard of Oz* until I was almost a teenager. By that time however, I knew the books and had befriended Dorothy, the Scarecrow, Nick Chopper the Woodsman, the Cowardly Lion, Glinda and a whole magical landful of others including Tik-Tok, Ozma, the Patchwork Girl, the Gump and the Nome King among zillions of others. And then I saw the movie... and it was one of the influences that made me fall in love with the power of musical theatre.

Despite a career as a storyteller for the public library and performing in at least one child-friendly show, I haven't been exactly known as a director of family-oriented plays. As such the *Wizard of Oz* has been a breath of fresh air... and although there are some classic "Joey signature moments" in this show, fortunately they are well, well hidden. Working with such a varied cast has been enlightening and inspiring - who was the one who came up with the admonition never to work with children and animals? They're wrong. They constantly energize me in the best ways possible.

The cast has been tremendous, delving into their characters and discovering those nuggets and aspects of their lives that greatly colour and enhance their performances on stage. *The Wizard of Oz* can easily fall into the realm of cliché if a cast is not careful; by exploring their histories they have been able to bring nuances that inform their performances in unique and wonderful ways while still staying true to the source material. Whether it's discussing the indentured servitude in the Lollipop Fields of Munchkinland or the various aspects and correlations of the witches of Oz, everyone has invested that extra level into the show. As a director, this has been a delight to me. Blocking is never so easy as when the cast already knows who they are and what they should be doing at any given time.

The crew and directorial team have been a dream to work with. I've been able to reunite with some of my favourites and have welcomed new talent on board. Again, my job has never been easier and much of this is because of the tremendous time and talent these people have invested into this show.

The Wizard of Oz itself is a much-beloved movie. It's a tribute to all of the people involved that we have been able to use this source material and give this stage adaptation that little bit more, allowing us to be influenced by the original works of L. Frank Baum and our own dreams of passing over our own rainbows. Thank you to all. You make me proud and I remain your biggest fan.

Joey Sayer – Director
May 2008



By L. Frank Baum

**With Music and Lyrics of the MGM motion
picture score**

by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

Background Music by Herbert Stothart

**Book Adaptation by John Kane
from the motion picture screenplay
Directed by Joey Sayer**

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Song Synopsis

Location: Kansas and Oz

Act One

1. Overture (Chorus)
2. Over the Rainbow (Dorothy)
3. Munchkinland Incidental
4. Munchkinland Sequence & "Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead (Dorothy, Glinda, Munchkins)
5. Yellow Brick Road (Munchkins)
6. If I Only Had a Brain (Scarecrow, Crows)
7. We're Off to See the Wizard (Dorothy, Scarecrow)
8. If I Only Had a Heart (Tin Man, Dorothy, Trees)
9. We're Off to See the Wizard reprise (Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow)
10. Lions and Tigers and Bears (Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow)
11. If I Only Had the Nerve (Lion, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Dorothy)
12. We're Off to See the Wizard reprise (Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Lion)
13. Poppies (Glinda, Chorus)

There will be a 20 minute intermission between Acts One and Two

Act Two

1. Entr'acte / Optimistic Voices (Chorus)
2. The Merry Old Land of Oz (Guard, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Lion, Tin Man, Emerald Citizens)
3. King of the Forest (Lion, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man)
4. March of the Winkies (Winkies)
5. Jitterbug Introduction (Witch)
6. Jitterbug (Dorothy, Lion, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Jitterbugs, Chorus)
7. Reprise: Winkies March (Winkies)
8. Winkies March with Friends & Reprise Over the Rainbow (Winkies, [including Scarecrow, Tinman, & Lion] and Dorothy)
9. Reprise: Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead (Winkies)

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The Denizens of Oz

**Auntie Em
Cowardly Lion
Crows**

**Dorothy Gale
Emerald Citizens**

**Glinda, the Good Witch
Guard at the Gate
Hickory
Hunk
Jitterbugs**

**Miss Gulch
Poppies**

**Professor Marvel
Scarecrow
Tin Man
Trees**

**Uncle Henry
Wicked Witch of the West
Winged Monkeys**

Winkies (Witch's Guard)

