

Christ Memorial Productions

Presents

OKLAHOMA!

Sept 20, 21, 27, 28 - 7:30 PM

Sept 22, 29 - 2:30 PM

Directed by KEVIN JONES

Choreography by KIM KLICK

Music Direction by

KATHY EICHELBERGER, GREGG MUELLER, JOE PAULE

Rodgers & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!

Music by RICHARD RODGERS

Book and Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs

Original Choreography by Agnes de Mille

OKLAHOMA! is presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals: www.rh.com.

CMPShows.org
Christ Memorial Productions

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Christ Memorial's

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Welcome to Christ Memorial! Connect with Christ Memorial and be a part of our Christ-centered and community-oriented family. We have many opportunities for personal growth in spiritual life, areas of service, worship, and relationships with caring people. We invite you to join us for Worship, Bible Study or Sunday School:

Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m. Worship—Formal, Traditional music
Sunday Morning: 7:45 & 9:00 a.m. Worship—Formal, Traditional music
10:00 a.m. Connections Bible study/small groups
11:00 a.m. Worship—Casual, Contemporary music
10:30 a.m. Reliant Worship, Casual, Acoustic music at
Crave Coffee House, in Mid-town at
3500 Caroline Street.

Welcome to our production of *OKLAHOMA!* As a church, we love engaging our community.



Theater is one way we do this.

Christ Memorial is inspired by two simple words: Loved and Sent.

We experience the depths of God's love, proven with blood on a cross.

This love compels us to be sent to people and places in need of God's love. We hope to see you again, beyond the show. See how you can connect with us at cmstl.org.

God bless,

Pastor Jeff Cloeter, Senior Pastor

Going to keep your program?

If not, instead of throwing it away, please help us by placing it in one of the Program Recycling bins following the show. Thank you!



***Please note that Prop Guns
will be used during this production.***

If you have any questions, please contact an usher.

A Word From Our Director:

In the early 1900's Oklahoma was on the verge of becoming a state - the 46th - admitted to the Union. It had previously been designated as sovereign Indian Territory and many Native American tribes from across the US had been relocated there. After the Civil War, as railroads and cattle drives began passing through, there was increasing pressure from all sides to open up this fertile farm and ranch land to white settlement. This started in the 1890's when a series of "land runs" were organized to distribute the so-called "Unassigned Lands" in the center of the state, allowing whoever got there first to drive a stake in the ground and claim the land as their own for cultivation. Eventually the Oklahoma and Indian Territories were combined to create the state of Oklahoma in 1907, bringing an end to the former Native American sovereignty. The Choctaw Indians named this land with the words *okla* and *humma*, meaning "red people".

The musical *Oklahoma!* is freely adapted from a play called *Green Grow the Lilacs*, by Lynn Riggs. It is full of vivid characterizations showing the day-to-day lives of these recent settlers, delving into their emotional lives, their resiliency, humor, and life and death struggles as they scratch out a living on the land, while starting to create a structure and a community for themselves.

When *Oklahoma!* opened on Broadway in March of 1943, the USA was entrenched in the monumental struggle of World War II. An atmosphere of violence and suffering had enveloped much of the world, and the outcome was uncertain. Despite the daunting challenges, *Oklahoma!* ran for 2,212 performances (more than five years), making it the longest-running musical in Broadway history up to that point. The national tour played in every state throughout the country for a record breaking 10-plus years.

All of the action of *Oklahoma!* (aside from the last scene) occurs over the course of one single day. But in that single day we see the hopes, dreams, and struggles of these iconic characters revealed, as well as unresolved questions about what the United States should be that we still see playing out today. The mixture of humor, optimism, simplicity, open-heartedness, and transcendent music and dance are every bit as necessary, satisfying, and relevant today as they ever have been.

Thinking about the show, it struck me that the subplots are a very light take on subjects that would have been dangerous socially had they been treated with any weight at the time. The show speaks to the human experience and the trials faced by people trying to forge a new life. The show touches on aspects of race, love, stereotypes, economics, trust and bullying. Topics relevant as much today, as they were in years gone by. *Oklahoma!* is a musical about tolerance and acceptance, a theme that still rings true in today's world, as "violence" still bubbles underneath society's surface.

Even with the dark undertones, this is a production to enjoy and laugh at. What you are about to see is one of the most resplendent works ever created for the musical theatre. This CMP production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* is yours to keep. We welcome you and thank you for being here.

Kevin Jones

TO ENSURE AN ENJOYABLE PERFORMANCE

Please turn off all cell phones. — Enjoy your concessions in the lobby only.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building.

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the ushers.

PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOTAPING OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF
THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

ACT I

Overture—Orchestra

Scene 1: The Front of Laurey's Farmhouse.

Oh, What a beautiful Mornin' Curly
The Surrey with the Fringe on Top Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller
Kansas City..... Will, Aunt Eller and Ensemble men
The Surrey with the Fringe on Top (reprise) Curly
I Cain't Say No! Ado Annie
Many a New Day Laurey and Ensemble women
It's a Scandal! It's a Outrage! Ali Hakim and Ensemble men
People Will Say We're in Love.....Curly and Laurey

Scene 2: The Smoke House.

Pore Jud is Daid Curly and Jud
Lonely Room Jud

Scene 3: A Grove on Laurey's Farm.

Dream Sequence Laurey, Ensemble Dancers, Dream Figures
Out of My Dreams Ensemble women and Laurey
Interlude and Dream Ballet Dream Laurey, Dream Curley, Bridesmaids,
Can-Can Dancers, Ensemble Dancers

(There will be a 15 Minute INTERMISSION — Refreshments will be available in the Lobby)

ACT II

Entr'Acte —Orchestra

Scene 1: The Skidmore Ranch.

The Farmer and the Cowman Andrew Carnes, Aunt Eller,
Curly, Will, Ado Annie, Slim and Ensemble
All Er Nothin' Ado Annie, Will and Dancers
People will Say We're in Love—reprise Laurey and Curly

Scene 2: The Back of Laurey's Farmhouse.

