

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

A Professional Theatre on the Campus of Oakland University



HARRY TOWNSEND'S LAST STAND

By George Eastman

March 22 - April 16, 2023



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Welcome to Meadow Brook Theatre

Michigan's Answer to Broadway - 56th Anniversary Season

A Message From the Directors

Cheryl L. Marshall & Travis W. Walter



CHICAGO TO VERMONT...

As we leave 1930's Chicago behind and enter into present day Vermont, we welcome you back into the theatre for the fourth production of our 56th season! There is truly no better place to relax, get cozy, and experience the highest quality creative talent that Southeast Michigan has to offer. As always, thank you for being an important part of Meadow Brook Theatre, Michigan's largest 501(c)3 non-profit producing professional theatre, and allowing us to provide an escape from the cold Michigan days, while we all await the arrival of spring.

As we continue our 2022-2023 season, theatergoers will experience this year's poignant drama, *Harry Townsend's Last Stand* by George Eastman.

Of course, that's not all we have to offer! Get countrified in April with *Honky Tonk Angels*, close out the season with the hilarious farce, *Noises Off*, and stay tuned in the coming weeks for exciting news about our 2023-2024 season.

We hope you will continue to join us and we look forward to welcoming you throughout the rest of the season. Thank you for being here tonight to experience live theatre. As always, thank you to Oakland University. We are extremely proud to call this campus our home!

Enjoy the show!

Cheryl L. Marshall
Managing Director

Travis W. Walter
Artistic Director

HOUSE RULES

Masks are encouraged, but not required to enter the theatre.

To allow others around you to enjoy the play, we remind you to please turn off your cell phones. The use of video and/or photography is strictly prohibited.

Violations may be punishable by ejection and may render the offender liable for monetary damages.

Children under the age of 5 years old are not allowed into the theatre during performances.

After the show, we invite you to take a moment to share your experience with us through Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram.

Share your review of *Harry Townsend's Last Stand* using #MBTHarryTownsend or #MBTheatre

HARRY TOWNSEND'S LAST STAND

By George Eastman

CRAIG BENTLEY*

MARK RADEMACHER*

Managing Director

CHERYL L. MARSHALL

Artistic Director

TRAVIS W. WALTER

Director

TRAVIS W. WALTER

Scenic Design

BRIAN K. KESSLER

Costume Design

LIZ GOODALL

Lighting Design

BRIAN DEBS

Sound Design

MIKE DUNCAN

Stage Manager

BRITTANIE NICHOLE SICKER*

Assistant Stage Manager

STACY WHITE*

*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

HARRY TOWNSEND'S LAST STAND is presented by
arrangement with Grimaldi/Eastman in New York

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HARRY TOWNSEND'S LAST STAND was first produced in
New York City by Dennis Grimaldi

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

UNION AFFILIATIONS:

This theatre operates under an agreement between the League of Resident Theatres and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. The theatre operates under the agreement with the International Alliance of Theatre Stage employees, Local 38



**Members of Actors'
Equity Association,
the union of Professional
Actors and Stage Managers
in the United States*



Meadow Brook Theatre is a Constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the nonprofit professional theatre, The Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce, Culture Source, Rochester Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Business & Professional Association, and an original founding member of League of Resident Theatres (LORT), an organization comprised of theatre companies throughout the nation.

THE CAST



Craig Bentley



Mark Rademacher

(in order of appearance)

Harry Townsend MARK RADEMACHER

Alan Townsend CRAIG BENTLEY

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement for the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

Understudy for Harry and Alan Townsend ANTONIO VETTRAINO

Understudy for Harry Townsend JESSICA NICHOLS

Understudy for Alan Townsend MARY MAGYARI

TIME & PLACE

Spring 2023

Harry's Chalet in Vermont

~~ There will be one fifteen minute intermission ~~

INSIDE THE THEATRE:

Special Seating

is available for wheelchairs. To make arrangements, please call the box office at 248.377.3300

Listening Devices

are available if needed. For information call 248.377.3300

Lost Items

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PLEASE DON'T SMOKE

Smoking is prohibited on all Oakland University owned or operated campuses, grounds and buildings.



