

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
THE HUCKLEBERRY STAR THEATER**

This PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE HUCKLEBERRY STAR THEATER (hereinafter “Agreement”) is made this ___ day of _____, 2023, by and between the City of Meridian, a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the state of Idaho (“City”), by and through the Meridian Arts Commission, and The Huckleberry Star LLC, a limited liability corporation organized under the laws of the State of Idaho (hereinafter “Organization”).

WHEREAS, pursuant to its strategic plan objective to develop and offer extracurricular arts opportunities to youth, the Meridian Arts Commission released a Request for Proposals for Youth Performing Arts Projects, as set forth in *Exhibit A* (“RFP”), and Organization responded to the RFP, as set forth in *Exhibit B*;

WHEREAS, at its meeting on March 9, 2023, the Meridian Arts Commission voted to invest in Organization’s youth theater productions as generally described in *Exhibit B*; and

WHEREAS, the respective governing bodies of City and Organization wish to work together to further their respective and shared objectives to present theater arts experiences for Meridian youth;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged and agreed, and in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, and in consideration of the recitals above, which are incorporated herein, City and Organization agree as follows:

I. Scope of services.

Organization shall provide the following services, deliverables, and materials under this Agreement:

- A. By August 31, 2023, Organization shall present to the public three (3) theater arts performances in Meridian city limits.
- B. Organization shall obtain all necessary royalties and scripts.
- C. Organization shall schedule and hold auditions and rehearsals, and shall provide cast members with all necessary materials for such experience. Organization shall make auditions available to all persons between the ages of 8 and 18 at no charge.
- D. Each cast member shall be entitled to participation in rehearsals per Organization’s casting and direction; direction and coaching from Organization staff at rehearsals; and performance per Organization’s casting, direction, and scheduling.
- E. Organization shall provide the following staff and any other staff necessary to provide the services and deliverables set forth in this Agreement: director, music director, choreographer, stage manager, production assistant, costume designer, and light designer.
- F. Organization shall provide all necessary costumes, props, and set.
- G. Organization shall provide and distribute marketing materials to publicize performances, including, at a minimum, posters, flyers, and programs.

- H. Organization shall reserve and pay all related costs for audition, rehearsal, and performance space. All locations shall be accessible to persons of all abilities.
- I. By September 15, 2023, Organization shall submit to the Arts and Culture Coordinator a final written report describing the services provided.

II. Compensation and payment.

- A. Amount.** City shall pay Organization for professional services described herein in an amount not to exceed three thousand, five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00).
- B. Method of payment.** Organization shall provide to City a W9 form and detailed invoices for services and deliverables provided pursuant to the payment schedule set forth herein, which City shall pay within thirty (30) days of receipt.
- C. Payment schedule.** City shall remit payment to Organization as follows:
 - 1. Within thirty (30) days of Organization's submission of: a) proof that Organization has secured production rights and b) written confirmation of performance venues, and c) invoice, City shall mail payment to Organization in the amount of \$1,500.00.
 - 2. Within thirty (30) days of Organization's presentation of the final performance, or by August 31, 2023, and Organization's submission of invoice, City shall mail payment to Organization in the amount of \$1,500.00.
 - 3. Following receipt of Organization's final written report, by September 15, 2023, City shall mail payment to Organization in the amount of \$500.00.

These amounts shall constitute full compensation for any and all services provided and any and all related expenses, including, without limitation, travel, materials, contingency, commission, insurance, equipment, and any and all other costs of work to be performed or furnished by Organization. City shall not withhold any federal or state income taxes or Social Security tax from any payment made by City to Organization under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Payment of all taxes and other assessments on such sums shall be the sole responsibility of Organization.

- D. Fees; revenue.** Organization shall not collect registration, materials, or any other fees from cast members, as the funding provided under this Agreement will cover all such costs. Organization shall be entitled to retain any revenues realized from ticket sales, sponsorships, or other fundraising undertaken by Organization.

III. General provisions.

- A. Indemnification.** Organization and each and all of Organization's employees, agents, contractors, officials, officers, servants, guests, and/or invitees, including any and all participants in or observers of Organization's programming and activities, shall indemnify and save and hold harmless City from and for any and all losses, claims, actions, judgments

for damages, or injury to persons or property and losses and expenses caused or incurred by Organization or any Organization employee, agent, contractor, official, officer, servant, guest, and/or invitee, or any participant in or observers of Organization's programming and activities.

