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Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Opening night January 10, 2008 Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

BAT BOY THE MUSICAL

Story and Book by Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming
Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe

Directed by Timo Anderson

Music Direction by Brian E. Buckner Choreographed by Rachel Francisco

Assistant Director Jeff Steinhauer

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> Properties Jenn Smith

Hair Design Carla Agius

Program Layout Nicolas N. Owen

From the Director

I first got to see this show on September 1st, 2001 in New York City. We stumbled across this off-the-wall, off-off-Broadway show that had available tickets, and wow, are we glad it did! The show I saw that night entertained, demanded thought, and had us falling out of our chairs with laughter all in the first act. The second half only got better. I kept talking about it to various people at A2CT and they all agreed -- "Propose it then!" Finally, Rachel got tired of hearing me talk about it and I did.

The script, which I remembered in small bits and pieces, showed more humor and depth each time I read it and envisioned it onstage. It was priceless to see the cast with the same laughs, squished faces, and utter disbelief that I remembered from my first time watching the show.

I realize now that this show's satirical wisdom appeals to *anyone* who has ever been singled out as "different" -- by religion, sexual orientation, race, creed, class, high school monikers of "brace-face" or "jock," or even in our case, as a species. Everyone at some point in their life succumbs to the urge to fit in, using covers like common interests, clothing, friends, jobs, cars, or substances to hide their real person in order to blend in. Edgar's journey in *Bat Boy* to accept himself and the animal deep inside may seem far-fetched, but in reality, it's something everyone can embrace.

Musical theater tends to allow us to leave with a happy ending, a spring in our step and a catchy tune in our head. This show may not come in such a neat little package, but it's a gift that will be unforgettable for audiences.

Timo Anderson, Director

The Director would like to thank...

Jeff, for assuming this show would never happen.

Jason, you are a miracle worker... even better than advertised.

Brian, for making beautiful music, and for finding a perfect "Singing Man".

Rachel, my love, my sounding board, and creator of thoroughly beautiful movement.

Tiff, red and blue do make a entertaining purple don't they...

Mark, for doing seemingly everything.

Neil, need a projector, got a projector. Need a computer, got it... perfect!

Thom, for making the set happen. (Wendy, my appreciation is boundless.) Dad, for wasting a Monday with me and getting something done after all. Mom, for all the extra time you spent with Annika.



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The Cast

ANDY BALLNIK (Bat Boy) is thrilled to be a part of Bat Boy. Other A2CT shows have included—Hair, The Full Monty, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Music Man, On the Town, among others. Andy also directed The Nerd for A2CT and will direct A Few Good Men later on this season. A graduate of The American Musical and Dramatics Academy in NYC, Andy is continuing his education at EMU, hoping to teach and direct theatre professionally in the future. Congrats to the cast for a great show and thanks to his friends and family for all their love and support.

MARK F. BATELL (Mr. Dillon/Ensemble) Mark is delightfully surprised to be cast in his first musical since his voice changed (in high school 40 years ago), and only his second show for A2CT. Special thanks to Jeremy Salvatori (Rick) for giving him the right notes to sing, his daughter Brittany who taught him the dances, and to Matt and Jeff for their continuing encouragement. "I get by with a little help from my friends." (John Lennon)

KATHLEEN BEARDMORE (Lorraine) has appeared in several A2CT productions; most recently in *Cactus Flower* (Stephanie), *Sweet Charity* (Ursula, ensemble) and *The Full Monty* (Vicki). *Bat Boy the Musical* is one of the funniest and most unusual shows she's encountered and her first opportunity to sing "Kill him!" in performance. She wishes to thank Timo, Rachel, Jeff and Brian for this great experience. And, as ever, thanks to her patient and loving partner, Bob.

AMY BOGETTO-WEINRAUB (Maggie) is delighted to be in this production of *Bat Boy*. Other A2CT productions include *Evita*, *Tommy*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *West Side Story*, and *The Nerd*. Lots of thanks to Timo, Rachel, Brian, and Jeff for casting Amy in her most interesting role to date, and to the cast for working so well together. Much love and thanks to Jonathan for his support, and much love and thanks to Ava for letting Mommie go to rehearsal every night.

