DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Little Women is a great American classic published in two volumes in 1868/69 a few years after the Civil War ended in 1865. Some say it is the first novel describing the "All-American girl" as seen in different aspects through the four March sisters' experiences. The title, *Little Women*, could be a reference to a term of those days that "little women" were girls that were coming of age, no longer children and not quite yet adults.

This was the first book about girls that Louisa May Alcott wrote. She was hesitant to write about girls and resorted to being semi-autobiographical in finding the source material for the stories. Though initially she was not happy with the work, her nieces who read it were enthused and so she published it and it was an instant success.

Since then, there have been numerous adaptations of the story in theater and film. Some stars who have played roles in the story include Katherine Hepburn, Winona Ryder, Saoirse Ronan (Jo); Janet Leigh, Emma Watson (Meg); Claire Danes, Eliza Scanlen (Beth); and Elizabeth Taylor, Florence Pugh (Amy). The Broadway musical we present premiered in 2005 on Broadway with Sutton Foster as Jo. The show captures the essence and vitality of the March story through thoughtful dialogue and clever song lyrics. Throughout the show there are classic moments of comedy and grief that many families experience at one time or another. We think you will be humming the songs and thinking of the March family fondly as you go up the trail today.

~ Craig Schieber



Ray Puddicombe (8/5/1924 - 5/18/2021)

Little Women is dedicated to Ray, a 69 year member of The Mountaineers Players

Ray was involved in many shows at KFT. His first show was *Green Valley* (1952) and his last time on stage was as the Gorilla/ lifeguard in *High Button Shows* (2009), a show that he lobbied to get produced at KFT for almost 20 years!



He was instrumental in creating the Memorial Picnic tables on the property to honor the memory of previous Players. He fiercely loved KFT and never wanted to see a tree taken down, and always let his strong opinions be known! We will miss his independent spirit and easy laugh. He donated to KFT yearly to help suport his beloved theater. RIP Ray!

ANNOUNCING OUR 2022 SEASON!

We are more than excited to finally bring you these popular shows originally scheduled for 2020.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Bend in the Road — The Anne of Green Gables Musical

Auditions for limited roles in February. See our website for more details.

BIG TREE TRAIL

One of the delights of the Mountaineers' Kitsap Forest Theater is being surrounded by the Keta Legacy Foundation Rhododendron Preserve – a 460 acre nature conservancy with over 70 acres of old-growth forest. Ancient western red cedars abound with many other trees, ferns and wildlife. One of the biggest trees on the Kitsap Peninsula is located on the preserve. The trail to 'Big Tree' is about 1/2 mile long and starts near the historic Kitsap Cabin, ending at one of the 10 largest Douglas Fir trees in the world (2nd largest in Kitsap County). The tree itself is over 30' in diameter. The hike takes you on a bridge over Wildcat Creek with views of Hidden Valley, blooming trillium, wild rhododendrons and many other native trees and plants. You truly feel as if you have entered another world.

If you hike the trail after the show, please be sure your car is not blocking anyone in. Please note that the first part of the trail is steep – wear walking shoes and enjoy your trek into another time and place!

The Mountaineers Players Committee (2020-2021)

Kitsap/Players Coordinator	Jerry Dreessen
Players' Chair	Jenny Dreessen
Vice-Chair	Carol Stanley
Treasurer	Cindy Raven
Secretary	Laura Howell
Committee	Joan Barrera, Jerry Dreessen, Kelly Flynt, Holly Girouard, Danette Lam, Andrea McDonald, Jeff Pettiross, Stefanie Somers, Beaven Walters
Kitsap Cabin co-Chairs	Gala & Brian Lindvall
Gardner Hicks Theater Chairs	George Pledger & Chris Stanley
Costume Rental Manager/Kitsap Cabin Kitchen Manager	Jenny Dreessen
Kitsap Property Caretaker	Travis Foreman

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Are you interested in learning more about the magical instrument all of us carry within us? Whether you are a young singer interested in learning to sing like your favorite Disney Princess, or an advanced singer looking to further your skills, Ila is a vocal coach specializing in teaching musical theater and classical voice, as well as pop, folk, and bluegrass styles. Schedule your introductory lesson today!

Tree House Play Structure - Come Play!

Check out our fabulous Tree House next to Kitsap Cabin and let your kids' imaginations soar to new heights! Thanks to Lisa Simpson, Brian Fielder and Travis Foreman for their donation of time, money, design and building expertise.



Foreman's Forest Works • 360-536-8960

Travis Foreman, the Kitsap Forest Theater caretaker, has left his mark all over the property – notice the benches, fences, arbors, swings, and mushrooms. Contact him for a custom piece of yard art to grace your yard.