B. Insurance. Organization shall submit to City proof of an insurance policy issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in Idaho protecting Organization, Organization's employees, and Organization's agents from all claims for damages to property and bodily injury, including death, which may arise during or in connection with Organization's programming and activities, including, without limitation, auditions, rehearsals, set-up, performance, and tear-down. Such insurance shall name City as additional insured, and shall afford at least five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) per person bodily injury, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) per occurrence bodily injury, and five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) per occurrence property damage. The limits of insurance shall not be deemed a limitation of the covenants to indemnify and save and hold harmless City as set forth in this Agreement or any permit. If City becomes liable for an amount in excess of the insurance limits herein provided due to the actions or omissions of Organization or any Organization employee, agent, contractor, official, officer, servant, guest, and/or invitee, or any participant in or observer of Organization activities, Organization covenants and agrees to indemnify and save and hold harmless City from and for all such losses, claims, actions, or judgments for damages or liability to persons or property. At all times during the course of this Agreement, Organization shall maintain worker's compensation coverage in the amount required by law for each and every employee utilized in the course of performance of this Agreement.

C. Notices. All notices required to be given by either of the parties shall be in writing and be deemed communicated when personally served or mailed via U.S. mail, addressed as follows:

If to Organization:

Kevin Nielsen, Manager
The Huckleberry Star LLC
5152 S. Margaret Ave
Meridian ID 83642

If to City:

Arts and Culture Coordinator
City of Meridian
33 East Broadway Ave
Meridian ID 83642

Either party may change its authorized representative and/or address for the purpose of this paragraph by giving written notice of such change to the other party in the manner herein provided.

D. Assignment. City shall not assign or sublet all or any portion of City's interest in this Agreement or any privilege or right hereunder, either voluntarily or involuntarily, without the prior written consent of Organization. Organization shall not assign or sublet all or any portion of Organization's interest in this Agreement or any privilege or right hereunder, either voluntarily or involuntarily, without the prior written consent of City. This Agreement and each and all of the terms and conditions hereof shall apply to and are binding upon the respective organizations, legal representatives, successors, and assigns of the parties.

- E. No agency; independent contractor.** Neither Organization nor its employees, agents, contractors, officials, officers, servants, guests, and/or invitees shall be considered agents of City in any manner or for any purpose whatsoever. In all matters pertaining to this agreement, Organization shall be acting as an independent contractor, and neither Organization nor any officer, employee or agent of Organization shall be deemed an employee or agent of City in any manner or for any purpose. Specifically, without limitation, Organization understands, acknowledges, and agrees that Organization and its employees, agents, contractors, officials, officers, servants, guests, and/or invitees:
1. Are free from actual and potential control by City in the provision of services under this Agreement.
 2. Are engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession, or business.
 3. Have the authority to hire subordinates.
 4. Own and/or will provide all major items of equipment necessary to perform services under this Agreement.
- F. Compliance with laws.** In performing the scope of services required hereunder, City and Organization shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- G. Attorney Fees.** Should any litigation be commenced between the parties hereto concerning this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled, in addition to any other relief as may be granted, to court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. This provision shall be deemed to be a separate contract between the parties and shall survive any default, termination or forfeiture of this Agreement.
- H. Time of the essence.** The parties shall fulfill obligations described in this Agreement in a timely manner, as set forth herein. The parties acknowledge and agree that time is strictly of the essence with respect to this Agreement, and that the failure to timely perform any of the obligations hereunder shall constitute a default of this Agreement.
- I. Termination.**
1. **Grounds.** Grounds for termination of this Agreement shall include, but shall not be limited to: an act or omission by either party which breaches any term of this Agreement; an act of nature or other unforeseeable event which precludes or makes impossible the performance of the terms of this Agreement by either party; or a change in or occurrence of circumstances that renders the performance by either party a detriment to the public health, safety, or welfare.
 2. **Process.** Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing fourteen (14) days' notice of intention to terminate. Such notice shall include a description of the breach or circumstances providing grounds for termination. A forty-eight (48) hour cure period shall commence upon provision of the notice of intention to terminate. If the defaulting party successfully cures the breach or circumstances providing grounds for termination, the terminating party shall signify such cure by issuing written withdrawal of the notice of termination. If, upon the expiration of such cure period, cure of the breach or circumstances providing grounds for termination has not occurred, this Agreement shall be terminated.