OklahomaCurly, Laurey, Aunt Eller, Ike, Fred and Ensemble
Oklahoma—Encore..... Cast
Finale and Bows..... Cast



CAST

Aunt Eller Murphy.....	Dianne Mueller
Curly McLain	Scott Degitz-Fries
Laurey Williams.....	Heather Matthews
Will Parker.....	Hayden Hays
Ado Annie Carnes.....	Sarah Polizzi
Jud Fry.....	Mike Huelsmann
Ali Hakim	Keith Poppitz
Ike Skidmore	Rob Eichelberger
Andrew Carnes.....	Aaron Drake
Gertie Cummings	Sophia Kluba
Cord Elam.....	Martin Zahn
Dream Laurey.....	Kayla Dressman
Slim, Dream Curly.....	Caleb Long
Sam	Jim Kimker
Jess Chalmers.....	Robert Jones
Mike	Tony Jaskiewicz
Joe.....	Charlie Foy
Fred	John Perks
Ellen	Ashley Wilkinson
Kate	Bel da Silva
Sylvie/Virginia	Jessie Owens
Vivian	Rachel Mackenzie
Armina.....	Angela Brandow
All or Nothin' Dancers.....	Stefanie Kluba, Sophie Kluba
Bridesmaids.....	Stefanie Kluba, Rachel Mackenzie, Makayla Adams, Angela Brandow, Arden Dickson, Brianna Hernandez, Emily Pierce, Marley Wright
Can-Can Dancers.....	Kathy Eichelberger, Ashley Wilkinson, Jess Gerst, Bel da Silva
Ensemble Chorus	Keith Poppitz, Rob Eichelberger, Aaron Drake, Sophia Kluba, Martin Zahn, Kayla Dressman, Robert Jones, John Perks, Ana Mary Perks, Jessie Owens, Kathy Eichelberger, Jennifer Kerner, Tafra Perryman, Caetlyn Van Buren
Ensemble Dancers and Chorus	Caleb Long, Jim Kimker, Tony Jaskiewicz, Charlie Foy, Ashley Wilkinson, Bel da Silva, Stefanie Kluba, Rachel Mackenzie, Makayla Adams, Arden Dickson, Angela Brandow, Brianna Hernandez, Ben Clements, Jess Gerst.
Youth Ensemble Chorus	Roman Ryker, Ally Pierce, Brooke Harrison, Margaret Gardner, Ella Myers.
Youth Ensemble Dancers and Chorus.....	Marley Wright, Brooke Susic, Emily Pierce, Delaney McCoy.

DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION LEADERSHIP

DIRECTOR	Kevin Jones
CHOREOGRAPHER	Kim Klick
VOCAL COACH	Kathy Eichelberger
ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR	Joe Paule
REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST	Gregg Mueller
COSTUMER	Krysta Wenski
COSTUME ASSISTANT	Niki Newcomb
SET DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, CMP ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Dianne Mueller
LIGHTING DESIGN , SET & TECH ASSISTANT	Jonathan Hartley
STAGE MANAGER, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	Lauren Kreienkamp
STAGE MANAGER	Chris Gubser
PROPERTIES MANAGER	Kimberly Clements
HOUSE MANAGER/PUBLICITY/PROGRAM CONTENT	Lynette Jost
FACILITY COORDINATION	Kathy Poppitz
CMP BUSINESS MANAGER, SOUND DESIGN & MIXING	Larry Jost

ORCHESTRA

FLUTE	Katrina Dickmann, Colleen Donohue
CLARINET	Mary Wiley, Kelly Austermann
OBOE	Jan Parkes, Anna Kuschel
FRENCH HORN	Mary Schmidt
TRUMPET	Joe Paule, Jr., Bob Gellman
TROMBONE	David Bode
BASSOON	JD Tolmann
VIOLIN	Marilyn Humiston, Hannah Kroeger, Mike Blackwood, Matt King
VIOLA	Dragomir Page
CELLO	Kristin Sage
BASS	Barbara Paule
HARP	Michael Boone
PIANO	Gregg Mueller
GUITAR/BANJO	Robert Hardcastle
PERCUSSION	Tom Appelbaum , Debi Thuet

PRODUCTION STAFF & CREWS

SET CONSTRUCTION & PAINTING.....Dianne Mueller, Jonathan Hartley,
John Perks, Jennifer Kerner, Tony Jaskiewicz, Roman Ryker, Ella Myers

DANCE CAPTAINStefanie Kluba

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER Todd Gillenardo

TEAM SUPPORT Karen Dickey

LIGHT & SOUND TECHNICIANS..... Bob Bentrup, Bill Orrick,
Keith Hampton, Brooke Gray

STAGE CREW Maddie Gray

PROPS CREW Cheri Miller, Tavia Shively, Betty Rowold

COSTUME TEAM..... Jan Jaskiewicz, Kathy Glaenzer, Jodi Pierce

REFRESHMENTS Tammy Herzog, Pam Obradovic, Grace Herzog
Joanie Harwell, Judy Ohlau

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION..... Melissa Bohlmann, Margie Heimrich, Betty Rowold

EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY..... Mark Amen

VIDEOGRAPHER..... Rebecca Mueller

USHERS..... Kathy Poppitz, Wilma Griffith, Cheri Miller, Dotty Orrick, Mary Woehr,
Barry Rowold, Betty Rowold, Kathy Mueller, Linda Wynn, Karen Dickey, Rose Garland,,
Brian Maske, Crystal Harrison, Donna Wilkinson, Grace Wilkinson, Kevin Wilkinson, Sylvia Ryker,
Lisa Harkrader, Phil Griffith, Kathy Pongrascz, Sarah Dubberke, Jodi Pierce, Ashlyn Cunningham.

SPECIAL THANKS & GREAT APPRECIATION is given:

To our Pastors and Staff for their constant prayers and support!