This activity is supported by the MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



Director's Note

Harry Townsend's Last Stand by George Eastman made its off-Broadway debut in November 2019 starring Len Cariou and Craig Bierko. The show struck my interest, and I was looking forward to seeing it on my next trip to New York. However, as we all know, the pandemic had other plans for all of us.

As we maneuvered our way through the pandemic, I kept thinking about the show and how I had missed being able to see it on stage. The premise was so intriguing to me that I contacted the producer from the off-Broadway production to see if I could read a perusal script. To my delight they forwarded a copy of the script my way and I fell in love with the show and its writing.

George Eastman exquisitely put the father/son dynamic on paper in a way that was moving and honest. We were granted licensing for the show and I am proud of the work our team has done to make the show come to life. Our staff, from box office to stage technicians, have worked diligently to craft a show that is thought-provoking, honest, and moving. I want to thank all of them for putting their heart and soul into this production. Without their hard work there would be nothing to see on stage.

I would also like to thank George Eastman for writing a show that is universal, dealing with real life situations that all of us will come up against in our lives. I appreciate Mr. Eastman for trusting us with his material.

Finally, I want to thank YOU for trying something new. Without YOU there is no theatre. Theatre is a shared experience. Sometimes it makes us laugh, sometimes it makes us cry, and sometimes it holds up a mirror and we get to see ourselves in a new way; we get to experience situations we've lived through in a different way. I hope you have a wonderful time at the theatre today.

ENJOY THE SHOW!

Travis W. Walter
~Director

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WHO'S WHO

CRAIG BENTLEY (*Alan*) MBT credits: *Murder On The Orient Express*, *The Explorers Club*. Detroit credits: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *All's Well That Ends Well* at SRO. NYC credits: *The SantaLand Diaries* (National Tour), *Another Day On Willow St* (The Players Theatre, Off-Broadway). MFA: ACA, BFA: WSU. Dedicated to my Dad.

MARK RADEMACHER (*Harry*) is delighted to be back at Meadow Brook. He was previously seen in *Arcadia*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *A Christmas Carol*, *What the Butler Saw*, *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan*, *Mind Game*, *Mary Stewart*, *Things My Mother Taught Me*, *Mom's Gift* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. He has also appeared in numerous films and TV shows. Thank you to his wife, Mary, and daughters, Kelli and Kathryn, for their love and support.

TRAVIS W. WALTER (*Director*) is an alumnus of Oakland University and has been an employee at Meadow Brook Theatre since graduating in 2002. In May of 2010, Travis was named Artistic Director after previously holding the title of Interim Artistic Director during the 2009-2010 Season. Travis continues to enthrall audiences by bringing Michigan, North American, and world premieres to life on Meadow Brook Theatre's stage. In 2013, he was named one of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's Elite 40 Under 40; professionals from various business, government and non-profit sectors charged with giving recommendations to improve quality of life in Oakland County. Travis has won numerous awards for his directing at MBT and has directed over 55 productions at the theatre. Travis was the youngest person to be appointed as Artistic Director of MBT and has currently held the position the second longest.

BRIAN K. KESSLER (*Scenic Design*) is in his 18th season with MBT. He is also the theatre's Production Manager. Favorite design credits include: *Murder On The Orient Express*, *Mary Stuart*, *Johnny Manhattan*, *ATOMIC* and *Dracula: A Rock Opera*. Brian also has designed for Mosaic, OCC, and The Ringwald. Brian would like to thank Jess and his family for all their love and support.

LIZ GOODALL (*Costume Design*) is happy to be designing again for the Meadow Brook Theatre stage. Previous designs include *The Spitfire Grill*, *Johnny Manhattan*, and 33 other shows. She has also designed for Tipping Point Theatre, Water Works Theatre Co., and the Hilberry Theatre. She holds a MFA in costume design from Wayne State University.

BRIAN DEBS (*Lighting Design*) This is Brian's first design for Meadow Brook Theatre. His previous work in New Orleans includes designs for Lux et Umbra Theater Company, Promethean Theater Company, and Melange Dance Company. He would especially like to thank his most indefatigable supporter, Colleen, and his noisiest supporter, Rosie.