- J. Construction and severability.** If any part of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, such holding will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other part of this Agreement so long as the remainder of the Agreement is reasonably capable of completion.
- K. Exhibits.** All exhibits to this Agreement are incorporated by reference and made a part of hereof as if the exhibits were set forth in their entirety herein. In the event of conflicting terms in the exhibits and this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall prevail.
- L. Entire Agreement.** This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes any and all other agreements or understandings, oral or written, whether previous to the execution hereof or contemporaneous herewith.
- M. Discrimination prohibited.** In performing the Services required herein, Organization shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry, age, or physical handicap.
- N. Applicable law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Idaho.
- O. Approval Required.** This Agreement shall not become effective or binding until approved by the respective governing bodies of both City and Organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties shall cause this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized officers to be effective as of the day and year first above written.

THE HUCKLEBERRY STAR LLC:

BY: 

 Kevin Nielsen
 Manager

CITY OF MERIDIAN:

Attest:

 Robert E. Simison
 Mayor

 Chris Johnson
 City Clerk



Request for Proposals: Youth Performing Arts Projects

OVERVIEW:

The Meridian Arts Commission (MAC) requests proposals from local youth theater and performing arts organizations, professionals, and educators for performing arts projects that will feature, include, and benefit Meridian youth.

BUDGET:

Total funding available from MAC is \$7,000. Selected applicants may receive a full or partial award of up to \$3,500.

ELIGIBILITY:

Organizations currently registered with the Idaho Secretary of State or individuals who are performing arts professionals or performing arts educators are eligible to respond. Organizations with nonprofit status will be given preference. The opportunity to respond is open to applicants regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or disability. Applicants shall be ineligible who are, employ, or allow to volunteer: any person convicted of any charge involving, or related to, a child or children, elderly persons, and/or other vulnerable persons; any charge involving, or related to, use of or possession of drugs or illicit substances; or any charge of battery, assault, telephone harassment, stalking, or violation of a protective order.

DEADLINE:

*****Deadline Extended to March 3*** Any questions regarding application must be submitted to cschiffler@meridiancity.org by February 24th *****

Proposals must be received by the Meridian Arts & Culture Coordinator by **March 3, 2023, at 5:00 pm MST**. Materials may be delivered by e-mail, mail, or in-person delivery. Incomplete, ineligible, or late submissions will not be considered.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

Each selected applicant must:

- Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the City of Meridian setting forth specific conditions of participation prior to project initiation. A sample agreement is available upon request.
- Complete all activity, including submission of a final report and invoices, by September 15, 2023.
- By August 31, 2022, present a theater arts production to the public that features, includes, and benefits Meridian youth.
- Conduct all activities within Meridian city limits or area of impact.

- Conduct all activities in a facility fully accessible to, and make all activities accessible to, all persons regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or disability.
- Reserve and pay all related costs for audition, rehearsal, and performance space.
- Obtain all necessary royalties and scripts.
- Schedule and hold open, public auditions for youth, and provide those auditioning with all necessary materials to do so.
- If fees are collected from cast members, limit fees collected from each cast member to an amount not to exceed \$250.00, and must offer financial assistance to ensure participation regardless of ability to pay.
- Provide all necessary staff to provide the services and deliverables commissioned by MAC.
- Provide all necessary costumes, props, and set.
- Publicize all opportunities to audition for, participate in, and watch the final production(s).
- Include MAC logo on materials.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Proposal must address each and all of the following:

1. Applicant's contact information (address, phone, email, website), mission statement, and history; resumes and biographies of key staff and volunteers.
2. Detailed project budget, including all project expenses (e.g., administrative fees, production fees, material costs, venue fees, marketing and promotion, etc.) and income (e.g., admission fees, grants, corporate contributions, sponsorships, fundraising).
3. Detailed project timeline.
4. Description of previous work in youth theater arts.
5. Narrative describing the proposed project, including:
 - a. How the project will benefit Meridian residents and local youth;
 - b. Target audience demographics, estimated number of Meridian residents and visitors that will be impacted, and corresponding marketing/outreach plan;
 - c. How MAC's contribution will be recognized; and
 - d. Number of participants and audience members to be impacted by your project.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The selection of winning proposals for the 2023 Youth Performing Arts Projects will be made by MAC. Proposals related to the presentation of subject matter that would be disruptive, violent, discriminatory, inappropriate, or likely to offend the sensibilities of the general public will not be considered. In evaluating eligible proposals, the following factors will be considered:

- Quality, clarity, and merit of proposal;
- Completion of and adherence with the provisions of this RFP;
- Demonstrated ability to meet the RFP's requirements and objectives;

- Feasibility of proposed project;
- Location of project activities;
- Impact to Meridian residents and visitors;
- Consistency of proposed project with City policy and community values; and
- Dedication and contribution to performing arts opportunities that feature, include, and benefit Meridian youth.