LINZI JOY BOKOR (Meredith Parker) is delighted to be part of this amazing cast of Bat Boy, which marks her third production with A2CT. You may have seen her previously in A2CT's The Full Monty or The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Some of her favorite past credits include Momma Rose in Gypsy, Aldonza in The Man of LaMancha and Audrey II in Little Shop Of Horrors. Linzi would like to thank YOU, the theatre-goer for supporting community theatre, her fellow cast members for working so hard to make tonight's show an amazing one, Timo and the rest of the staff for the chance to play such an wonderfully odd character, and mostly her mom and dad who are the two single most important people of her life.

BRANDON CAVE (Ron Taylor) is an award-winning actor from Ann Arbor, MI who has appeared in over 35 productions throughout southeastern Michigan. In addition to his acting he has also produced and stage-managed for Ann Arbor Civic Theatre and Impact Dance of University of Michigan. In 2003 he co-authored and directed Super Heroes in Paradise a show designed for children in Whitmore Lake, MI. He is very excited to be working with such a wonderful group, and would like to thank Timo, Rachel, and Brian as well as all his friends and family.

NEIL CLENNAN (Sheriff Reynolds) is excited to be back on the stage after a 7 year absence. Past shows with A2CT include *Brigadoon, The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, A Summer Share*, and *The Fantasticks*. Other shows include *Scapino, Man of La Mancha, Pippin, Two by Two*, and *Into the Woods*. Neil works as a computer systems administrator at the University of Michigan's School of Art & Design. Neil would like to thank his wife, Martha, for her love and support.

COREY DAVIS (Ensemble) is a freshman Theatre: Design and Production major at the University of Texas. Hailing from Sanger, Texas he is proud to be a in his first production with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. In the past Corey has been in YAGMCB- Charlie, Blood Brothers- Mickey, Noises Off- Garry/Roger and many other productions. Corey would like to thank his Mama and Papa for sending him into the tundra for such great experiences and his Strauss family for being AMAZING!!!

ERIN DONEVAN (Shelley Parker) This is Erin's first show with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, and she is beyond excited to be working with such a talented group of people. She would like to thank Timo, Jeff, Rachel, and Brian for the amazing opportunity to play such a fun role; the entire cast for being so welcoming, fun, and incredibly talented; and her mom for signing the permission slip against her better judgment;)

AUBREY "AUBS" DONNELL (Ensemble) would like to thank Timo, Brian, Rachel and Matt for letting her be a part of A2CT's amazing production of Bat Boy! Aubrey was most

recently seen in Destination Theatre's Annie as Miss Hannigan! She would like to tell Andy that she is so proud of him! You are amazing! She also sends a shout out to Roy and Joy for being Flo's friends! As usual she sends her love to her family, friends, March Sisters, and babies (her pets).

MICHAEL RANDOLPH GREEN (Mrs. Tavlor/Reverend Billy Hightower) has pursued a BM in Jazz Studies emphasis in Voice at Western Michigan University. In his time there he has performed in productions of Marriage of Figaro and The Magic Flute as well as sung in Gold Company. He has recorded demos for publishers such as Hal Leonard and Shawnee Press. He has performed in venues such as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and toured South Africa. Moreover, he has performed with the likes of Janis Siegel, Darmon Meader, and Bobby McFerrin.

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JACKIE GUBOW (Ensemble) is a sophomore in the Residential College at the University of Michigan, making her A2CT debut! Favorite roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, Sally in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Mayzie in Seussical, Rose in The Secret Garden, Mrs. Van Daan in The Diary of Anne Frank, and Glinda in The Wizard of Oz. She has performed with Stagecrafters, the Players Guild of Dearborn, Off Broadway Productions, and RC Players. "Thanks to M, D, R, C, B, and D. And KHK!"

