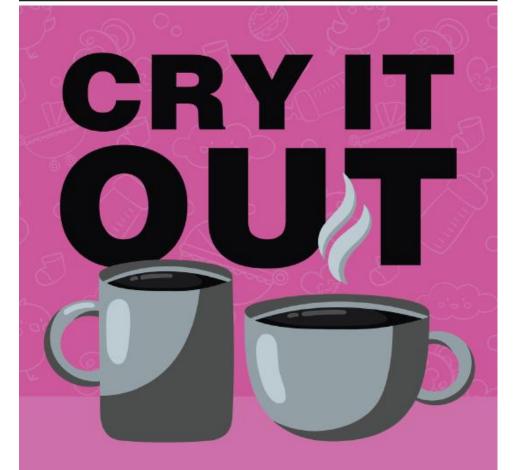
## ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS



BY MOLLY
SMITH METZLER

**JUNE 3-12, 2022** 

## Cry It Out In Order of Appearance

Jessie Maureen Moroney\*
Lena Riley Devick
Mitchell Todd Reed
Adrienne Isabella Velez\*

\*ACT Debut

Time: Spring this year

Place: Jessie's backyard in Manorhaven,

a suburb of Long Island

Scene 1	Early afternoon, after a rain
Scene 2	Three weeks later, morning
Scene 3	Same day, afternoon
Scene 4	Same day, evening
Scene 5	The next Monday, morning
Scene 6	Same day; very, very late
Scene 7	The next week

There is no intermission during this production.

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings of this production is strictly prohibited under copyright law.

*Cry It Out* is produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.

### **Production Team**

Cheryl Clark Director **Assistant Director** Ali Kirwen Producer Lisa DeWaard Set Designer & Construction Cheryl Clark Light Designer Matt Tuttle Light/Sound Technician Matt Tuttle Sound Designer Abby Martin Costumes/Props Cheryl Clark Playbill Lynn Arterburn

Show Logo Nicole Titus

Marketing Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn,
Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills,
Anna Sunstrom

### **Director's Note**

You might be familiar with "cry it out" as a sleep training method for infants. The theory goes like this: babies should be able to self-soothe and settle into sleep on their own, as long as they are dry, fed, not too cold or hot, and not ill, at around 6 months of age. Proposed in the 1980's in popular parenting books, it meant "put the baby to bed, shut the door, and don't open it until morning". Maybe its something you tried with your children; maybe not. Maybe it worked for you; maybe not. I'm not here to debate the merits of the method.

Although the play's characters, Jessie and Lena, discuss "cry it out" in Scene I, this play is not a story about how not responding to a baby's cry might affect the baby. It is, instead, a story about how not responding to the "cries" of the parent affects us all. In this play, I see all the characters "cry it out" in their own way: for someone to acknowledge them, their exhaustion at being a new parent, their loneliness at spending days on end with no adult interaction, their conflicted feelings about returning to work or not, their agony over lack of quality, affordable childcare, their overwhelming stress over how much it costs to raise a family, and on and on and on. New parenthood is all-consuming, bigger-than-life, at times a mental health crisis-in-the-making.

It is pretty well accepted that it "takes a village to raise a child". It is also true, but less often acknowledged, that it takes a network to support the adults who parent this child. Will you respond to the cries or shut the door?

### **Biographies**



Riley Devick (Lena) first appeared on the ACT stage in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and has since appeared in many shows here, including *Passing Notes*, *The Velveteen Rabbit, The Middle of Yesterday*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Riley has also worked with Des Moines Young Artists Theatre in Des Moines and Ankeny Centennial's high school theater department. She graduated from DMACC this spring and plans to go to ISU in the fall majoring in Early Childhood Education. Riley works as a nanny, loves to work with children, likes to read, learn random hobbies, and act with her friends and family.



Maureen Moroney (Jessie) is making her debut on the ACT stage and she is excited to be back to theater after taking a break for school. She is a research scientist at Iowa State University and a graduate student in microbiology. In her spare time, Maureen enjoys writing, baking, and traveling.



**Todd Reed** (Mitchell) last appeared on the ACT stage in *Geezers* and is a regular on the stage in Ames and Boone. Favorite shows include *I Do, I Do, Sabrina Fair,* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change.* In addition to acting, Todd has also directed and produced. Todd is Assistant Community Coordinator at Timberland Village in Story City. Reading, movies, and playing with his grandkids fill his spare time.



**Isabella Vilez** (Adrienne) is the youngest of seven siblings and works at MercyOne in West Des Moines as a scrub tech. Her hobbies include animals, make-up, food, plants, and birds - she loves her bird Milo. This is Izzy's first time on stage at ACT or anywhere!



Cheryl Gillespie Clark (Director) has over 50 years of experience in community theater, acting, directing, and designing costumes at ACT, Tallgrass Theatre, Des Moines Playhouse, Iowa Stage Theatre Company and CAP in the metro area and in her hometown, Iowa Falls. Her recent work with ACT includes *The Perfect Rendezvous* (Adele) and *A Christmas Story* (Director). She serves on the Iowa Community Theatre Association Board of Directors and is a trained and certified AACT adjudicator. Cheryl is a Family Wellbeing Specialist for ISU Extension & Outreach. Spare time activities are reading, sewing, knitting, traveling, and spending time with family.