ABOUT MAC:

The Meridian Arts Commission (MAC) advises the City of Meridian on arts/cultural policy and promotes public awareness and participation in the arts with a mission to develop, advance and nurture all facets of the arts to enhance the quality of life for Meridian residents and visitors. Core to this mission is the belief that opportunities to experience and participate in the visual, performing and public arts can strengthen cities, increase livability, and contribute to a sense of community.

QUESTIONS:

Cassandra Schiffler, Arts & Culture Coordinator
Phone: 208-489-0399
Email: cschiffler@meridiancity.org

PUBLIC RECORDS

The City of Meridian is a public agency; pursuant to the Idaho Public Records Act, all documents in its possession are public records. Proposals will be available for inspection and reproduction by any person.



Proposal Response: Youth Performing Arts Projects

OVERVIEW:

The Meridian Arts Commission (MAC) requests proposals from local youth theater and performing arts organizations, professionals, and educators for performing arts projects that will feature, include, and benefit Meridian youth.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for this grant and promote the arts in Meridian. The Huckleberry Star Theater is a Meridian-based theater company with a goal to build out the arts in Meridian. Our request of the Meridian Arts Commission is plain and simple. We want to bring the opportunity to perform to more cast members, and we need help covering the costs of the costumes and scripts to be able to make this dream a reality.

We started our journey in 2021 with an outdoor performance in South Meridian, and again in 2022. These were our pilot years to see if there was enough demand for more theater in the valley. What we found was truly amazing!

Our first year we selected *Annie Get Your Gun* solely because it could be pulled off by a small cast if necessary, or could be expanded to allow more actors in a large ensemble. With COVID-19 still wreaking havoc, we had no idea what to expect. When we opened up our video auditions, we were blown away to receive *more than 70 video submissions* from people in the community! Right then we made the decision that if we could find a way to include a larger cast we would do so. The trick was the cost of the costumes and props and the additional scripts. We debated and initially advertised that we would charge a fee for actors to participate. But then 2 things happened. One was that we realized that it would be a bit of a financial burden on families to have multiple people participate. And the second was a generous donation we received that would cover the cost of the additional cast. We were grateful to be able to include a cast of 45 that first year.

Our second year, 2022, we selected *The Music Man*, again for the ability to have a large youth ensemble. This time we received an astounding 115 auditions! It was very difficult for us to narrow that down. In the end we performed the show with 60 cast members, and again were able to do this with the help of generous donors. We were able to pull it off without charging cast members any participation fee.

The auditions in 2022 left us with the feeling that we need to do more in the community. It was hard to turn away 55 auditionees last year, many of which were very talented. And so, The Huckleberry Star Theater decided to see if we could gather more support from the community to produce not just one, but two shows in 2023.

We hope the Meridian Arts Commission will consider our proposal and sponsor your community members with the costs to cover our costumes and script fees as we expand. These funds will allow us to get the head start we need on costumes so we can perform in a few events throughout Meridian leading up to the show as outlined in the full proposal.



ELIGIBILITY:

Organizations currently registered with the Idaho Secretary of State or individuals who are performing arts professionals or performing arts educators are eligible to respond.

The Huckleberry Star Theater, LLC is registered with the Idaho Secretary of State and conducts its business within the Treasure Valley.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Proposal must address each and all of the following:

1. Applicant's contact information (address, phone, email, website), mission statement, and history; resumes and biographies of key staff and volunteers.

We are the Huckleberry Star Theater based in South Meridian, Idaho

Headquarters at 5152 S. Margaret Ave, Meridian ID, 83642

Theater phone: 208-353-5500

Contact phone numbers: 208-407-6241 (Kevin Nielsen), 208-401-8317 (Laura Nielsen)

Theater email address: thehuckleberrystar@gmail.com

Theater website: <https://thehuckleberrystar.com>

Our Mission

The Huckleberry Star Theater's mission is threefold:

- to foster close-knit, long-lasting communities among cast members and patrons
- to encourage face-to-face participation in live-performing arts where risks are taken, skills are developed, and comfort zones are expanded
- to increase family-friendly musical theater in the Boise, Idaho area (Ada County) with some of the best-loved musicals.