Kitsap Forest Adventure Camp

play ★ explore ★ create

Did you know that we offer two one-week day camps for kids in grades K-4th grade every July *and* that we offer transportation from Seattle *and* a Friday overnight for families? It's a great way to unplug your kids. It fills up every year; sign-ups start in January. See our web site for details.

Find us on Facebook — Kitsap Forest Theater

POST A COMMENT OR REVIEW

Did you enjoy your visit to our magical theater?

Become a theater ambassador and spread the word about this special place. Tell your friends, post a review on our facebook page, share our website, put our postcards and posters around.



LITTLE WOMEN

the broadway musical

Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 pm

June 12 • 13, 19 • 20, 26 • 27

July 10 • 11, 17 • 18, 24 • 25

Aug 7 • 8, 14 • 15, 21 • 22

Louisa Cast • Alcott Cast

Director:	Craig Schieber
Music Director:	Dawn Brazel
Choreographer:	Guy Caridi
Costumes:	Ila Faubion Dreessen Jenny Dreessen
Sets:	Danette Lam Chris Stanley
Props:	Stewart Shusterman

Kitsap Forest Theater — Mountaineers Players

Little Women, The Broadway Musical

Book by Allan Knee • Music by Jason Howland • Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein

Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott

Little Women is presented by the Mountaineers Players through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials supplied by MTI • www.mtishows.com

Help ensure future generations experience the magic!

Thanks to the donors/volunteers who keep this magical theater thriving. Donate your time and money today to keep the tradition alive!

Please visit **www.ForestTheater.com** and click the ***donate*** tab for more info. Call 206-542-7815 or email players@foresttheater.com with questions.

Thanks for your support of the Mountaineers Players/Kitsap Forest Theater.

www.ForestTheater.com

Little Women — Synopsis of Scenes

Act One

Overture

Scene 1 **Mrs. Kirk's NYC Boarding House – Summer 1865**
An Operatic Tragedy ..... Jo, Clarissa, Braxton, Rodrigo
Better ..... Jo
The Attic – Christmas Eve 1863
Our Finest Dreams ..... Jo, Meg, Beth, Amy
The March Parlor
Here Alone ..... Marmee

Scene 2 **Aunt March's House – Early Winter 1864**
Could You ..... Aunt March, Jo

Scene 3 **The March Parlor – February 14, 1864**
Delighted ..... Marmee, Meg, Jo, Beth
Annie Moffat's Ball
Take a Chance on Me ..... Laurie
The Attic
Better (Reprise) ..... Jo

Scene 4 **The March Parlor – end of Winter 1864**
Off to Massachusetts ..... Beth, Mr. Laurence
Five Forever ..... Jo, Laurie, Amy, Meg, Beth

Scene 5 **The March Parlor – early Spring 1865**
More Than I Am ..... Mr. Brooke, Meg

Scene 6 **The Attic – May 1865**
Take a Chance on Me (Reprise) ..... Laurie
Astonishing ..... Jo

Act Two

Entr'acte

Scene 1 **Mrs. Kirk's NYC Boarding House – June 1866**
The Weekly Volcano Press ..... Jo, Braxton, Clarissa, Rodrigo, Hag, Troll, Knight, Rodrigo Too, Mrs. Kirk, Professor Bhaer

Scene 2 **March Parlor – Summer 1866**
Off to Massachusetts (Reprise) ..... Beth, Mr. Laurence, Marmee, Meg, Mr. Brooke
Mrs. Kirk's NYC Boarding House – Summer 1866
How I Am ..... Professor Bhaer

Scene 3 **Beach in Falmouth, Cape Cod – September 1866**
Some Things are Meant to Be ..... Jo, Beth

Scene 4 **March Parlor - Winter 1867**
The Most Amazing Thing ..... Amy, Laurie
The Attic
Days of Plenty ..... Marmee
The Fire Within Me ..... Jo

Scene 5 **The March Parlor – Spring 1867**
Small Umbrella in the Rain ..... Professor Bhaer, Jo
Volcano (Reprise) ..... Jo

Cast of Characters

Louisa Cast

June 12-13, 26-27, July 10, 24-25, August 14-15

Jo March ..... Jasmine Harrick
Professor Bhaer ..... Leif Layman
Meg March/Clarissa ..... Daire Byrne
John Brooke/Braxton ..... * Matt Howe
Beth March/Rodrigo 2 ..... ★ Juliette Jones
Amy March/Troll ..... Anna Vizzare
Laurie Laurence/Rodrigo ..... * Kevin Tanner
Marmee March/Hag ..... Meagan Castillo
Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk ..... Dawn Brazel
Mr. Laurence/Knight ..... Tod Harrick