**Wizard
Zeke**

**And Featuring the
Munchkins:**

Trisha Beeney
Carl Bishop
Jesse Bowen, Cameron Gooderham,
Graham Phillips, Gary Silberg,
Heimen Van Essen
Natalie Mack
Cassie Doane,
Hannah Duke, Alyssa Durnie,
Cameron Gooderham, Jeri Guenter,
Veronica Mack, Tracy Smith,
Heimen Van Essen
Trisha Beeney
Gary Silberg
Mike Johnson
Heather Oystryk
Alyssa Durnie,
Veronica Mack, Graham Phillips
Judy Dunsmuir
Heimen Van Essen,
Veronica Mack
Andrew Smith
Heathery Oystryk
Mike Johnson
Cassie Doane, Alyssa Durnie,
Jeri Guenter, Tracy Smith
Gary Silberg
Judy Dunsmuir
Jesse Bowen, Jeri Guenter,
Heimen Van Essen, Kennedy Young
Emma Cole, Cassie Doane,
Cameron Gooderham, Tracy Smith
Andrew Smith
Carl Bishop

Beatrix Bumblesting, Bernie Bumblesting,
Chump Cherry, Katie Coconut, Darla
Darla (the Munchkin so nice they named
her twice), Borthwick Finkle, Fifi Fofum,
Angel Foucake, Hyllari Hilltop, Henri
Honion, Larry Lemon, Morticia
Maraschino, Penelope Passemot, Tessie
Twinkletoes



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The Denizens of Oz



Trisha Beene (Auntie Em, Glinda)

Trisha is thrilled to be involved with her first FRC production. Having recently moved from Ontario, Trisha has found a family away from family here in the land of Oz. She has been involved in theatre since the age of 6 and is looking forward to many more to come.



Carl Bishop (Cowardly Lion, Zeke)

.wohs eht yojne uoy seph eh dna ertaeht eht yojne yllanif nac eh, peels artxe eht htiW. lamron erom tol a emoceb sah efil sih taht deciton sah eh, yrekab eht ni boj sih tiuq sah lraC taht woN.



Natalie Mack (Dorothy)

This is Natalie's second production with FRC and she is very excited to be playing the role of "Dorothy". Her first appearance with FRC was singing with the children's choir in *Evita*. Past credits include Storybook Theatre's *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang* and *Oliver!* Recently, she played the role of "Scout" in Workshop Theatre's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Natalie wishes to thank her fellow cast and crew members for their support and encouragement. A special thank you to Joey for taking her down the "Yellow Brick Road". Click your heels three times and come along to Oz!



Mike Johnson (Tin Man, Hickory)

This is Mike's third musical this year and second that he has worn a suit of metal!! He was also "King Pellinore" in *Camelot* and "Major General Stanley" in *Pirates of Penzance*. Mike has appeared in fifteen shows since 2001, including roles in FRC plays *Evita*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Company*. He would like to thank his wife Caren for her encouragement and for being so involved in theatre as Front of House Manager on all of his shows.



Heather Oystrik (Scarecrow, Hunk)

Heather was born in a possum stump 'neath a mighty hickory tree. Raised by a wandering troupe of bojangled crawdaddies, she found her true love for theatre when many a night she had to sing for her supper and shaving supplies. Now she owns a mansion and a yacht.



Judy Dunsmuir (Miss Gulch, Wicked Witch of the West)

Judy has been in community theatre for over twenty-five years. She was most recently seen in FRC's production of *Nine*. Other FRC shows include *South Pacific*, *Company* and *Kiss Me, Kate*. Judy is having a blast during this show. She's always loved being a "witch"... "Now I have an excuse! ;) " Thank you, Stuart%*



Andrew Smith (Professor Marvel, Wizard)

Fresh from his appearance at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival -- in 1974 -- this is Andrew's first theatrical endeavour for twenty-four years. In between these events Andrew has played the role of "Planning Engineer" for a long run in Saudi zArabia as well as many supporting roles in oil and gas projects.

The Denizens of Oz



Gary Silberg (Guard at the Gate, Uncle Henry, Crow)

Well, bust my buttons, this is Gary's second FRC production, after appearing last year as "Amos Hart" in *Chicago*. Gary also played "Captain Von Trapp" in last December's production of *The Sound of Music* with Storybook Theatre. Gary is having a blast returning to the theatre since his three children have gone to university.