MIKE DUNCAN (*Sound Design*) is excited to be back for another season at MBT. As Resident Sound Designer, Mike has designed and run sound for every production since 2005 (unless picking up an instrument for the occasional musical). Past favorites include *On Golden Pond*, *The 39 Steps*, and *The Spitfire Grill*.

BRITTANIE NICHOLE SICKER (*Stage Manager*) is excited to join the company at MBT after over a decade on the road. Career highlights include tours of *Jersey Boys*, *Kinky Boots*, *Rock of Ages*, *Legally Blonde*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, and *Patti LuPone: Don't Monkey with Broadway*. Britt has been lucky enough to work and travel in 40 US states, 62 countries and 6 continents.

STACY WHITE (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Much like *Where's Waldo*, Stacy can be found both on and offstage at MBT at any given time. Last spotted serving as Stage Manager for *A Christmas Carol*, she is happy to again stand with SM Britt as ASM! She is the Artistic Director of Peanut Gallery Players, a non-profit children's theatre training company.

CHERYL L. MARSHALL (*Managing Director*) has been working at MBT over the past 36 years. She became managing director in 2007 and since that time has been instrumental in the growth of MBT and its awareness in the national theatre conversation. She is proud of the work her "Theatre family" produces season after season and even more thrilled to see you, our patrons, at every play. She would like to thank Larry and the 3 Js and her 4 adorable grandchildren for their constant love and support.

DENNIS GRIMALDI (*Original New York Producer / Dramaturg*) 3 Time Tony, 5 Time Tony Nomination, Drama Desk, Drama League, Outer Critics Award, Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Award, Robert Whitehead Commercial Theatre Award, 2 Time Gold Medal TV and Film Award and the Pulitzer winning Producer.

WHO'S WHO

GEORGE EASTMAN (*Playwright*) After seeing two plays on Broadway that his uncle Carroll Moore had written (*Make A Million and Send Me No Flowers*), George Eastman decided he wanted to be a writer. His first full-length play, *The Snow Job*, was published by Samuel French and has been produced in several community theaters throughout the country. His next play, *Lost In The Field*, was produced at the Northampton Center For The Arts. His one-act play, *Bitter Exchange*, won a performance at the New Works Play Festival in Pittsburgh. When he retired after four decades of teaching French to fidgety eighth-graders, he enjoyed his restored energy and wrote his first novel, *The Penelope Peters Effect*, and he is currently shopping it for representation. After winning several short fiction contests in Western Massachusetts, his wife convinced him to turn one of the stories, *Harry Townsend's Last Stand*, into a play. It was recently given a staged reading by the American Theatre Group at the SOPAC and starred Len Cariou and Warren Bub, and was directed by Dennis Grimaldi. He is now working on three other full-length plays: *Last Call*, about the strength and weakness of old friendships in the last politically incorrect bar in town – *Molly and Max*, about a snappy old coot and a sparkling old cootette who fall in love in cautious steps, and *Creature Comforts*, about three old codgers by a fire-pit who try to sum up their lives before they die. Mr. Eastman lives on Cape Cod with his wife Susan.



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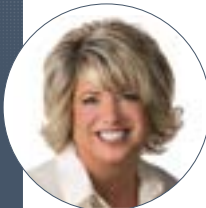
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MEET NAJAE'

- *Nursing program senior*
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Oftentimes our tickets are being marketed on secondary ticket sites and being sold at prices far above the price you will pay by purchasing your tickets through Meadow Brook Theatre.

If you purchase tickets from another source, you might pay too much for your tickets or may even pay for invalid tickets. You also may not be able to get help from Meadow Brook Theatre's ticketing staff if you have a problem, there will be no in-house record of your transaction and we cannot contact you if there is a change of performance time, traffic notices, or to provide any other special information.

TO AVOID BEING ENSNARED BY TICKET RESELLERS:

- Bookmark our website www.MBTheatre.com for ticket and show info
- Sign up for our eNewsletter to receive information directly from MBT

We urge you to **PROTECT YOURSELF** by purchasing directly from the official authorized source for Meadow Brook Theatre tickets.

Buy your tickets by phone at 248-377-3300, or at the Meadow Brook Theatre Box Office.

Or buy through Ticketmaster at Ticketmaster.com or 800-745-3000.