∞∞∞∞∞

To the Christ Memorial Office Staff & Receptionists who helped us in so many ways:

Cheryl Becher, Debbie Perrine, Kathy Poppitz, Dana Shearman,
Elaine McFarlin, Patty Pautler, Darlene Meyer, Doris Burgherr, Susan Muse,
Margie Zugmaier, Julaine Luhmann, Nora Zimmer, Tina LaPlant, Lisa Jaacks!

∞∞∞∞∞

To Christ Memorial Men’s Club for proceeds from the BBQ for CMP.

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For Thrivent Action Team dollars!

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To John Mefford and Mike Huelsmann for providing prop guns for our cast!

∞∞∞∞∞

To Jennifer Kerner for your assistance in planning our 9/26 Sensory Friendly Performance!

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To Dayspring School of the Arts for lending set pieces and props!

∞∞∞∞∞

To Schnucks Southfield Center for the donation of frosting.

∞∞∞∞∞

To Southwestern Illinois College for Sign Language Interpretation for our 9/26 performance.

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To our Heavenly Father for guiding us each day;
And for the prayers of many in support of this production.

To God be the Glory

OUR PATRONS

Principal Patrons

★Christine & Scott Homan★Bill & Dotty Orrick★

Lead Patrons

★Dawn & Rodney Rathmann★Larry & Lynette Jost★Dennis & Jane Schmidt★

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Supporting Patrons

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★Bob & Ashlyn Cunnigham★Grace & Lloyd Fiehler★

★Paul & Sandy Fiehler★SIGMA★Bob & Joan Bevan★Elaine McFarlin★

Thank you for your support of our productions throughout the year!

CMP'S PAST PRODUCTIONS

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (November 2005)

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Encore) (November 2006)

Narnia The Musical (November 2007)

The Music Man (November 2008)

Annie (September 2009)

Disney's Beauty and the Beast (September 2010)

Bye Bye Birdie (September/October 2011)

Oliver! (September/October 2012)

Fiddler on the Roof (September 2013)

No Greater Love (April 2014)

The King and I (September 2014)

Godspell (March 2015)

Mary Poppins (September 2015)

Once Upon A Tree (March 2016)

Seussical (September 2016)

CMP Presents Erin Bode et al. (March 2017)

Meet Me in St. Louis (September 2017)

CMP Presents Remedy Drive et al. (June 2018)

The Wizard of Oz (September 2018)

The Selfish Giant (June 2019)



What Does This Mean?

OKLAHOMA! is set in the Summer of 1906 in Indian Territory, immediately before Oklahoma became a State in late 1906. Here is a glossary of some terms used in the production, terms that were common in 1906:

- Bloomers: women's long underpants, worn under a skirt.
- Box Social: at these community gatherings, women would decorate and fill a box (or "hamper") with a meal, and men would bid for the chance to enjoy the meal with the woman who prepared it.
- Camphor: a substance found in some trees and other plants, valued for its strong smell. It has been used for many purposes, including perfume, pest control, and medicine.
- Fascinator: a lightweight hat for formal occasions, often attached to a clip or band. During the time period of OKLAHOMA!, the word "fascinator" was also used to describe a lightweight scarf or shawl.
- Frog-Sticker: a knife, generally a pocket knife, carried as a weapon.
- Isinglass Curtains: thin, transparent windows made from material lighter than glass.
- Maverick: in the context of the song, a maverick is a cow that has not been branded with a mark of ownership. Maverick cattle were fairly common in the days of the open range.
- Privy: an outhouse. You might still hear this word used today as a synonym for "bathroom."
- Shivaree: a mock serenade that often included banging pots and pans, playing homemade musical instruments, shouting and off-key singing. A shivaree could be given as a celebration of a marriage, but it could also be a form of protest.
- Side-Gaited: gait refers to how a person (or horse, or other animal) walks. A "side gait" may refer to swaying side to side when one walks.
- Surrey: a four-wheeled carriage with either two or four seats.



Christ Memorial
Health Center

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- A Fitness Center that is FREE TO ALL ages 14 and older.
- Rehabilitation Program (R.E.H.A.B.) partnerships.
- Fitness Classes, such as weight loss & exercise classes. Small fees may apply.
- Personal Training
- Health Coaching
- 314.631.0304 for current Fitness Center orientation schedule
- 314.722.2106 for R.E.H.A.B. services (Lisa)

MEET THE CAST (In Alphabetical Order)

MAKAYLA ADAMS (Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is very excited to be participating in her 10th show with CMP. She is a member of Christ Memorial and has really enjoyed performing with her fellow cast. Some of her favorite shows with CMP were *Oliver*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Mary Poppins*, *Seussical* and *Meet Me in St. Louis*. She has also participated in *Newsies*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Les Miserables* at Affton High School, where she is a senior. "I want to thank my friends and family for always supporting me doing what I love!"

ANGELA BRANDOW (Armina, Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is so excited to be joining the CMP family for this production of *OKLAHOMA!* She was last seen on stage as a Steam Heat Dancer in *Pajama Game*. Past shows include *Legally Blonde* (KTK), *Legally Blonde* (Hawthorne Players), *Guys and Dolls* (KTG), *Bye Bye Birdie* (O'Fallon Theater Works), and *Peter Pan* (MOBAP). Thanks for all the constant love and support from all my friends and family!

BEN CLEMENTS (Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to make a return to the CMP stage after being on stage crew for *Seussical*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, and *Wizard of Oz*. He was last seen on this stage as a goblet in *Beauty and the Beast*. Ben has been an active audience member at CMP since *Joseph* and appreciates the entertainment provided by this theater group. He is a senior at Lutheran South where he is also involved with theater. He was on the lighting crew for *Almost, Maine* and *The Little Mermaid*. Ben had the privilege to play the Dark Figure in *Clue* and King Sextimus in *Once Upon a Mattress* for his school's shows last year. He is excited to add *OKLAHOMA!* to his resume and would like to thank CMP for this opportunity and more to come. Enjoy the show!