BECKY HILL (Clementine) This is Becky's first A2CT production, and it has been an amazing experience for her. She has previously worked with Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble, and Rhythm in Shoes dance company, participated in eight theatre shows throughout high school, and hopes to pursue a lifetime in the arts.

KATHERINE HOEG (Pan/Ensemble) is thrilled to be in yet another A2CT production. Excited and ready to begin her student teaching at Pierce Lake Elementary in Chelsea, Katherine remains quite busy as an active member in the School of Education. On the side, she has officially performed in over 150 musical theatre productions across the country with such companies as the College Light Opera in Boston and the Masonic Temple in downtown Detroit. With roles like the Narrator in Joseph, the Witch in Into the Woods, Ruth Sherwood in Wonderful Town, to Annie Oakley in Annie Get Your Gun, Katherine is extremely thankful to family, friends, and the Brit for their seemingly unending support.

CRAIG NICHOLS (Roy/Ensemble) is excited to return to the stage with so many of his fellow talented performers. Craig has been involved with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre since he was a junior in high school. He has experience both on and off the stage having performed and choreographed for numerous theatre groups in the Southeast Michigan area. He would like to give thanks to the production staff, as well as Katie, Andy, Aubs, Brian, Linzi, and Erin. Holla!

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EDMOND REYNOLDS (Bud) is delighted to be performing again with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. He recently directed both Sweet Charity and The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas for A2CT. Past acting credits with A2CT include Our Town (Doc Gibbs), The Nerd (Ticky) and Guys & Dolls (Big Jule). Last year Ed appeared at The Croswell Opera House, in Adrian, Michigan, in The Full Monty (Harold Nichols) and She Loves Me (Mr. Maraczek). His two favorite roles have been with the Dexter Community Players though: Caldwell B Cladwell in URINETOWN and Judge Turpin in Sweeney Todd. Enjoy the show!

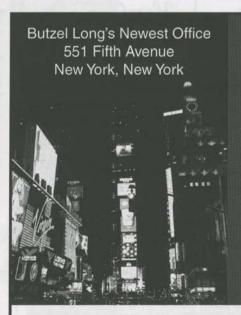
BECKY ROBERTS (Ensemble) is a senior at University of Michigan, and will be graduating this spring with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Past Ann Arbor Civic Theatre shows include *Hair*, *Sweet Charity*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. She is excited to be working with all her friends on another show. She'd like to say "hey girl hey!!!" to her family and bestie.

VINNIE ROBERTS (Ned) is a sophomore at University of Michigan and is majoring in art and design. Past shows include WMU's production of Little Shop of Horrors, as well as Hello Dolly!, Beauty and the Beast, Footloose, Les Miz, and many more. He is excited to be in his first A2CT production. He'd like to give a shout out to his family and Amy. HEY GIRL HEY!!!!!

AMANDA RODRIGUEZ (Ruthie Taylor), last seen as Zaneeta in Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's *Music Man*, is thrilled to be playing the role of Ruthie in *Bat Boy*. She has enjoyed spending time with such wonderful, talented cast mates and would like to thank each and every one for all their hard work. Thanks to the La Dolce Vitaaaa Crew for all the good times, and a special thanks to Ben without whom life would involve a little less Pizza House, and be much less amazing!

JEREMY SALVATORI (Rick Taylor) is excited to be in his second show with A2CT (last year he was in *The Tempest*). He recently was in Wild Swan Theater's production of *Coming to America*, and currently is in a children's show called *Fablicious* with Performance Network. In the spring, he will be in Wild Swan's production of *Treasure Island*. Theater means the world to him, and he is thankful to be part of this terrific show.

WENDY SIELAFF (Daisy) Wendy is thrilled to be in this production. You rarely see her on stage since she spends most of her time directing. She last directed *The Music Man* for A2CT in September. Wendy would like to thank Timo for the chance to perform, Rachel for her patience, and Brian for his energy. Also a big thanks to Megan for decorating her tree and wrapping presents so she could attend rehearsals. This has been fun. Happy Birthday Mike.



