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Dear Audience Members,

On behalf of the Theatre West directors and the West High administration, we want to thank you for joining us for our production of *The Sound of Music*. We are honored to share this powerful story with you, and we're grateful for your support of our students and the Theatre West program.

The story of *The Sound of Music* addresses the rise of Nazism in 1930s Austria—a time of immense hate and oppression. While this dark chapter of history is deeply disturbing, we believe it is important to portray it truthfully and respectfully, especially in the context of a show that ultimately celebrates love, courage, and resilience in the face of tyranny.

We would like to share with you a few of the decisions we made in our production to approach these themes thoughtfully. While the presence of Nazi characters and ideology is part of the narrative, we made a conscious decision not to use swastikas, armbands, or any other Nazi insignia on stage. This choice was made to avoid giving power to these symbols of hate, while still acknowledging the gravity of the historical events portrayed.

Throughout the rehearsal process, our students engaged in meaningful conversations about the responsibilities of storytelling, particularly when dealing with sensitive subject matter. We focused not only on developing strong characterization but also on understanding the impact of the characters and themes within the show. Our goal was to create a performance that encourages reflection, empathy, and a deeper commitment to justice and peace.

We believe it is essential to be unsettled by the hate depicted in this show because it is only by confronting these difficult truths that we can continue to challenge intolerance and injustice in our world today.

Once again, thank you for being part of this journey with us. Your presence and support mean the world to our students and to our entire theatre community.

Sincerely,
Katy Nahra, Director

Mitch Gross, Principal

PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR	Katy Nahra
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Lucy Polyak
Stage Managers	Genna Ray
	Flora Zhu
Assistant Stage Managers	Nicholas Davis
	Kyla Huynh
	Eleanor Paulsen
CHOREOGRAPHER	Shelby Zukin
Dance Captains	Grace Bartlett
	Mary Danielle Gross
COSTUME DESIGNER	Becky Dagle
Costume Crew Chief	Rory Rogers
Makeup Crew Chief	Jay Sainsbury
Hair Crew Chief	Aseel Matar
	Chloe Rogers
CHORAL DIRECTORS	Luigi Enriquez
	David Haas
Vocal Captains	Eli Asper
	Carter Birch Houchins-Witt
	Ella Vakiner
ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR	Jon Welch
Orchestra Crew Chief	Emre Orhon
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Ann Rocarek
Production Crew Chiefs	Brooklynne Nock
	Mackenzie Oberbroeckling
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Christian Aanestad
Heads of Set	Fern Fraer
	Hyunsuh Lee
	Michael Shonrock
Lighting Consultant	Jared Kiebel
Lighting Crew Chiefs	Anna Greenlee
	Evelyn Kraber
Sound Crew Chief	Emily Phillips
Prop Crew Chiefs	Eva Esch
	Miela Miller-Jacobs

THE CAST

Maria Ranier—Rana Saba
Mother Abbess—Addison Cribbs
Sister Berthe—Clara Visser
Sister Margaretta—Maya Hanna
Sister Sophia—Claire Lawler
Captain Georg von Trapp—Oliver Miller
Franz the Butler—Carter Houchins-Witt
Frau Schmidt the Housekeeper—Greta Gromacki
Liesl—Grace Bartlett
Friedrich—Jack Rippentrop
Louisa—Maile Kruse
Kurt—Nathan Butler
Brigitta—Ella Vakiner
Marta—Etta Graber
Gretl—Lovella Varner
Rolf Gruber—Eli Asper
Elsa Schraeder—Mary Danielle Gross
Ursula—Abby Lee
Max Detweiler—Luke Reimer
Herr Zeller—William Seberger
Baron Elberfeld—Henry Harris
Baroness Elberfeld—Vin Wardi
A New Postulant—Leiya Rodriguez
Admiral von Schreiber—Ethan Tisdale
Fraulein Schweiger—Haley DeMeulenaere
Sangerbund of Herwegan Trio—
Sin Luena, Isun Shim, Carter Wagner

A Special Thanks To:

Benevia Armstrong, Donnie Binegar, Liz Bruening,
Daniel Carlos, Doug Davis, Jose Diaz Rosa,
Jenny Eustice, Alex Garcia,
Nick, Stella, and Sam Gefaller, Mitch Gross,
Garrett Hartwig, Maureen Head, Mary Jensen,
June Maiers, David Mathias, Brittany McConnell,
Tyler Meade, Justice Meadows Claussen,
Cody Miller, Sara Miller-Jacobs, Michelle Minikus,
Adrian Molina Venegas, Zach Moulds,
Andy, Suzy, and Charley Nahra, Erik Nelson,
Brianna Nigg, Ernesto Nunez, Carrie Oelrich,
Ellen Paul, Khue Pham, Mark Reimer, David Reynolds,
John and Susan Rocarek, Lecia Scarpellino,
Amanda Schumacher,
Larry Shipley, Brittany Smith,
Trevor Tharp, Adrian Molina Venegas, Jaci Visser,
Marie Wenzlaff

FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

Silver Level

Luke, We are so proud of you and can't wait to see you shine of the Theatre West stage!
Mom, Dad, and Claire
Beth and Mark Reimer

Bronze Level

We love you very much and are so proud of you, Gracie!
Enjoy your last show with West!
Mom, Dad, Sam, & Ben
Beth and Joel Bartlett

Rana, it has been a wonderful four years watching you shine on the Theatre West Stage!
Your biggest fans—Mama and Baba
Ann and Osama Saba

Congratulations, Sariah!
We are so proud of all your accomplishments!
Love, Grandma, Grandpa, Owen and Xander Stutzman
Melanie and Robert Stutzman

ENSEMBLE

Alexis Benford
Ayla Bleil
CC Chisolm
Haley DeMeulenaere
Maya Hanna
Henry Harris
Mieka Hedt
Aspen Hermann
Carter Houchins—Witt
Claire Lawler
Abby Lee
Sin Luena
Noah Mothershed
Willa Ohlmann
Deeksha Raghavan
Leiya Rodriguez
Tia Rahmatalla
Katie Nodia
Josie Schwartz
Willam Seberger
Isun Shim
Chase Taylor
Ethan Tisdale
Clara Visser
Carter Wagner
Vin Wardi
Ania Willis

For pictures and bios of our cast and crew, check out our Theatre West website
theatrewesthigh.com
or find us on Facebook!

PIT ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

Flute
Flora Zhu
Helena Yang

Oboe
Josh Carlo

Clarinet
Caleb Davies
Ashleigh Topp

Bassoon
Ana Rippentrop

French Horn/Sax
Isabel Ceynar
Tada Goto
Sylvia Broffitt

Trumpet
Ian Kraske
Kobbi Nott
Lea Abou Alaiwa

Trombone
Emre Orhon
Kenton Huynh

Tuba
Alexander Gibson

Percussion
Tiff Liberman
Thomas Gibson
Derick Doresca

Piano
Abby Guo

Guitar
Sylvia Broffitt

Violin I
Sabrina Du
Anna Song
Anjali Lodh
Jessie Li
Tina Hong

Violin II
Nathan Chen
Ephraim Liu
Christian Kim
Thara Rajagopal
Braelyn Pham
Emilie Choi

Viola
Layan Ahmed
Dylan Asikin-Garmager
Miriam Blake
Chanel Pennell
Ana Mendez-Diaz

Cello
Ellie Roetlin
Emery Crawford
Sonya Zhu
Rosario Mendez-Diaz
Taelim Yoon

Bass
Mac Wilson
Solomon Shaffer

Scene 12: Nonnberg Abbey
Morning Hymn (The Nuns)

Scene 13: The Office of Mother Abbess, three days later
Climb Ev'ry Mountain (Mother Abbess)

Intermission

ACT II

Scene 1: The Terrace, the same day
Reprise: My Favorite Things (The Children and Maria)
No Way to Stop It (Elsa, Max, Captain von Trapp)
Something Good (Maria and Captain von Trapp)
Music and Lyrics by Richard Rodgers

Scene 2: A Corridor in the Abbey, two weeks later

Scene 3: The Office of Mother Abbess, immediately following
Gaudeamus Domino (The Nuns)

Scene 4: A Cloister Overlooking the Chapel
Reprise: Maria (The Nuns)
Confitemini Domino (The Nuns)

Scene 5: The Living Room of the Trapp Villa, one month later
Reprise: Sixteen Going on Seventeen (Maria and Liesl)

Scene 6: The Concert Hall Stage, three days later
Reprise: Do-Re-Mi (Maria, Captain von Trapp, and the Children)
Edelweiss (Captain von Trapp, Maria and the Children)
Reprise: So Long, Farewell (Maria, the Children, and Captain von Trapp)

Scene 7: The Garden of the Abbey, that night
Finale Ultimo (The Company)