BEL DA SILVA (Kate, Can-Can Dancer, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be returning to the CMP stage as Kate in *OKLAHOMA!* Bel took a hiatus from community theater to pursue degrees in Vocal Performance and Spanish from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and hasn't been on the CMP stage since she played Tuptim in CMPs *The King and I* for which she was nominated for an Arts for Life award. While college has been fun, she's is excited to come back to her community theater "home" for her 30th Production! Her favorite roles include Cinderella in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, Katisha in *The Mikado* and Baba the turk in Stravinski's *The Rake's Progress* (SIUE Opera theatre) the when she's not on stage rehearsing for a show, she's arranging A capella music for her collegiate Acapella group or planning her next traveling adventure! She'd like to give huge thank you's to thank her family, boyfriend and Vocal coach Dr. Emily Truckenbrod for their support over the years!

SCOTT DEGITZ-FRIES (Curly McClain) is ecstatic to be back for his 2nd CMP show (Conrad Birdie: *Bye Bye Birdie*). Favorite local roles include Frolo (*Hunchback*), Javert (*Les Mis*), Corny Collins (*Hairspray*), Harry Bright (*Mamma Mia*), Utterson (*Jekyll/Hyde*), Zoser (*Aida*), Aldolpho (*Drowsy Chap*), & Mike (*Chorus Line*). Scott models for Azalea Agency & can be seen on TV, film, print, & runway (currently TV ads (Bedroom Store, Dobbs, & HSN) & movie (*The Layover*). Scott holds a B.S. in Mathematics, a M.A. in Math Education, & is an NBCT. He teaches Calculus at Parkway South & directs Voices4Hymn praise team at Community Christian Church. He sends huge thanks to Kathy, Kevin, Kim, Heather, Mike & Heyl for all their help, & love to Brian, Austin, Caleb & Hayden for supporting his passion for theatre.

ARDEN DICKSON (Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is ecstatic to be making her CMP debut alongside such a talented group. Most recently, Arden performed in STAGES St. Louis' *101 Dalmatians*. She would like to give a huge thank you to her family, Rebecca Pantano, and her best friend James for always being her greatest supporters.=

AARON DRAKE (Andrew Carnes, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to be making his CMP debut. His most recent performance was as Albert in *Bye, Bye Birdie*. He would like to thank the amazingly talented cast and staff and his family for the incredible support.

KAYLA DRESSMAN (Dream Laurey, Ensemble Chorus) is so incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to revisit one of her favorite roles. Favorite St. Louis credits include a Hot Box Girl in *Guys and Dolls* (Stray Dog), Chastity in *Anything Goes* (MBU), and a Silly Girl in *Beauty and the Beast* (Alfresco Productions). She has received training from St. Louis Ballet and Ballet Chicago. So much love to her friends and family.

KATHY EICHELBERGER (Vocal Director, Ensemble Chorus, Can-Can Dancer) is thrilled to be participating in her fifth CMP production. She wants to thank CMP for this opportunity to be a part of this wonderful show. She also wants to give a shout out to her husband for being her favorite Eich (Ike)!

ROB EICHELBERGER (Ike Skidmore, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to be performing in his 3rd CMP production. He is especially grateful to his wife Kathy, who got him on stage for the first time ever only 2 years ago. Rob sells electrical equipment for Eaton Corporation during the daytime hours. He would like to thank Kathy, Anna and Andrew for their love and support. Soli Deo Gloria.

CHARLIE FOY (Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be participating in his first CMP show! He would like to thank all the cast and crew for making his first show so memorable and fun. Enjoy the show!

MARGARET GARDNER (Youth Ensemble Chorus) is a fifth grader at Central Christian School, and this is her second musical theater performance this year. She enjoys dancing, playing the violin and ukulele, and making iMovies. Her last role was as Tootie, in Westminster Christian Academy's award-winning production of *Meet Me in St. Louis*. She especially thanks her friends and family for encouraging her and driving her to lessons.

JESS GERST (Can-Can Dancer, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be in the cast of *OKLAHOMA!* Jess is a graduate of Missouri Baptist. In addition to theater and dance, Jess keeps very busy with her new job, working on her Masters degree and coaching volleyball. She would like to thank her family and husband for all the love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!

BROOKE HARRISON (Youth Ensemble Chorus) Is excited to be back at CMP for *OKLAHOMA!* Brooke was in CMP's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Brooke loves singing, hockey and spending time with her friends.

HAYDEN HAYS (Will Parker) known by many as "The Wise Old Wizard of the North" is very excited to be playing Will Parker. Hayden is a 2nd degree black belt as well as an instructor in Kuk Sool Won. His recent credits include Sky in *Mamma Mia* and Chip in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He hopes you love him like he loves you. Also he owns a dragon! (kind of)

BRIANNA HERNANDEZ (Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is a Senior at Grand Center Arts Academy (GCAA). Was previously in GCAA's *Shrek The Musical*. Most recently, Brianna was in the cast of the Muni's *Kinky Boots*. Brianna is excited to be in her first CMP production. She has ventured into musical theater within the past year after being in several dance shows and performances. She is excited to perform in this CMP production and is grateful to have worked with the cast! Brianna would like to thank her friends for pushing her to excel in her performances, and her family for supporting her. Enjoy the show!

MIKE HUELSMANN (Judd Frey) This is Mike's first CMP Production, but his second time playing Judd in *Oklahoma!*. *Oklahoma!* plays a special roll in his heart as it is the first musical in which he ever performed in High School. Since then he has also directed the show twice making this his 5th production of this classic musical. He often shares the stage and his love for community theatre with the love of his life Lynne for which he is very grateful and thanks her for all of her support, even from a long distance. Lyla! He also wants to say a final thank you to all who have made the trip across the river, or from wherever, to watch him perform, and to those with whom he has shared the various stages in the St. Louis Metro, as this will be his last production in the area with a move down to Alabama at the close of the show.