Jesse Bowen (Crow, Munchkin, Winged Monkey)

Jesse had such a blast doing *Nine* earlier this season that he had to try out for Oz. With piano and drum lessons continuing, it has meant sacrificing some of the sports he does, but he's had no regrets. He'd like to thank his parents, his sister, Zoe, as well as his three cats, his snake and his pet bugs for all their support.



Cameron Gooderham (Munchkin, Crow, Emerald Citizen, Winkie)

A veteran of many musical theatre shows back in BC, including *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Anything Goes*, *Oklahoma!* and *Man of La Mancha*, this is Cameron's first play in Calgary, first play with Front Row Centre Players and first play in thirteen years! He looks forward to it being a blast!



Graham Philips (Crow, Munchkin, Jitterbug)

This is Graham's first FRC production. Before this, he has been in numerous school shows including *The Hobbit* and *Mary Poppins*. He has also been in the Storybook Theatre production of *Oliver!* Graham would like to thank his parents for driving him to practice and his friends for coming to the show.



Heimen Van Essen (Crow, Munchkin, Poppy, Emerald Citizen, Flying Monkey)

Appearing in his eighth production, Heimen has decided - why play one role when you can play five! Munchkin, Crow, Poppy, Ozian and best of all - A FLYING MONKEY. They say play what you know! It has been a pleasure to perform with such a talented cast. Live, love, laugh and follow the Yellow Brick Road!



Cassie Doane (Munchkin, Tree, Emerald Citizen, Winkie)

This is Cassie Doane's first show with Front Row Centre Players. She has been in other shows, such as *Fiddler on the Roof* with Bonavista Players. She is enjoying being in *The Wizard of Oz* and has learned so much and has met some wonderful people. She is looking forward to being a part of many more shows in the future.

The Denizens of Oz



Hannah Duke (Emerald Citizen, Munchkin)

Hannah recently played "Young Antigone" in *Oedipus* at U of C Mainstage. She appeared as "Dorian" in *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang* and as an orphan in *Oliver!*, both at Storybook Theatre. Other credits include a voice-over for the film *Wednesday's Child* and a television commercial for the Calgary Stampede.



Alyssa Durnie (Munchkin, Tree, Emerald Citizen, Jitterbug)

This is Alyssa's second FRC show. Other shows include: *Oklahoma!* (FRC), *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Storybook Theatre), *Seussical* (Central Memorial), *Goldilocks and the Christmas Bears* (Storybook) and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* (Stage West). Thanks to her family and the cast and crew of *Oz*!



Veronica Mack (Munchkin, Poppy, Emerald Citizen, Jitterbug)

After watching Joey's performance as "The Hooded Fang", Veronica knew she was in for a ride in his production of *The Wizard of Oz*. She has had far too much fun with this tremendously talented cast and crew and thanks each of them for their support and guidance.



Emma Cole (Munchkin, Winkie General)

Since her first taste of the stage at age four, Emma has developed a passion for theatre that keeps growing. She has had many opportunities with various talented cast members, learning more with each experience. Emma is especially excited about *The Wizard of Oz* because of the wonderful things Joey does.



Tracy Smith (Munchkin, Tree, Emerald Citizen, Winkie)

Tracy is very excited to be in her first show with FRC. She has performed in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Dads*, *the Musical*, *The Sound of Music* and *Yeomen of the Guard* and has helped out with various other productions over the past couple of years. She thanks her family and friends for their support as she journeyed over the rainbow to the wonderful land of *Oz*.



Jeri Guenter (Munchkin, Tree, Emerald Citizen, Captain of Winged Monkeys)

Jeri is excited to follow the Yellow Brick Road with this terrific cast and crew. Most recently seen as "Sister Berthe" in *The Sound of Music*, other shows include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Guys and Dolls* as "Big Jule". A very special thank you to her friends and family for their love and support.

The Denizens of Oz



Kennedy Young (Munchkin, Winged Monkey)

Kennedy Young is 11 years old and is attending Grade 5. She is interested in acting and teaching. She loves to sing and is in the Calgary Girls Choir! So far it has been hard work for this particular show, but she would do it again in a heartbeat!



Sugar (Toto)

This is Sugar's first appearance on the stage, however she does enjoy the limelight. Sugar is four years old and lives with her parents in Canmore. Her favourite activity is chasing the wabbits away. Do not be fooled by her small size; she may be small, but she is mighty! She would like to thank FRC for her debut.