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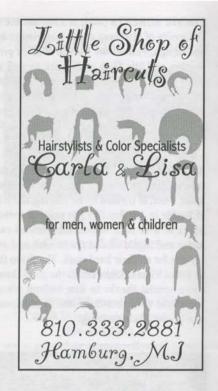
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KYLE SERILLA (Dr. Thomas Parker) is thrilled to be back with A2CT, having produced School House Rock Live! Jr. and appeared in Guys and Dolls. Kyle is a senior at U of M majoring in Theatre and History. There he has worked extensively with MUSKET, having produced or performed in seven musicals. In 2006 Kyle interned with The Araca Group, a Broadway producing company in Manhattan, where he worked on such shows as Wicked and The Wedding Singer. Kyle would like to thank his family for all their support.

BEN STANGE (Institute Man/Ensemble) is thrilled to have *Bat Boy* as his first show with A2CT! He would first like to thank his family and friends for their support in this area of his life. Secondly, thanks to all of his wonderful cast mates for being so talented and making rehearsals so much fun! And, finally, he would like to thank Amanda, the best friend and wife anyone could ever have, for always being there . . . especially for late night Pizza House!



The Crew

Spotlight Operator Kyle Patton

Assistant Choreographer Brian E. Buckner

Assistant Costumer Linda Lee Austin

Lighting Setup Crew

Brittany Batell
Mark Batell
Cathy Cassar
Brandon Cave
Neil Clennan
Kathy Paterson
Wendy Ryan

Light Board Operator Melissa Elliott

Assistant Choreographer Craig Nichols

Sound Design Assistant Keane Wolter

Stage Crew
Brittany Batell
Chris Brown
Ann Kiser Flaherty
Jean Leverich
Brad Peters
The Cast

Spotlight Operator Jason Wholehan

Assistant Choreographer
Caitlin Rowe

Assistant Costumer
Susie Berneis

Set Construction
Bill Anderson
Timo Anderson
Mark Batell
Rachel Francisco
Dave Rowe
Thom Ryan
Mike Sielaff

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1.26

Mozart's Birthday Bash with his Piano Concerto 21 and Symphony 41

> 8 pm, Michigan Theater



Latin Fire

featuring Peter Sparling and Guitarist David Russell

> 8 pm, Michigan Theater



4.18

La Traviata (New Date!)

La Traviata selections and Brahms' Symphony 2

> 8 pm, Michigan Theater



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Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra

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Musical Numbers

The setting is Hope Falls, West Virginia. Population 500.

Act One

Hold Me, Bat Boy	Full Company
Christian Charity	Sheriff, Meredith, Shelley
Ugly Boy	Shelley, Meredith
Watcha Wanna Do?	Rick, Shelley
A Home For You	
Another Dead Cow	
Dance With Me, Darling	Parker
Mrs. Taylor's Lullaby	Mrs. Taylor, Rick, Ron
Show You a Thing or Two	Parker, Meredith, Shelley, Bat Boy, Ensemble
Christian Charity (Reprise)	Sheriff, Parker, Ensemble
A Home for You (Reprise)	Bat Boy
Comfort and Joy	Full Company

 $There \ will \ be \ a \ fifteen-minute \ in term is sion \ between \ acts.$

Act Two

A Joyful Noise	Reverend Billy Hightower, The Congregation
Let Me Walk Among You	Bat Boy
Three Bedroom House	Meredith, Shelley
Children, Children	Pan, Ensemble
More Blood	Parker
Inside Your Heart	Shelley, Bat Boy
Apology to a Cow	Bat Boy
Revelations	Meredith, Parker, Company
I Imagine You're Upset	Full Company
Hold Me, Bat Boy (Reprise)	Full Company