TONY JASKIEWICZ (Mike, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be returning to the CMP stage for his fifth show. When he's not on stage, or causing mayhem with his Warner siblings back stage, Tony enjoys time with his super supportive family and friends, and of course his very patient dog, Piper. She is very good about letting her human go to rehearsals, as long as she gets treats when he gets home. Also, big thanks to the talented and hard working cast and crew of *OKLAHOMA!*, and thank you to God for bringing all of us together. Tony hopes you have as much fun watching the show as the cast does performing for you. Enjoy!

ROBERT JONES (Jess Chalmers, Ensemble Chorus) This is Robert's fifth show with CMP and glad to be working with this amazing company again. Past CMP shows include *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble), *Meet Me in St. Louis* (Mr. McNeely), *Wizard of Oz* (Crow/Winkie), and *Seussical* (Grinch). Other roles include Stanley Garnder in Theatre Guild of Webster Groves production of *Run for Your Wife*, Phelim O'Shaughnessy in Act Two's productions of *Is He Dead*, Rogers in *And Then There Were None* with Arnold Community Theatre Troupe, and The Main in Chair in *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

JENNIFER KERNER (Ensemble Chorus) is in her eighth CMP show, with past roles here including Aunt Em in *The Wizard of Oz*, a Bird Girl in *Seussical*, and Old Sally in *Oliver!*. Favorite roles elsewhere: Veta Louise Simmons in *Harvey*, Mrs. Tottendale in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, Ma Strong in *Urinetown*, Lenya Zubritsky in *Fools*, and belting "Light of the World" in *Godspell*. Jen is a festival performer on Main Street in St. Charles, an advocate for inclusion in the arts, and a proud resident of the autism spectrum. Thanks to my "Warner brothers" Robert and Tony for making my life fun, and to YOU for being here! The arts are for all!

JIM KIMKER (Sam, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be a part of his first Christ Memorial Production. He loves performing with long time friends AND exciting new talents. He began dancing the second semester of second grade when enrolled in an all boys tap and tumbling class. By June he had performed in his first recital and auditioned and was cast at the Muny. He continued for three more years at the Muny. He danced and performed in the junior company of the St. Louis Civic Ballet, started teaching dance, and performed in live shows the first three years that Six Flags Over Mid-America opened. He continued to perform in college, took a break, then restarted performing, choreographing. and teaching dance. He presently teaches at Skystone Conservatory and for St. Louis Dancing Classrooms. He recently was honored to judge the 2019 Ms. Senior America in the St. Louis Region.

SOPHIE KLUBA (Gertie Cummings, All or Nothin, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to be performing in her first CMP show and first Rogers and Hammerstein musical! Some credits include *Mamma Mia* with Take Two Productions and *The Crucible* with Meramec Theatre as Elizabeth Proctor. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of their support. Shoutouts to Stefanie and Hayden for being her pals and bros (literally) during the process of this show. Love you guys. Enjoy the show!

STEFANIE KLUBA (Girl in All or Nothin, Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus, Dance Captain) is thrilled to be performing in her first show at Christ Memorial Productions! Previous credits this year include: Sophie in *Mamma Mia* (St. Dominic Community Theatre), Peaseblossom in *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (R-S Theatrics), and Logainne in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (O'Fallon Theatreworks). She is very excited to be performing with her sister Sophie and boyfriend Hayden! Enjoy! Kluba is thrilled to be performing in her first show at Christ Memorial Productions! Previous credits this year include: Sophie in *Mamma Mia* (St. Dominic Community Theatre), Peaseblossom in *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (R-S Theatrics), and Logainne in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (O'Fallon Theatreworks). She is very excited to be performing with her sister Sophie and boyfriend Hayden! Enjoy!

CALEB LONG (Dream Curly, Slim, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to be making his CMP debut! Favorite past credits include: Willard Hewitt (*Footloose*), Lord Farquaad (*Shrek*), and Smudge (*Forever Plaid*). Alumni of The Conservatory at Southeast Missouri State, BFA Musical Theatre. Caleb would like to thank his family and friends for constant support and Patti LuPone for constant inspiration. @no_this_is_caleb

RACHEL MACKENZIE (Vivian, Bridesmaid, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) is 18 years old and is a Senior at Grand Center Arts Academy and a part of their thespian troupe. She loves musical theater and has performed in CMP productions since she was 3 years old. Rachel is very excited to be in this production of *OKLAHOMA!*, her 17th production with CMP, and thanks God for the opportunity to work with such an awesome cast.

HEATHER MATTHEWS (Laurey Williams) is so happy to return to the CMP stage after last being seen here as Mary in *Mary Poppins*. Around town she has been seen as Mary Magdalene in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Janet in *The Rocky Show*. Outside of theater, Heather enjoys country life, working on her mini-farm and spending time with her husband and 2 year old son. Thank you to the CMP team for yet another great experience.

DELANEY MCCOY (Youth Ensemble Dancer, Youth Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be back on the CMP stage with this amazing cast and crew! She loved being in *Wizard of Oz* last fall! Delaney's most memorable performance was in the Muny's production of *Annie* as an orphan. She has been performing in community theatre shows since she was just 4 years old! Delaney takes dance at Charmette Academy of Dance and voice lessons with Lisa Casciola. She is also on her middle school dance team! She would like to thank CMP, the audience and her friends and family for their support.

DIANNE MUELLER (Aunt Eller Murphy, Production Implementation, Set Design and Construction) has been a member of Christ Memorial since 1992 and has been involved in all aspects of the music and theatrical ministries of our congregation. Dianne has performed on stage since the age of four. She thanks God for the opportunity to perform in this production of *OKLAHOMA!* and for a wonderful cast and crew who have made being a part of this production a joy. Dianne has been involved in all of CMP's productions and has previously directed CMPS's productions of *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Seussical*, *Godspell*, *Once Upon a Tree* and *The Wizard of Oz!*. She has also performed with Bravo, Backrow Ministries, Family Musical Theater and Kirkwood Theater Guild. Dianne shares her love of music and theater with her husband, Gregg, who is playing piano in this show, and with her talented daughters, Rebecca & Rachel.