WEEKLY RENT ANGELS

HARRY TOWNSEND'S LAST STAND

Week One

JoAnne E. & Arden T. McClure

Week Two

JoAnne E. & Arden T. McClure

Week Three

JoAnne E. & Arden T. McClure

Week Four

JoAnne E. & Arden T. McClure

HONKY TONK ANGELS

Week One

Creighton Weber

Week Two

Available

Week Three

*Ray & Michelle Butters -
In Loving Memory of Bill Zandi*

Week Four

Generous Patron

NOISES OFF

Week One

Ken & Peggy Philippi

Week Two

Ken & Peggy Philippi

Week Three

Ken & Peggy Philippi

Week Four

Ken & Peggy Philippi

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Week One

Generous Patron of Meadow Brook Theatre

Week Two

Generous Patron of Meadow Brook Theatre

Week Three

Eleanor Christie

Week Four

The Flying Monkeys Foundation
.....

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Week One

*Terence Kilburn,
Artistic Director of MBT 1970-1994*

Week Two

*MBT Retirees & Former Employees
Sandra Haydel, Kitty Gentile, Agnes
Keinrath, Carol Lamb, Ceil Rocco, Jackie Sferlazza*

Week Three

*Generous Patron
of Meadow Brook Theatre*

Week Four

Judy Dery

Week Five

Available

Week Six

Available

BIRTHDAY CLUB

Week One

Thom & Maryann Foxlee

Week Two

Carol Ward

Week Three

Tim & Mary Caughlin

Week Four

Available

BLUES IN THE NIGHT

Week One

Daniel & Katherine Moore

Week Two

Daniel & Katherine Moore

Week Three

Cheryl & Larry Marshall

Week Four

JoAnne E. & Arden T. McClure
.....

Want to be an Angel?

Become a part of Meadow Brook Theatre's season of Broadway-quality performances by becoming a Rent Angel.

Rent Angels receive special recognition throughout the season and complimentary tickets to the theatre.

*For more information & sponsorship amounts:
(248) 370-3316 or groupsales.mbt@gmail.com*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Thom F. Foxlee / *President*

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In Loving Memory

Mrs. Maggie Allesee

Ms. Cindy Williams

COMMUNITY BOARD

Colleen Brnabic Cindy Cirar

Julie Granthen Mary Mbiya Lynn Oates

SPECIAL THANKS

Oakland University, Meadow Brook Theatre Board of Directors,
Meadow Brook Theatre Guild, Jennifer Fry, Kitty Gentile, and Mary Williams

THE MEADOW BROOK THEATRE VOLUNTEER USHER GROUPS

Act II, A La Carte, On the Aisle, Troy Newcomers.

Cover Art: Chet Johnson

LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS...
communications.mbt@gmail.com

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MI THEATRE..
EncoreMichigan.com



Maggie Allesee (1928 - 2023)

Member of MBT Board of Directors
Intern Program Sponsor

Although she will be
deeply missed, her light
will continue to shine.



Cindy Williams (1947 - 2023)

Honorary Member of MBT Board of Directors
Nonsense, Kong's Night Out, Meshuggah-Nuns, Mom's Gift

The curtain may fall, but
her spirit will forever be
remembered on the stage.

STAFF

Managing Director / *Cheryl L. Marshall*
Artistic Director / *Travis W. Walter*
Company Manager / Stage Manager /
Britt Sicker
Choreography Consultant / *Tyrick Wiltez Jones*
Development Director / *Tina Collins*
Group Sales / Administration Assistant /
LisaMarie Gabriele
Marketing Coordinator / *Katie Weatherly*
Marketing Assistant / *Kai Stidham*
Box Office Manager / *Sharon Harper*
Assistant Box Office Manager / *Tim Baum*
Box Office Associate / *Abby Paella*,
Melissa Gabriele
House Managers / Ushers / *Sarita Alvarado*,
Heather Austin, Nick Baum, Braden Cooper,
Travis Darghali, Alexander Hernandez,
Izzy Krzewski, Pete LaBarbera, Mark LeMire,
Sydney Nummer, Marielly Perez-Lugo, Amanda
Pordon, Annabel Pulman, Evelyn Shelton,
Parker Splete, Sam VanKampen, Izzy Whitt,
Madison Wiley, Tuger Xiong