The Cast

Bat Boy	
Meredith Parker	Linzi Joy Bokor
Dr. Thomas Parker	Kyle Serilla
Shelley Parker	Erin Donevan
Sheriff Reynolds	Neil Clennan
Rick Taylor	Jeremy Salvatori
Ron Taylor	Brandon Cave
Ruthie Taylor	Amanda Rodriguez
Mrs. Taylor	Michael Green
Lorraine	Kathleen Beardmore
Maggie	Amy Bogetto-Weinraub
Daisy	Wendy Sielaff
Mr. Dillon	Mark Batell
Bud	Edmond Reynolds
Ned	Vinnie Roberts
Roy	Craig Nichols
Clementine	Becky Hill
Reverend Billy Hightower	Michael Green
Pan	Katherine Hoeg
Doctor	Aubrey Donnell
Institute Man	Ben Stange
Ensemble	ey Davis, Aubrey Donnell, Jackie Gubow, Craig Nichols, Becky Roberts, Ben Stange
The Orche	estra

Conductor	Brian E. Buckner
Guitar	Dan Erben
Bass	Pat Prouty
Drums.	Andre Dowell
Keyboard	Brian E. Buckner

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"Heidi and Bill" by Wilfred Kaplan

In 1936 Wilfred Kaplan had a traveling fellowship from Harvard University to pursue his career in mathematics. He enrolled at the Institute of Technology in Zurich and, on the first day of classes, found a seat next to the only girl in the class, Swiss-born Ida Roettinger (later nicknamed "Heidi"). A few weeks later he invited her to the grand student ball, which lasted from 9 p. m. till 5 a. m. During those eight hours they fell deeply in love, a love which was to last for over 68 years. It took almost two years for them to overcome the obstacles to getting warried for Heidi's parents were strength among the took class to take the strength of th



married, for Heidi's parents were strongly opposed. The story is told almost wholly in letters between the two lovers (translated from German by Wilfred). In reading it, one is inevitably drawn into the life of the historic times, when Hitler was threatening the world.

Also Available:

"The 1960 Casals Master Classes in Berkeley" by Ida Roettinger Ph.D. Edited by her husband Wilfred Kaplan

In April 1960, Pablo Casals conducted master classes in cello at the University of California in Berkeley. Ida Roettinger Kaplan, nicknamed "Heidi," traveled from Ann Arbor, along with her cello teacher, Harry Dunscombe, to attend the classes as auditor. Harry was one of the students in the master class. Heidi wrote letters to her family, describing all her experiences. The present pamphlet reproduces those letters in edited form. They convey the spirit of the remarkable occasion and supplement the comments made in the appendix to Heidi's book Head, Hand, and Heart [published under her maiden name Ida Roettinger in 1970, distributed by Shar Music Co. in Ann Arbor]. The 1960 Casals Master Classes in Berkeley is an Episode in the Lives of "Heidi and Bill".

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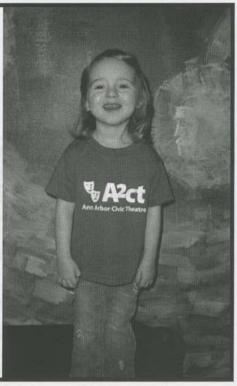
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The Production Staff

TIMO ANDERSON (Director) Previously Timo had been on the production teams for A2CT's Tommy, Angels in America, and Sound of Music as well as performing in Big River, A Chorus Line, Jesus Christ Superstar, and How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying. It has been a wonderful experience working with an amazingly talented Cast and Crew to make this show happen and watching it develop into a "real show". Thank you Rachel for putting up with me while filling in the gaps, and to Annika, for remembering that I exist while making my hug-filled return home the best part of the day.

LINDA LEE AUSTIN (Assistant Costumer) has enjoyed on-stage time with A2CT; she has also done props and set dressing. Costuming is a new and pleasant challenge. It all brings joy and satisfaction; the cats and Rick approve.