ELLA MYERS (Youth Ensemble Dancer, Youth Ensemble Chorus) is an eighth grader at Ridgewood Middle School. This is her first time being in a musical and is so glad to be doing it with CMP! In her free time, Ella enjoys singing, dancing, and playing the piano. She would like to thank her Mom, Dad, little sister Leanna, and friends for all the support! Enjoy the show!

JESSIE OWENS (Slyvie, Ensemble Chorus) is excited to be back with Christ Memorial Productions and is very blessed to be a part of this awesome cast and crew. She was recently in Christ Memorial's production of *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchin chorus, Ozian and Polisher), the White Rabbit in Missouri Baptist's *Shrek*; Teen Dance ensemble in CMP's *Meet me in St. Louis*; Nibs in Missouri Baptist's *Peter Pan*; Sour Kangaroo in CMPS's *Seussical!* which she got Nominated for best supporting actress. Jessie has performed in Westminster Christian Academy's and COCA's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*. She has also been in Westminster's *My Fair Lady*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Ugly Duckling*. Jessie has also been in Missouri Baptist's production of *Bye Bye Birdie*. She has also been in Westminster's Concert choir and Chamber choir, and been in The University of Iowa's Woman's Choir. Jessie has been taking Voice for 10 years. Jessie wants to thank everyone who put hard work in this show and she hopes you enjoy the show!

JOHN PERKS (Ensemble Chorus) is having a great time in his first show with Christ Memorial Productions. He has performed with several church theater groups: The Archangel Players, Magdalen Players, and The St. George Theater Group in south St. Louis, as well as Webster Groves Theater Guild, Family Musical Theater, KTK, and The Fr. Scheid Players. He especially enjoys performing with his real wife, Ana Mary Perks, in roles where they get to be a stage couple. He also enjoys building the sets on shows he is in. Being in *OKLAHOMA!* has brought him back together with lots of old theater friends and made him some new ones.

ANA MARY VIGIL PERKS (Ensemble Chorus) is enjoying performing with her husband, John (Fred), at CMP with such a talented and fun cast & crew. They've been in many community theater groups' productions, including Fr. Scheid Players, Archangel Players, St. George Parish Theater, ND Funtimers & FMT. Favorite roles include Yente, Mayor's wife in *Music Man*, and Joe's wife in *Damn Yankees*, opposite John as Joe.

TAFra "TAFFY" PERRYMAN (Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to be performing on the CMP stage with this talented cast and crew for the very first time! Past credits include *Annie*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Dearly Departed*, and *Music Man*. Taffy is an RN, pianist, and proud "Gaga" to her 3 (and soon to be 4!) grandchildren. Her next important role will be "The Happy Bride" when she marries her fiancé Tom in November!

ALLY PIERCE (Youth Ensemble Chorus) is very excited to make her musical debut with her amazing CMP *Oklahoma* cast & crew! Ally has received extensive dance and performance training through Charmette Academy of Dance. Ally loves all things Broadway and dreams of gracing the Great White Way when she grows up!

EMILY PIERCE (Youth Ensemble Dancer, Youth Ensemble Chorus) is thrilled to make her musical debut alongside her talented CMP *Oklahoma* cast & crew! Emily has received extensive dance and performance training through Charmette Academy of Dance. Emily can't wait to share her love of dance and song with others!

SARAH POLIZZI (Ado Annie Carnes) is thrilled to join the CMP family! What do you say when presented the opportunity to perform in such a beloved classic? Well, you "Cain't Say No"! Some of her favorite roles include Elle Woods (*Legally Blonde*) Mrs. Meers (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*), Rusty (*Footloose*), Janet (*The Rocky Horror Show*), Eve (*Children of Eden*) & Kitty (*The Drowsy Chaperone*). Sarah is an AFL BPA Nominee and Winner. Thank you so much for supporting local arts!

KEITH POPPITZ (Ali Hakim, Ensemble Chorus) Keith is no stranger to the CMP stage. He is excited to be back for his 14th Fall Musical with Christ Memorial Productions. He has been involved with CMP since its' beginning in 2005. Keith's favorite role, Tevye, in CMP's 2013 production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, earned him the Arts For Life LeeAnn Smith Cho Best Musical Performance Award. Off stage, Keith is celebrating his 18th year as a Financial Advisor with

Thrivent Financial. Thank you to my lovely wife, Kathy, for all of her support and encouragement and for having to listen to my “Persian” dialect around the house; and to the great cast and production crew that have shared their God-given talents with us this year. You have been a blessing to me, the community, and to our Theater Ministry here at Christ Memorial. To God be the glory!

ROMAN RYKER (Youth Ensemble Chorus) is a seventh grader at Westminster Christian Academy. He is very thankful for CMP giving him his break in *Meet Me ins St. Louis* and *The Wizard of Oz* and now in his 3rd CMP production. He played Schlomo Metzenbaum in *Fame Jr.* at Buekkle Middle School and was selected for the Mehlville District All Honors elementary choir. His is so grateful for CMP because these experiences have enabled him a life he would not have dreamed of just a few years ago. Many thanks to God, Christ Memorial Church and the chance to work with the talented CMP cast and crew.

BROOKE SUSIC (Youth Ensemble Chorus and Youth Ensemble Dancer) is thrilled to appear in her second production with CMP. She is a fourth-grader at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Des Peres. Brooke is very passionate about the arts. She plays piano and is now in her 5th year with the Stars of Tomorrow Dance Team at Charmette Academy of Dance where she competes in jazz, hip hop, tap, and contemporary routines.