Ali Kirwen (Assistant Director) recently decided to take a break from being an instructional designer in order to be a stay-at-home mom; she's a PhD candidate in human computer interaction at Iowa State University. She lives in Ankeny with her husband, Joe, her 5 month old nocturnal tornado, Patrick, and cat sons, Leibniz and Tesla. She's thrilled to be part of this production as she currently lives the struggle of the characters. She'd like to especially thank the ACT community for their support and love of her new little family.



Lisa DeWaard (Producer) has been participating in local theater since 2004. Some of her favorite shows include Lend me a Tenor, Godspell, Song of Survival, and Happily Ever After. Her most recent role was Joanne in The Vanities. She is very excited to participate in this wonderful show. She works at Panera Bread and enjoys karaoke and her cats.

# GREATER DES MOINES

### 2021 - 2022 ACT Board of Directors

Co-President - Cheryl Clark

Co-President - Ali Kirwen

Stacie Bendixen Brad Church Devyn Henson Scott Hamilton Lisa Gould Joe Kirwen

Lauren Mills Anna Sunstrom Janet Tuttle

## Ankeny Community Theatre

41st season | 2022-2023

World Premiere

## **Borrowed Beats**

By Tommy Lee Johnston Sep 30-Oct 9, 2022

### She Loves Me

Book by Joe Masteroff, music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, based on a play by Miklós László

Dec 2-11, 2022

## Exit Laughing

By Paul Elliott

Jan 20-29, 2023

## Marjorie Prime

By Jordan Harrison Apr 14–23, 2023

## The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong

By Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields

Jun 9-18, 2023

## Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare Aug 4–13, 2023

Presented by special arrangement with these publishers: She Loves Me: Music Theatre International. Exit Laughing: The Dramatic Publishing Company. Marjorie Prime: Concord Theatricals. The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong: Dramatists Play Service.

### 2021 - 2022 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

### Producer (\$1000+)

DS Hamilton Christopher Lewis Debra Garner & John Richards Kimberly Spitzig Catherine Yung & Jeffrey Webb Richard Wilson

### Director (\$500 - \$999)

Stacie Bendixen
Lois & Dennis Kern
Alison & Joe Kirwen
Gail & Gene Lucht
Sharon Hall & Kirk
Reeder
Barb Wagner

## Stage Manager (\$250 - \$499)

Mary & David Bendixen Anne & John Claes Cheryl & Max Clark Vicki & Monte Engh Adam Haselhuhn

### Actor (\$100 - \$249)

Megan Bendixen Rosie Bly Diane & Jim Bys Susan Casber Linda & James Collins Troy DeStigter Sheila & Dennis Dietz Mary Jo & Bob Frazier Ken Gregersen Betty & Rex Humke Deb & Dan Ivis Dawn Liekweg Heather & Chris Matson Doris Merrill Jo Ellen & Gary Nervig Kerry Jo Ostring Kathy & Dale Polson Joan & Tom Quinlin Georgene & Steve Raver Janet Tuttle Matt Tuttle Carolyn & Don Zuck

### **Business Friends**

BRAVO Milller Way

#### Patron (\$20 - \$99)

Debra Abeyta Kathy & Chris Anthony Lynn & Doug Arterburn Merllene & Duane Bendixen Lexi & Bryan Beyer Joshua Brown Nancy Bunker Brad Church Sharon Dirks DC Felton Rosemary Geiken Lisa Gould Iean Hance Nanci Kimm Helmick DJ Henson Kimberly Johnsen Mary Johnson Sally & Wayne Kaalberg Jim Leeper Lauren Mills Joan Siezkowski Anna Sunstrom Iana Van Genderen David Veatch

Amity & Josh Wagner Whitney & Matt Welp



MUSIC BY STEPHEN SCHWARTZ BOOK BY JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK

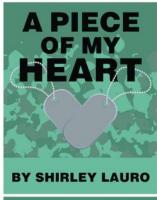
**AUGUST 5-14, 2022** 

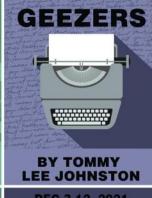
A small group of people help Jesus Christ tell different parables by using a wide variety of games, storytelling techniques, and hefty doses of comic timing. An eclectic blend of songs, ranging in style from pop to vaudeville, is employed as the story of Jesus' life dances across the stage. Dissolving hauntingly into the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, Jesus' messages of kindness, tolerance and love come vibrantly to life.

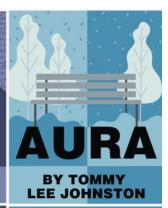
Reservations can be made online at ankenycommunitytheatre.com or by calling Midwestix at 515-244-2771 Monday-Friday from 9:00 - 5:00.

## **ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS**

## **2021-2022 SEASON**



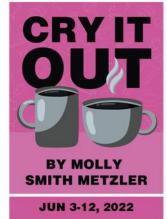


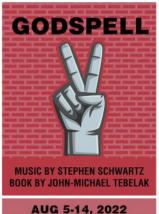


OCT 1-10, 2021

DEC 3-12, 2021

APR 1-10, 2022





1932 SW 3RD STREET, ANKENY, IA 50023

FOR TICKETS, CALL MIDWESTIX AT 515-244-2771 OR VISIT ANKENYCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.COM

A Piece of My Heart is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. Geezers, Cry It Out, and Aura are presented by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois. Godspell is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International.