* **July 10: Brooke played by Kevin Tanner; Laurie played by Liam Loughridge**

Alcott Cast

June 19-20, July 11, 17-18, August 7-8, 21-22

Jo March ..... Ila Faubion Dreessen
Professor Bhaer ..... Anthony Dreessen
Meg March/Clarissa ..... Katie Dreessen
John Brooke/Braxton ..... Kevin Tanner
Beth March/Rodrigo 2 ..... Luciana Barrera
Amy March/Troll ..... Libby McDonald
Laurie Laurence/Rodrigo ..... Liam Loughridge
Marmee March/Hag ..... Jenny Dreessen
Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk ..... ** Becky Eastgard
Mr. Laurence/Knight ..... John Lange

** **August 7-8: Aunt March played by Dawn Brazel**

★ Dance Captain (both casts)

There may be some unforeseen substitutions during some of the performances that will be announced at show time.

MOUNTAINEERS PLAYERS HISTORY

The rich history of The Mountaineers Players and the Kitsap Forest Theater began on a Spring day in 1909. A 'local walk' to view the wild blooming rhododendrons around Wildcat Lake began one of The Mountaineers most enduring traditions. The 'misguided' group of 66 Mountaineers wandered into Hidden Valley Ranch and met Edward Paschall and his family. A fast friendship was forged on that day.

A prominent activity among early Mountaineers visitors involved dramatic diversions. The skits and performances grew into a production of *Robin of Sherwood* on June 17, 1923. The audience moved from clearing to clearing as different scenes were presented. The performance marked the birth of The Mountaineers Players who went on to produce an annual spring show on the property every year to the present day – the only exception being four years during World War II and last year.

The Mountaineers Players are one of the oldest, continuously operating community theater groups in the country, performing in one of the oldest outdoor theaters in North America. Read about our history and our early shows on our web site ("History" tab under "About Us") - the history page will take you to our past shows.

Dance & Music Staff

Choreographer ..... **Guy Caridi**
Music Director ..... **Dawn Brazel**
Orchestral Music ..... **Kuran Pettiross**
Callback/Rehearsal Accompanist ..... **Josh Zimmerman**

Production Staff

Director ..... **Craig Schieber**
Asst. Director ..... **Jenny Dreessen**
Stage Manager ..... **Danette Lam**
Costume Design & Construction ..... **Ila Faubion Dreessen, Jenny Dreessen**
Luciana Barrera, Beckie Byrne, Meagan Castillo, Becky Eastgard
Special thanks to Driftwood Theatre for costume rentals
Set Design & Construction/Set Dressing ..... **Danette Lam, Chris Stanley**
Dennis Cole, Devin Cole, Diane Cole, Dustin Cole, Katie Cole
Prop Master ..... **Stewart Shusterman**
Thanks to Bainbridge Performing Arts for wheelchair
Sound Design ..... **Bryan Castillo** (Louisa Cast); **Jerry Dreessen** (Alcott Cast)
Emma Shusterman
Sound Engineer ..... **Greg Brown**
Trail Decorations ..... **Anthony Dreessen, Tod Harrick, Gala Lindvall**
Publicity Manager ..... **Jerry Dreessen**
LeeAnn Nolan, *Players' Committee and entire LW cast, crew & families.*
Seabeck Highway Sign ..... **Deb & Tod Harrick**
Graphic Design, T-shirts, Buttons, Program ..... **Gala Lindvall**
Special Thanks to:
The Mountaineers for publicity, Prestige Copy & Print for printing & mailing
Absolute Graphix for t-shirt printing
Producer ..... **Gala Lindvall**
Shuttle Driver ..... **Les Bagley**
Thanks to *Around the Sound Transportation* for use of Shuttle Bus

Putting on a show at our unique theater takes an army of volunteer workers. Volunteers sell tickets, house manage, take charge of parking, sell concessions, take tickets, usher, help park and cook for cast and crew. We are indebted to these volunteers, some who volunteer every year for many shows. **Thank you to all of you who are the backbone of our organization, helping to staff these positions for our shows.** Without you, there would be no shows.

If you would like to volunteer to usher, park, cook or fill any other position, please call 206-542-7815 or email players@foresttheater.com to sign up. And you get to see the show for free!

Special Thanks!!

To **Beth Moursund** for her generous donation to sponsor this year's show.

To **Tom Vogl,** CEO of The Mountaineers, and **Carry Porter**, VP of Properties for their unwavering support of us as we navigated many unknowns during this challenging time.

To **you, our audience members**, who give us the reason to engage in the joy of creating outstanding shows in the most beautiful venue in the Pacific Northwest! Bring a friend and come back to see the other cast perform. Each talented cast brings their own unique interpretation. Word of mouth is our best advertising!