CAETLYN VAN BUREN (Ensemble Chorus) holds a master's in vocal performance from Washington University in STL and has sung locally with Union Avenue Opera, Gateway Opera, Winter Opera STL, etc. Last year Caetlyn wrote and directed '15 Minute Mozarts' for Gateway Opera; "The fresh, hilarious librettos display sheer comic genius of that marvel, Caetlyn Van Buren. Ms. Van Buren also is stage director for the production and she shines in the role... everything is so professionally polished. It's very much at the level of the Monty Python team but with superb operatic voices." (Steve Callahan, KDHX).

ASHLEY WILKINSON (Ellen, Can-Can Dancer, Ensemble Dancer, Ensemble Chorus) has loved CMP since a stint in *The King and I* six years ago. Then life happened and she watched from a distance missing her CMP family oodles and oodles. Now, one grad degree and baby later, she is so excited to rejoin the fam in *OKLAHOMA!* Thanks to her hubby Dave for taking on a lot more so she could carve out this time for self care.

MARLEY WRIGHT (Youth Ensemble Dancer, Youth Ensemble Chorus) is a fifth grader at Pierremont Elementary in the Parkway West School District. Marley is a Student of Charmette Academy of Dance and Acrobats and is about to start her 5th year as a Competitive Dancer for their Stars of Tomorrow Dance Team. Marley also enjoys playing the Cello, making Slime, and swimming with friends. Marley is honored for this opportunity to be a part of *OKLAHOMA!* and her first show with CMP. She hopes you enjoy the show.

MARTIN ZAHN (Cord Elam, Ensemble Chorus) This is Martin's first show with CMP although he has been performing locally for over 30 years since his college days when he majored in engineering and business, both of which have nothing to do with theatre. He has a penchant for comedies (his favorite role is Mortimer in *Arsenic and Old Lace*) and murder-mystery theatre productions, but appreciates the demands of a musical. "It's kinda funny how I keep getting cast as a lawman lately; I'm either solving a crime or committing one!" Martin hopes that this is not his last show with CMP: "There are a lot of talented, committed people here, and I'm honored to be included in this circle." Martin would like to thank family and friends for 'putting up him.' For Patricia, Adam & Caitlin – you make life fun!

Congrats on your debut Ella. We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad and Leanna

MEET THE PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

BOB BENTRUP (Sound Board) is thrilled to be working with CMP as part of *OKLAHOMA!* crew. He is a long time member of Christ Memorial, where he is actively involved in all aspects of the church's sound needs. He hopes everyone enjoys this fantastic show.

KIMBERLY CLEMENTS (Properties Manager) has been to all the CMP shows and is excited and honored to be serving as property manager. She shares a love of theater with her son Benjamin (Ensemble member) and daughter Emily and husband Mark. When she is not enjoying theater, she teaches kindergarten at Abiding Savior Lutheran School. Thanks to a great team who helped collect and create all the props. Enjoy the show!

KEVIN JONES (Director) is excited to be directing this performance of *OKLAHOMA!* He has worked with CMP before as costume designer and has previously won two AFL awards for costume design for *Joseph* and *Evita*, both with Family Musical Theater. When not working he is enjoying relaxing in his wooded mountain top home! Thanks to the cast and crew of *OKLAHOMA!* for their constant support and friendship.

LARRY JOST (CMP Business Manager/Sound Design) enjoys mixing sound and doing post production work. He has been involved with all of CMP's productions, assists with sound for Day-Spring Arts & Education's productions and at various other theater groups and events, and most recently worked with NextGen on their production of *Tuck Everlasting*. He is married to Lynette Jost and is a member of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. We hope you enjoy this production and meet some new friends along the way!

LYNETTE JOST (House Manager / Ticketing Director / Publicity) has been involved in each of CMP's productions, is a long time member of Christ Memorial and a paralegal at The Law Offices of Joanne M. Descher, LLC. Lynette enjoys volunteering for various projects at Christ Memorial and frequenting other community theater venues. She is married to Larry (see Larry's bio above) and they have two sons. Thank you for joining us, enjoy the show and come visit us again sometime.

KIMBERLY KLICK (Choreographer) is excited to be back choreographing for her 4th CMP show having previously done *Oliver!*, *The King & I* and *Mary Poppins*. She has over 15 years of dance training from Nathalie Levine, Betty McRoberts, Mark Krupinski & others. Kim is a 9 time AFL Best Performance Award winner, most recently receiving the Best Choreography Award for *Mary Poppins* at CMP. Thank you to the cast & crew for all your hard work. Hugs & Kisses to Pat, Natalie & Hannah for letting Mommy play!

LAUREN KREIENKAMP (Stage Manager) is thrilled to join CMP's *OKLAHOMA!* crew. Previous credits include, but are certainly not limited to, dangling from a rope backstage in *Godspell*, army crawling behind the set of *The King and I*, and wrestling with a magical table throughout the run of *Mary Poppins*. During her free time, Lauren enjoys reading, rocky road ice cream, and ridiculously punny memes. Thanks to CMP for 7 wonderful years of stage management. Love to Stephen and Baby K.

GREGG MUELLER (Rehearsal Accompanist / keyboards) Gregg has been playing music at Christ Memorial for more than 30 years, beginning with playing the organ for Sunday services at the age of 16. Currently, Gregg mentors youth musicians and plays keyboards and guitars for Christ Memorial's contemporary service, occasionally plays the pipe organ, and considers music "a hobby that has gone completely out of control!" Gregg has played for every CMP show and also plays for many other theater companies in the metro area. Gregg actually finds doing these productions relaxing and considers the nightly rehearsals the best part of his day. Favorite shows from the past year include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Freaky Friday*, *Company*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Gregg also enjoys photography, Nintendo, board games, shooting sports,

puttering around the garden, and tormenting the children. This year, Gregg was lucky enough to get his dream car, a 2013 Camaro Super Sport, which he races in Autocross, and a new dream job! Gregg endorses Kurzweil Professional Keyboards and Dr. Pepper products for which to date he has received no compensation.