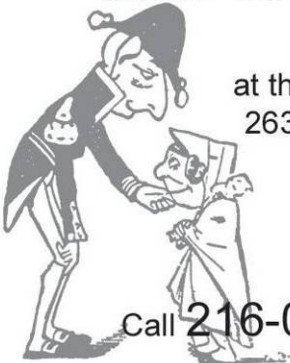
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The Production Team

Director	Joey Sayer
Co-Producers	Don Kuchinski, Darren Stewart
Music Director	Mary Anne Wilson
Rehearsal Pianist	Wilma Rothbauer
Band Leader	Wilma Rothbauer
Choreographer	Karen Iwanski
Stage Manager	Becky Dumoulin
Assistant Stage Manager	Wendy Cole, Tim Elliott
Costume Design	Frank Macleod
Vocal Coach for Dorothy	Christine Horne
Additional Vocal Support	Mary Anne Wilson, Cat Bentley, Kelly Medeiros
Costume Construction	Brenda Goyetche, Dianne Eberhardt, Patrice Kalyn, Myrna Weiden, Sherry Horbrook, Lisa Madill, Wendy Cole
Costume Assistance	Fred Bowen, Jesse Bowen, Zoe Bowen, Emma Cole, Judy Dunsmuir, Holly Hollman, Christine Horne, Karen Iwanski, Natalie Mack, Veronica Mack, Erin Madill, Bonnie Phillips, Joey Sayer, Esther Silberg, Gary Silberg, Tracy Smith, Darren Stewart, Andrea Van Der Neut, Pat Wilson, Janos Zeller and any others who accidentally were left off this list
Tin Man design and construction	Fin Sound
Set Design and Construction	Bill Brown
Set Painting	Louis Cardoza
Move In and Lighting Setup Crew	Greg Davidson, Cameron Ross, Alex Beavis
Lighting Designer	Paul Hilton
Lighting Board Operation	Greg Davidson
Follow Spot Operator	Cameron Ross
Sound Design	Andrea Katz
Properties	Pat Wilson
Assistant Props Mistress	Mary Anne Wilson
Video Effects Production	Kevin Currie – One Eyed Productions
Sign Language Interpretation	Andrea van der Neut, Robyn Mackie, Angela Flaman, Stephanie Hoebbers
Front of House Manager	Caren Johnson
Hair and Makeup Design	Cat Bentley
Marketing	Erin Madill, Darren Stewart
Wizard of Oz TV Advertisement	Kevin Currie - One Eyed Productions
Poster Design & Printing	J.P. Thibodeau
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The Ozian Orchestra



Wilma Rothbauer (Piano, Rehearsal Pianist,
Band Leader)

Not Pictured

Kathy Ng (Percussion)
Kelli Novak (Flute, Piccolo)
Joanne Sampson (Clarinet)



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- ☺ **The Honorable Gene Maurice** for his generous donation
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- ☺ **Many people** are thanked for their Props contributions
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 - **Steve Archer of Archer's Antiques** for antique loans
 - **Sharon Olsen** for constructing the lollipops and for other props assistance.
 - **Alma Anderson, Brent Marchand, Christine Horne, Warren Wilson**
- ☺ **Morpheus Theatre** for rehearsal space, chairs and their support
- ☺ **Storybook Theatre** for props and their support
- ☺ The staff of the **Pumphouse Theatre** for never ending support
- ☺ **Alberta Lotteries**
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A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES DO NOT APPEAR.





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2007-2008

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Shea Christie
Joey Sayer
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Past President

FRC Mission Statement

Front Row Centre Players Society, Calgary's premier community musical theatre group, is a charitable organization dedicated to making musical theatre experiences available to as many people as possible - affording an outlet for creative expression on stage and behind the scenes. Our auditions are always open to the public, announced through Calgary's free media. Everyone associated with the company is a volunteer. Our only pre-requisite for participation is enthusiasm.

FRC is always looking for new members and friends, especially backstage, producing and Front of House. Put those creative talents to good use. You don't have to be an expert... just willing and able. Set construction, painting, lights, sound, props, costumes, make up, ticket sales, and even in front of the bright lights on stage. Interested in becoming a **Friend of FRC?**

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November 7 – 15 2008

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Directed by Shea Christie

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Lyrics by: Sheldon Harnick
Music by: Jerry Bock

JAN 9 - 24 2009

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