Production Manager / Technical Director /
Brian K. Kessler
Head Stage Technician / *Jeremy Burzuk*
Properties Director / *Kristen Gribbin*
Costume Shop Manager / *Liz Goodall*
Costume Shop Foreman / *Mary Pettinato*
Head Wardrobe Technician / *Shelby VanOphem*
Scene Shop Foreman / *Riley Stone*
Scenic Carpenters / *Isabella Harvey*,
Jordan Hayes-Devloo
Scenic Artist / *Gwen Lindsay*
Master Electrician / *Brian Debs*
Assistant Master Electrician /
Griffin Proctor
Audio Engineer / *Mike Duncan*
Interns / *Zachary Dalton, Jillian Evannou*
Mary Magyari, Emily Marentette,
Cheyenne Miller, Jessica Nichols,
Cadence Potts, Ariel Sheets,
Antonio Vettraino

House Photographer / Sean Carter Photography: *Sean Carter*
House Videographer / DR Legacy Productions: *Dave Legacy, Patty Larin Walby, Karl Walby*

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE GUILD

The Meadow Brook Theatre Guild is a volunteer group organization to support and promote community interest in Meadow Brook Theatre.

President / *Jeni Walch* Vice President / Event Advisor / *Maryann Wilshere*

Treasurer / *Speedy Bates* Recording Secretary / *Robin Richards*

Corresponding Secretary / *Jan Shotwell* Membership / Mentoring / *Kathy Warriner*

Past President / *Sue May* Parliamentarian / *Suellen Parkes* Newsletter / *Teresa Koempel*

GUILD MEMBERS

<i>Judy Anders</i>	<i>Judy Dery</i>	<i>Sue Jayroe</i>	<i>Suellen Parkes</i>	<i>Romayne Stapleton</i>
<i>Deanna André</i>	<i>Karen Elliott</i>	<i>Marge Kaiser</i>	<i>Guendolyn Ray</i>	<i>Carol Stidham</i>
<i>Speedy Bates</i>	<i>Dawn Evoe-Danowski</i>	<i>Teresa Koempel</i>	<i>Doreen Raynak</i>	<i>Donna Vogt</i>
<i>Terri Bendes</i>	<i>Sandy Fick</i>	<i>Birdie Kutcher</i>	<i>Melinda Reeber</i>	<i>Jeni Walch</i>
<i>Colleen Brnabic</i>	<i>Maryann Foxlee</i>	<i>Kathy Leonard</i>	<i>Robin Richards</i>	<i>Lucille Walla</i>
<i>Marina Cantarella Russo</i>	<i>Peggy Gamble</i>	<i>Dorothy LaBay</i>	<i>Barbara Sasseen</i>	<i>Kathy Warriner</i>
<i>Jeni Carino</i>	<i>Deanna Gross</i>	<i>Cheryl Marshall</i>	<i>Kathy Serafino</i>	<i>Maryann Wilshere</i>
<i>Mary Caughlin</i>	<i>Judith Hickman</i>	<i>Sue May</i>	<i>Jan Shotwell</i>	<i>Judie Wurges</i>
<i>Paulette Cushnier</i>	<i>Marie Hochstein</i>	<i>Theresa Meegan</i>	<i>Shirley Sikov</i>	<i>Denise Zuke</i>
		<i>Sonia Milton</i>		
		<i>Joyce Obenhoff</i>		

Since the inception of the Meadow Brook Theatre Guild in 1977, the Guild has raised just over \$1,000,000 to benefit Meadow Brook Theatre. If you would like information on joining the Meadow Brook Theatre Guild, call (248) 370-9705

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Meadow Brook Theatre is most appreciative of the support of the Meadow Brook Theatre Guild.

WISH LIST

Visit MBTheatre.com/wish-list/

Donations of goods and services make a difference for Meadow Brook Theatre! By helping us reduce costs, you can help MBT contribute more resources to enhancing artistic programming.

HUNGRY?

Delicious Dining Options Just Across the Street



Bravo Italian Kitchen | Chipotle Mexican Grill
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Shake Shack | Starbucks | The Jagged Fork

The **VILLAGE**
OF ROCHESTER HILLS

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