BILL ORRICK (Tech Team) I am happy to be working with the Tech Team for *OKLAHOMA!*. I have been part of CMP since the second *Joseph* where I ran the light board and in following years handling microphones backstage and assisting on the sound board. The one exception, I played the part of mayor in *Bye Bye Birdie*. I quickly decided that is not where I belong. Any place I can help with or work on the tech crew is where I belong.

KATHY POPPITZ (Facility Coordination) This will be the 15th year for Kathy to be involved with CMP. Her role will be off stage readying rooms, examining schedules, checking space for practice and helping with tickets. Kathy is employed here at Christ Memorial Lutheran as Volunteer coordinator for the office and assistant to the Director of Worship. She will definitely be keeping an eye on Ali Hakim played by her husband Keith Poppitz - Solo Deo Gloria – Glory to God alone.

KRYSTA WENSKI (Costume Design) is excited to return to the CMP crew. Previously, she did costume design for CMP's *Seussical Meet Me in St. Louis* and assisted in costuming for CMP's *Mary Poppins* and *The Wizard of Oz!* Krysta has also appeared in ODT's *Honk!*, *Moby Dick the Musical*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Recently she performed and choreographed in Columbia Theatre Project's *The Wizard of Oz*. A talented artist, she has also done stagecraft, costuming, and make-up for many productions in Saint Louis, as well as set design, costuming, and make-up for the Lindsborg (KS) Theater in the Park productions of *Oklahoma!*, *Music Man*, and *The Crucible*. Krysta would like to thank her family for their love and support, and express her deep gratitude to her many friends, old and new, in the cast and crew!

MEET THE ORCHESTRA

KELLY AUSTERMANN (Clarinet) is returning to CMP after performing in the orchestra for *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Selfish Giant*. She teaches clarinet at several area colleges, high schools, and middle schools. She also maintains a private clarinet studio. She is currently principal clarinetist with the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra and the Gateway Festival Orchestra. (<https://kellyaustermann.wixsite.com/kellyaustermann>)

DAVID BODE (Trombone) is back for his 13th straight CMP production! A graduate of St. Olaf College and the Indiana University school of music, David now works for Stephen Ministries where he serves as Director of Information Technology. David lives in Ballwin with his wife, Julie, and their music-loving two-and-a-half-year-old son, Henry.

COLLEEN M. DONOHUE (Flute) is an attorney with a practice focused in estate planning and administration. While this is Colleen's third CMP production, she has performed in pit orchestras for over fifty productions. Colleen performs with the Northwinds Concert Band, North County Community Big Band, and is the treasurer of the Flute Society of Saint Louis.

BOB GELLMAN (Trumpet) University of Wisconsin, Madison, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Principal, Advisor, Buckingham Strategic Wealth, has played with Northwinds Concert Band (with Joe Paule) for many years along with doing other musicals and I look forward to *OKLAHOMA!* his first CMP production.

MARILYN HUMISTON (Violin) recently retired after 31 years as a string educator. During her 26 years in the Parkway School District, she completed 12 years as the Assistant Orchestra Director for the Parkway South High School orchestras. She was the recipient of the 2001

St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Merit Award and The 2013 Hall of Fame Award. A native of St. Louis, Mrs. Humiston earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her master's degree from Lindenwood University. Married for 45 years, she and her late husband, Ron have two married children Sara and Daniel. The darlings of her life are three grandchildren, Hunter, Jaden and Addison. In her free time she loves to play for community theater, read and tennis.

HANNA KROEGER (Violin) returns for her 2nd CMP production. Hanna is a 2017 graduate of Webster University, where she earned her degree in instrumental music education. She is currently teaching orchestra in the Rockwood School District, while also performing with several different ensembles throughout the St. Louis area. Thank you to everyone for their hard work on this production!

ANNA KUSCHEL (Oboe) is thrilled to make her orchestral debut with CMP. In the past she has performed onstage in eight other productions at Christ Memorial. She is a sophomore at Lutheran South, where she recently performed in the pit orchestra of their production of *Once Upon a Mattress*. She loves playing the oboe, and is excited to have the opportunity to perform with this extremely talented cast, orchestra, and crew.

DRAGOMIR PAGE (Viola) is a sophomore at Webster University studying Music Composition. While voice is his primary instrument, you can find him playing piano or viola in pits around STL. Dragomir has won and honorable mention from Mizzou's composer competition as well as composing for Missouri states composer recital. He also co-arranged the opening piece to the VP parade in 2017. Page is also studying with NASM to be a certified personal trainer!

MICHAEL D. BOONE (Harp) went to UMSL and graduated Magnum Cum Laude with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. As a freelance harpist, he's had the opportunity to perform with many orchestras, bands, pit orchestras, and chamber groups, throughout the greater St. Louis area. He served as the Southern Regional Director for the American Harp Society for six years and President of the local chapter for ten. He has been recognized by the St. Louis Links and Band Together in honor of many years of service. He studied the harp with Laura Hearne and Maria Pinckney.

DEBORAH THUET (Percussion) has taught band and general music in the Hazelwood School District for 21 years. Deborah has a Bachelor's in Music Performance from the University of North Texas and a Masters in Music Education from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. Deborah is a percussionist and has performed in various groups around the world along with performing on T.V. and on the radio. In recent years, Deborah has been a percussionist with the Gateway Orchestra, the St. Louis Wind Symphony, the St. Louis Philharmonic, along with her church Praise Band and various other groups. Deborah is presently the timpanist for the St. Louis Philharmonic and the drum set player for the Queens of Swing. Deborah has taught with Band for Today since August 2018.



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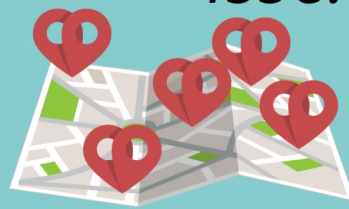
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