How the theater began

As most things do, our theater began with a personal experience. We producers are two theater loving families and we found that as we took our children to theater productions, we were never quite sure if the show that we were about to see would be appropriate for our kids or not. Many shows had language, violence, and/or inappropriate themes we ended up having to explain to our kids and we never quite knew what to expect. We had to do research each time we wanted to see a play to see if it was family-friendly or not. We longed for quality theater productions rated G or PG.

We also noticed that as both of our families began getting involved in acting and theater that there is something unique about acting in a play. This form of art is extraordinary in it's ability to unify and bring people together in a way that other art forms cannot. We were eager for our children (and others as well) to have face to face experiences that



build strong character as they learn to take risks, put themselves out there to be seen, and develop confidence and new skills.

And so, we decided to join forces to create the vision of what we were imagining was possible and the Huckleberry Star Theater was born in 2020.

Resumes for key staff members are included in our submission email. Staff members include:

- Kevin Nielsen – Producer
- Laura Nielsen – Producer
- Brookann Hessing – Producer
- Sarah Howard – Artistic Director
- Erika Gray – Music Director
- Nikki Wesselman - Choreographer

2. Detailed project budget, including all project expenses (e.g., administrative fees, production fees, material costs, venue fees, marketing and promotion, etc.) and income (e.g., admission fees, grants, corporate contributions, sponsorships, fundraising).

Description	Annual Amou	Type
Show Total Expense	\$ 45,448.49	
Website hosting	\$ 30.00	Admin
Audition software	\$ 25.00	Admin
Accounting software	\$ 150.00	Admin
Misc Admin	\$ 350.00	Admin
Cast meals	\$ 450.00	Admin
Creative staff compensation	\$ 3,500.00	Creative
Sound system rental	\$ 1,500.00	Creative
Costumes/Props	\$ 3,500.00	Creative
Set Build	\$ 4,000.00	Creative
Show/Rehearsal Tracks	\$ 2,598.00	Creative
Advertising	\$ 1,400.00	Production
Print Programs	\$ 2,500.00	Production
Royalties	\$ 11,799.64	Production
Sales Tax	\$ 2,785.78	Production
Ticket/processing fees	\$ 3,180.07	Production
Event insurance	\$ 600.00	Venue
Kuna Performing Arts Center	\$ 7,080.00	Venue

Ticketing	\$ 45,430
Merchandise	\$ 1,000
Show income	\$ 46,430
Advertising	\$ 3,500
MAC Sponsorship	\$ 3,500
TOTAL Income	\$ 53,430

Total costs	\$ 45,448.49
Total income	\$ 53,429.60
Profit/Loss	\$ 7,981.11

If we receive the sponsorship, we plan to not charge fees to the cast to participate. We have been blessed with sponsorships so far that cover the cost of costumes and scripts for cast members so that we can make it easier on families to participate and expand the size of our casts.



3. Detailed project timeline.

- Rights received from Concord Theatricals on Jan. 10, 2023
- Production staff meetings began Feb 6, 2023 and will continue through April 2023
- Audition sign-ups begin March 1, 2023 and continue through April 21, 2023
- Live audition on April 22, 2023 with call-backs on April 24, 2023
- Cast list posted by April 28, 2023
- Rehearsals will be June 5th through July 14th
- 3 Proposed Meridian area promotional events in July if we receive sponsorship from the Meridian Arts Commission
- Move in and set assembly July 14th and 15th
- Tech rehearsal July 17th
- Dress rehearsals July 18th-19th
- Performances July 20, 21, 22 at 7:00 PM, with a matinee on July 22nd at 2:00

4. Description of previous work in youth theater arts.

The Huckleberry Star Theater began with a vision of family friendly performing arts. What better way to support a youth than to include the parent or family member of the youth in the same production. There has been something magical to have family members performing together and forming a tight-knit community with other cast members and their children. In addition to the main shows, we include a pre-show to highlight talents of youth and adults alike while patrons enter the seating areas.

To date, we have featured 23 youth in our debut show of Annie Get Your Gun in 2021 and 31 youth in our latest production of The Music Man in 2022.

5. Project Proposal:

a. How the project will benefit Meridian residents and local youth:

The show we are proposing to feature this year is Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. This show incorporates youth through a large children's choir (15+ children) that are featured in certain musical numbers, but also who we plan to utilize throughout the show to highlight the family generations through the Bible families featured in this musical. We plan to have teenage actors in our dance ensemble. The role of Benjamin will also be performed by a youth cast member, and we anticipate at least a couple of the other 11 brothers may be youth as well.