BRIAN E. BUCKNER (Music Director/Conductor/Keyboard) is an active music director and pianist in the Ann Arbor Area. A native of Houston, Texas, he is regularly affiliated with local musical productions, both at the University and in the community at large. Most recent musical direction credits include Urinetown, Hair, Singin' in the Rain, The Wild Party (Lippa), The Last Five Years, Cabaret, and Guys and Dolls, as well as positions with A2CT, University of Michigan Euphonium/Tuba Ensemble (UMETE) and Galveston Island Musicals (Galveston, TX).

TIFF CRUTCHFIELD (Lighting Designer) lights his seventh A2CT musical, most recently The Music Man and Sweet Charity. Tiff recently lit his first play at Lydia Mendelssohn, A Midsummer Night's Dream. His lighting work has also been seen numerous times at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill, including Destination Theatre's recent productions of Annie and High School Musical. At the end of June, he stepped down from the A2CT board of directors, where he served for four years, the last two as president. Though most at home behind

the scenes, he can occasionally be found onstage, most recently in A2CT's *The Full Monty*.

RACHEL FRANCISCO (Choreographer) is delighted to have had the opportunity to FINALLY put countless years of dance lessons (thanks mom & dad!) to good use by creating combinations instead of her usual mode of creatively re-interpreting someone else's moves into something almost unrecognizable. Many thanks to Brian, Craig and Caitlin for easing her burden! Recent onstage credits include The Music Man, Hair, and Sweet Charity with A2CT, and Playing for Time at the University of Michigan. This show marks her 10th year with A2CT. (I know, I can't believe it either) When she's not skulking around the Civic rehearsal space, Rachel is mom to three-year-old Annika and works at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Thank you to the cast for a terrific experience, your dedication and energy fed my passion for this show. And last, but not least, to my darling husband (Timo) - Congratulations honey, you did it!!!!! Now could you please take out the garbage?

HANK NAASKO (Costumer) This is Hank's fourth show with A2CT. He was Tony in The Full Monty, Herman in Sweet Charity, and in the quartet in Music Man He is very excited to be a part of this show but he is no stranger to the musical theater. As a music teacher of 40 years, in Livonia, he directed Oklahoma, Bye Bye Birdie, Sound of Music, South Pacific, Guys and Dolls, Once Upon a Mattress, Music Man, and Bells are Ringing. He also did costumes for Meet Me in St. Louis, Winnie the Pooh, You Can't Take it with You, Willie Wonka the Chocolate Factory, and Oklahoma!.

BOB SKON (Sound Designer) has been involved with A2CT for now his 6th season. He's been off stage designing and running sound and on stage as an ensemble member in *Evita*, *On the Town*, and *Cactus Flower* and had the role of John Utterson in *Jekyll and Hyde*. My love to Kathleen!

JEFF STEINHAUER (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) Jeff is excited to be working behind the scenes on this fascinating show. Jeff's on stage appearances include *Urinetown* and *Sweeney Todd* in Dexter and numerous productions with A2CT. It's been a great experience working with Timo, Rachel, Matt and the rest of this talented cast, crew and production staff. Enjoy the show!

ERIK WRIGHT-OLSEN (Graphic Designer) has designed for A2CT, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the Michigan Channel, and his work can be found on an Arbor Brewing Company six-pack near you. With A2CT, he's played Oscar in Sweet Charity and Axel in The Nerd, and Daddy Warbucks in Destination Theatre's Annie. Thanks as always to Amy!

HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM



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Acknowledgements

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Becoming an A2CT Member

The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre (A2CT) is a nonprofit community theatre that provides the citizens of Ann Arbor and the surrounding region with opportunities to participate in all aspects of theatre: performance, production, and appreciation.

As has always been true, revenue from ticket sales alone cannot cover the entire costs of operating our community theatre. We hope that you will join us as a supporter of this vibrant and venerable institution. In addition to providing support to keep A2CT fiscally sound, membership offers you:

- ★ a discount on Season Tickets
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- ★ a listing on lobby signage for gifts of \$500+
- ★ a listing in all of our show programs

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