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Scene 1: Nonnberg Abbey

Preludium (The Nuns of the Nonnberg Abbey)

Scene 2: A Mountainside Near the Abbey

The Sound of Music (Maria)

Scene 3: The Office of Mother Abbess, the next morning

Maria (Sisters Berthe, Sophia, Margaretta, Catherine, Agatha, Bernice and Mother Abbess)

My Favorite Things (Maria and Mother Abbess)

Scene 4: A Corridor in the Abbey

I Have Confidence (Maria)

Music and Lyrics by Richard Rodgers

Scene 5: The Living Room of the Trapp Villa, that afternoon

Do-Re-Mi (Maria and the von Trapp children)

Scene 6: Outside the Villa, that evening

Sixteen Going On Seventeen (Rolf and Liesl)

Scene 7: Maria's Bedroom, later that evening

The Lonely Goatherd (Maria and the Children)

Scene 8: A Hallway in the Villa

Reprise: The Lonely Goatherd (Gretl)

Scene 9: The Terrace of the Villa, six weeks later

Reprise: The Sound of Music (The Children and Captain von Trapp)

Scene 10: A Hallway in the Villa, one week later

Scene 11: The Living Room, same evening

So Long, Farewell (The Children)

TAKE A BOW!

This production is being adjudicated as part of the 2024-2025 Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards, presented by EMC Insurance Companies.

The Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards program celebrates the extraordinary achievements of Iowa's young musical theater artists – from the performers on stage to the musicians and technical crew.

Throughout the year students and educators benefit from:

- **Expert Feedback** provided by theater professionals who review each school's musical
- **Learning Opportunities** to build performance and technical theater skills
- **Awards Showcase** celebrating the achievements of schools and students on the Des Moines Civic Center stage (Save the Date: Thursday, May 29, 2025)

CONGRATULATIONS to the students, educators and supporters who have played a role in making this production possible!

#IHSMTA

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATER AWARDS Presented By emc INSURANCE

A program of DES MOINES PERFORMING ARTS

TECHNICAL CREWS

*denotes crew chief

Stage Management
Genna Ray*
Flora Zhu*
Nicholas Davis
Kyla Huynh
Eleanor Paulsen

Costumes
Rory Rogers*
Olivia Anderson
Nyla Breheny
Kiera Crowe
Lilly Johnson
Ella Krupp
Cassidi Tsang
Sophia Vignato
Claire Zubcic

Hair
Aseel Matar*
Kristy Kakizawa
Alexa Leist
Reel Matar
Ashley Niemiec
Lillian Polgreen
Chloe Rogers
Rowan Russell
Momo Shinozaki
Cecilia Sterba

Lighting
Anna Greenlee*
Evelyn Kraber*
Sophie Bergman
Melissa Marron-Romero
Quincy Rose
Taha Salem
Gwen Smith
Jack Struthers
Jasmine Tsang

Makeup
Jay Sainbury*
Sedef Bayman
Eric Clark
Waad Dafalla
Abrianna Derry
Sadie Frisvold
Aahana Gupta
William Lyons
Lucinda Maxwell
Endrit Ramkul
Amy Thomas
Rheal White
Rosemary Younts

Production
Brooklynne Nock*
Mackenzie Oberbroeckling*
Finnley Bonfig
Norah Connolly
Fiona Graber
Abeer Guama
Emily Hagiwara
Stella Hunter
Gianna Liu
Avanley Jones
Jalani Mack
Maya Mueller
Aliya Parks
Andres Perez Lopez
Jonathan Pierce
Sage Pottorff
Sophia Singh
Khamissa Tiea

Props
Eva Esch*
Miela Miller-Jacobs*
Freya Bevan
Sasha Cruce
Phoebe Ephraim-Gill
Naomi Greiner
Reed Hagan
Hannah Hotsenpiller
Addison Long
Sophie Mellecker
Leo Morales
Audrey Weime

Sound
Emily Phillips*
Karsten Ghabel
Katherine Gilberston-White
Alice Gooblar-Perovic
Elsie Gross
Rhea Knight
Elena Kollasch
Ells Ortiz-Broeder

Set Construction & Painting
Fern Fraer*
Hyunsuh Lee*
Michael Shonrock*
Jake Beneke
Justin Castillo
Kade Eilderts
Kazuhiko Goto
Tadamichi Goto
Christopher Graham
Kaevion Heidger
Kate Kacmarynski
Anika Nguyen
Jack Overholt
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Max Somerville
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Olive Ubeda