Again this year we will feature several youth cast members in our pre-show entertainment.

Utilizing Meridian youth and performing in Meridian:

Our intent was to perform this musical within the Meridian City area of impact, but were unsuccessful in securing a Meridian venue. Our past two years we received special zoning permits to perform on our residential property, but that was intended to be temporary.



The venue options we tried to secure within Meridian are mainly those built by the West Ada School District and are often limited due to the priority going to the needs of the district. The one designated community performing arts center in the West Ada School District is at Centennial High School, which is technically in the city of Boise. We would love to see a community performing venue built within our city of Meridian in the near future and would be happy to help gather support for that. We will continue to work with the West Ada School District for future summer projects and hope to be able to perform in Meridian next year.

In lieu of being able to perform the full show within Meridian, we will still be holding auditions and rehearsing in Meridian until we get access to the performing venue at Kuna High School. We anticipate a high percentage of our cast will be from Meridian. We are also proposing with your help and sponsorship to do a series of promotional events within Meridian in the month of July leading up to our show. If we receive the sponsorship from the Meridian Arts Commission we will commit to performing at 3 of the following events or locations pending approval from the event sponsors:

- Promotional performance of select musical numbers at The Village in Meridian
- Flash mob event at the movie at Settler's Park
- Flash mob event at Kleiner Park Live Concert Series
- Promotional performance of select musical numbers at the Saturday Main Street Market at City Hall
- Meridian City's 4th of July event

b. Target audience demographics, estimated number of Meridian residents and visitors that will be impacted, and corresponding marketing/outreach plan;

The target audience for The Huckleberry Star Theater is families, especially those with youth who want to see a show with a rating appropriate for all ages. Friends and family of cast members are core supporters of our theater, as well as many Meridian-based business sponsors.

We plan to market our show to Meridian, Kuna, Boise, and Nampa residents through multiple media channels including our website, social media, flyers, and postcards. We are exploring the radio as another means to increase awareness and increase our patron base.

c. How MAC's contribution will be recognized

The Meridian Arts Commission will be recognized as a key sponsor on our website and social media, our full-color printed programs, and curtain speech thanking you as our key costume sponsor to allow us to have a large cast.



d. Number of participants and audience members to be impacted by your project.

We expect to have a cast of 50+ again this year and a core staff of an additional 10-15 individuals, but our theater community is much larger. We have volunteers that have been so excited to help in many different ways and often grow our participation by an additional 10-20 people who pitch in throughout the project. We make all activities accessible to all persons regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, or disability.

Our show this year has nearly 3,300 tickets available across our 4 performances. Those that travel from Boise or Meridian to our performances in Kuna will pass several Meridian eating and shopping areas that we hope will host our patrons before and after the shows.



KN

KEVIN NIELSEN

MUSICAL THEATER ACTOR/PRODUCER

[HTTPS://THEHUCKLEBERRYSTAR.COM/ABOUT-THE-THEATER/](https://thehuckleberrystar.com/about-the-theater/)

OBJECTIVE

To create high quality musical theater for youth and families in the Treasure Valley

SKILLS

I love to perform and help others become their best on stage. I also have a knack for construction of sets and run the business side of the theater.

EXPERIENCE

PRODUCER • THE HUCKLEBERRY STAR THEATER • NOV 2020 – PRESENT

Co-produced 2 musical theater productions with my wife, Laura, and our friends Jason and Brookann Hessing. Responsible for set and stage construction, venue preparation and staffing, securing rights, sound/technical production management, securing sponsorships, and accounting for the theater. Shows produced:

Annie Get Your Gun – August 2021

The Music Man – August 2022

ACTOR • 1996 - PRESENT

Show	Role	Year	Company
State Fair	Lem (Barbershop)	2023	Boise Music Week
The Music Man	Ewart (Barbershop)	2022	Huckleberry Star
Secret Garden	Lt. Shaw	2022	Music Theater of Idaho
Matilda the Musical	The Escapologist	2022	Music Theater of Idaho
Tom Sawyer	Judge Thatcher	2021	Music Theater of Idaho
Annie Get Your Gun	Cowboy/Pawnee's Messenger	2021	Huckleberry Star
Forever Plaid	Frankie	2021	Music Theater of Idaho
Shrek the Musical	Shrek	2021	Music Theater of Idaho
Into the Woods	Cinderella's Prince	2020	Music Theater of Idaho
Wizard of Oz	Scarecrow/Hunk	2020	Music Theater of Idaho
Newsies	Joseph Pulitzer	2019	Music Theater of Idaho
Joseph and the Amazing TD	Naphtali/Baker	2019	Music Theater of Idaho
Pirates of Penzance	Frederic	2008	Rincon South Stake (church in AZ)
Joseph and the Amazing TD	Keyboard musician	2000	Playmill Theater in West Yellowstone
7 Brides for 7 Brothers	Caleb Pontipee	1999	Playmill Theater in West Yellowstone
Joseph and the Amazing TD	Levi	1999	Playmill Theater in West Yellowstone
Into the Woods	Cinderella's Father	1999	Playmill Theater in West Yellowstone
7 Brides for 7 Brothers	Adam Pontipee	1996	Box Elder High School, UT

EDUCATION

MBA • 2018 • NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Graduated with 4.0 GPA. Important coursework in accounting, marketing, communication, presenting, and technical writing.

BS MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING • 2003 • UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Activities and societies: Institute choir, student government boards, Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE OR LEADERSHIP

Led youth and scouting groups, choir director, choir accompanist and congregation organist. Led men's organizations and involved in church leadership. Volunteer with Idaho Make-A-Wish as a Wish Granter



KEVIN.M.NIELSEN@OUTLOOK.COM



208-407-6241



**[HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM
/IN/KEVIN-NIELSEN-MBA-
97B0019/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kevin-nielsen-mba-97b0019/)**



LAURA NIELSEN

MUSICAL THEATER PRODUCER

[HTTPS://THEHUCKLEBERRYSTAR.COM/ABOUT-THE-THEATER/](https://thehuckleberrystar.com/about-the-theater/)

OBJECTIVE

To create high quality musical theater for youth and families in the Treasure Valley

SKILLS

Creative artist with an eye for design and composition.
Work to ensure every actor is highlighted and feels like a star on stage.

EXPERIENCE

PRODUCER • THE HUCKLEBERRY STAR THEATER • NOV 2020 – PRESENT

Co-produced 2 musical theater productions with my husband, Kevin, and our friends Jason and Brookann Hessing. Responsible for website and marketing, graphic design, playbills, scenic art, ticketing, box office, concessions, and anything needed to bring the production together. Shows produced:

Annie Get Your Gun – August 2021

The Music Man – August 2022

EDUCATION

B.A. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION • MAY 2004 • UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE OR LEADERSHIP

Lead child activities, youth programs, music directing for my church for the past 20 years



LNIELSEN811@YAHOO.COM



208-401-8317

NIKKI WESSELMAN

3380 N. Cooper Ave. Meridian ID 83646 | nikkiwesselman@gmail.com | (360) 223-2654

OBJECTIVE | Providing a fun class atmosphere for all experience levels. Ensuring that each student receives the best instruction in a safe and enjoyable way.

SKILLS & ABILITIES | I've been assessed as having 'a solid overall technique with expressive movement quality'. I present my instruction with great timing and musicality, excellent choreography knowledge and delivery, as the foundation in each of my classes. I can teach all ages and experience levels with a positive outlook, encouraging each student to learn, safely and effectively while having fun.

EXPERIENCE | **CHOREOGRAPHER HUCKLEBERRY STAR THEATER- MUSIC MAN**

Julie Thimmig- juliemthimmig@gmail.com
262-960-2327

JULY- AUGUST 2022

CHOREOGRAPHING AND TEACHING CAST

CHOREOGRAPHER BOISE MUSIC WEEK- INTO THE WOODS

Larry Dennis- culturaljetsam@gmail.com
208-695-7822

OCTOBER 2019- MAY 2022

CHOREOGRAPHING AND TEACHING CAST

DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER BOISE LITTLE THEATER

100 E Fort St.
Boise, ID 83712
Kim Labrum- klabrum@boisestate.edu
208-559-1979

JUNE 2019- JULY 2019

Directing theater production, choreographing and teaching cast

DANCE INSTRUCTOR BOISE PARKS AND RECREATION

700 Robbins Rd.
Boise, ID 83702
Clay Lee- CLee@cityofboise.com
208-861-5840

JANUARY 2021- CURRENTLY

Teaching Creative Movement and Tap classes to ages 3-6

DANCE INSTRUCTOR DANCE ARTS ALLIANCE

2989 Copper Point Dr. Ste. 100
Meridian, ID 83642
Dotty Hancock- dottyhancock@gmail.com
208-345-4832

AUGUST 2015- JUNE 2016

Teaching Hip Hop classes to ages 5-18, and Jazz Technique to ages 10-adult

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTOR THE LOCKER ROOM

1859 Main Street
Ferndale, WA 98248
Korinda Bullard- korinda@lockerroomfitness.com
360-318-7506

NOVEMBER 2013- JULY 2015

Teaching group fitness classes in Dance, Stretch, Strength, Les Mills Body Pump and Les Mills Sh'Bam

DANCE INSTRUCTOR DANCING FOR JOY

4073 Hannegan Road

Bellingham, WA 98226

Maluhia Vander Griend-info@dancing4joy.org

360-715-0900

JANUARY 2003-JUNE 2008

Teaching Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical and Hip-Hop to all ages.

EDUCATION | BORAH HIGH SCHOOL – BOISE ID

GRADUATED WITH DIPLOMA IN 1996

REFERENCES | CLAY LEE, ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

BOISE PARKS AND RECREATION

CLee@cityofboise.com

208-861-5840

DOTTY HANCOCK, OWNER

DANCE ARTS ALLIANCE

dottyhancock@gmail.com

208-345-4832

Sarah Howard

25rueplumet@gmail.com (208) 514-8948

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

Fairy Godmother, <i>Cinderella</i>	Starlight Mountain Theatre	Ed Davis / Skye Davis
Choir, <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Idaho Shakespeare Festival	Victoria Bussert
Neverland Lion, <i>Peter Pan</i>	Alluvion Stage Company	Linda Nell Cooper
Ariel Moore, <i>Footloose</i>	Starlight Mountain Theatre	Ed Davis
Disney princess-style performer	Capes & Crowns	Emily Bourdon

ADDITIONAL THEATRE PERFORMANCES

Mary Poppins, <i>Mary Poppins</i>	Boise Music Week	Wendy Keoppl
Ophelia, <i>Hamlet</i>	Encore Theater Company	Jonathan Perry
Marian Paroo, <i>The Music Man</i>	Western Wyoming College	Chris Will
Soprano chorus, <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i>	Liberty University	Linda Nell Cooper
Vivian, <i>Oklahoma!</i>	Liberty University	Linda Nell Cooper
Cosette, <i>Les Miserables</i>	Starlight Mountain Theatre	Ed Davis

PRODUCTION

Director - independent musical theatre workshops	Starlight Mountain Theatre
Tech assistant (<i>Annie</i>)	Music Theater of Idaho
Choreographer/director	Eagle Song Choir Disney Concert
MC Writer	Eagle Song Choir Broadway

TRAINING

BA - Musical Theatre Performance and English (WWCC, Liberty University, Thomas Edison University)
Master Class, acting - Musical Theatre Performance – Corey Mach
Master Class, Broadway choreography - Nathan Balsler (NY)

Voice 7 years
Acting 4 years
Dance (years combined) 7 years (ballet, modern, tap, jazz)
Courses in directing, choreography, stage movement, stage combat, dialect training

ACHIEVEMENTS

Nomination - American College Theatre Festival - Irene Ryan Acting Competition

Erika Gray

8800 N Craydon Dr. Boise, ID 823704 | 208-608-2674 | erikagraylpm@hotmail.com

Education

BYU IDAHO | 2003-2007

B.A. MUSIC EDUCATION

Minor: Piano Performance

Related coursework: Choir Director and vocal performance accompanist

Experience

PRIVATE PIANO TEACHER | 2000 - PRESENT

PRIVATE VOCAL TEACHER | 2000-PRESENT

MUSIC SCHOOL TEACHER | LET'S PLAY MUSIC | 2012-PRESENT

CHOIR DIRECTOR | 10 YEARS

MUSIC DIRECTOR | BOISE LITTLE THEATER | YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN | 2008

MUSIC DIRECTOR | BOISE LITTLE THEATER | WHITE CHRISTMAS | 2010

MUSIC DIRECTOR | BOISE LITTLE THEATER | EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVERY TOLD | 2012

MUSIC DIRECTOR | BOISE MUSIC WEEK | SECRET GARDEN | 2014

MUSIC DIRECTOR | EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD | 2015

MUSIC DIRECTOR | BOISE LITTLE THEATER | ANNIE | 2019

MUSIC DIRECTOR | MERIDIAN CUE | NEWSIES | 2022 |

MUSIC DIRECTOR | MERIDIAN CUE | MARY POPPINS | 2023