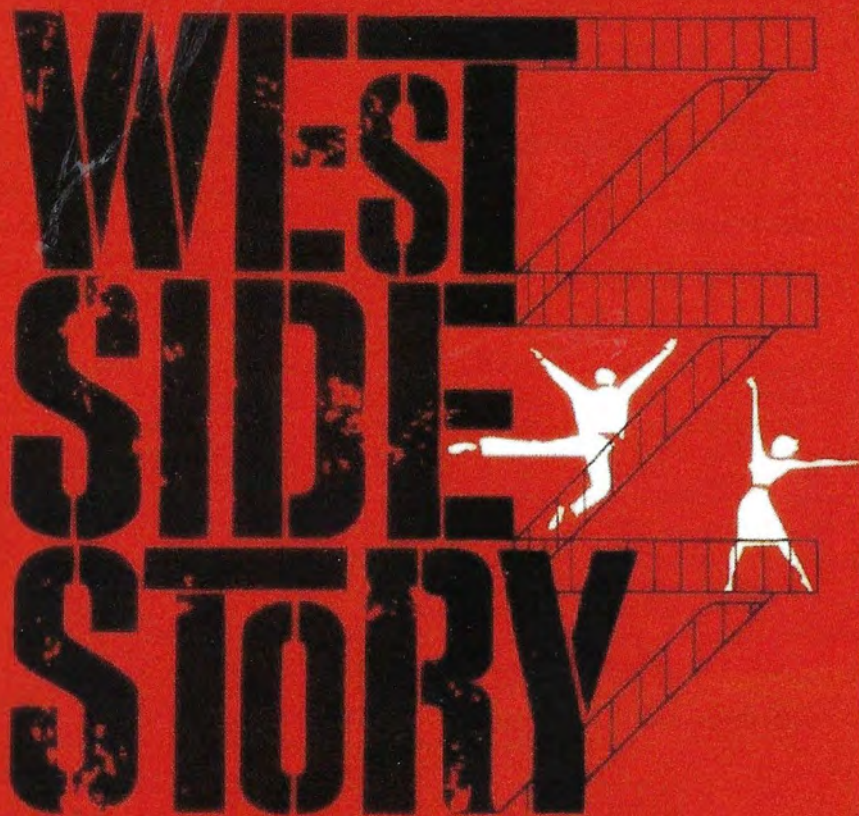


# PLAYBILL®

Maroa-Forsyth High School

Maroa, IL



Maroa-Forsyth High School

PRESENTS

# WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a Conception of JEROME ROBBINS

Book by	Music by	Lyrics by
<b>ARTHUR LAURENTS</b>	<b>LEONARD BERNSTEIN</b>	<b>STEPHEN SONDHEIM</b>

Entire Original Production Directed and Choreographed by  
**JEROME ROBBINS**

with

**Carly Hitchens**

**Jairon Ritter**

**Brock Birkholtz**

**Emilee Oliver**

**JT Grider**

Additional Choreography  
Tarin Mills

Orchestra Preperation  
Josh Youngs

Additional Choreography  
Maddy Weiss  
Maddie Hall

Fight Coordinator  
Rodger Baldwin

Set Construction  
Cassie Crouch  
Mech/Tech Students

Additional Set Construction  
Mike Kirby  
Barry Hitchens

Set Painting  
Jodi Wiley

Choreographed by  
**Tony Capps**

Directed by  
**Christopher Weisenborn**

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith and Harold S. Prince  
by arrangement with Roger L. Stevens

West Side Story  
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
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## SONGS

### ACT I

**Scene I: The Neighborhood — 5:00 P.M.**

Prologue ..... Orchestra

Jet Song ..... Riff, The Jets

**Scene II: The Yard — 5:30 P.M.**

Something's Coming ..... Tony

**Scene III: Bridal Shop — 6:00 P.M.**

**Scene IV: Dance Hall — 10:00 P.M.**

The Dance At The Gym ..... The Jets, The Sharks

Maria ..... Tony

**Scene V: Alleyway — 11:00 P.M.**

Tonight ..... Tony, Maria

America ..... Anita, Rosalia, Shark Girls

**Scene VI: Drugstore — Midnight**

Cool ..... Riff, The Jets

**Scene VII: Bridal Shop — 5:30 P.M.**

One Hand, One Heart ..... Tony, Maria

**Scene VIII: The Neighborhood — 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.**

Tonight Quintet ..... Tony, Maria, Anita, Riff, The Jets, The Sharks

**Scene IX: Under the Highway — 9:00 P.M.**

The Rumble ..... The Jets, The Sharks

### ACT II

**Scene I: A Bedroom — 9:15 P.M.**

I Feel Pretty ..... Maria, Consuela, Rosalia, Francisca,  
Teresita, Estella, Margarita

Somewhere (Ballet) ..... Tony, Maria, The Jets, The Sharks

**Scene II: A Back Alley — 10:00 P.M.**

Gee, Officer Krupke ..... Action, The Jets

**Scene III: The Bedroom — 11:30 P.M.**

A Boy Like That/I Have A Love ..... Anita, Maria

**Scene IV: Drugstore — 11:40 P.M.**

**Scene V: Under the Highway — Midnight**

# CAST

## Cast Members

Riff ..... JT Grider  
Tony ..... Jairon Ritter  
Action ..... Jared Anderson  
A-Rab ..... Will Jordan  
Baby John ..... Luke Kirby  
Big Deal ..... Brandon Goede  
Diesel ..... Dakota Haws  
Snowboy ..... Devon Nailor  
Anybodys ..... Madeleine Hubbard  
Graziella ..... Kelse Sharpe  
Velma ..... Sierra Taylor  
Minnie ..... Haley McCullough  
Clarice ..... Alexis Diaz  
Pauline ..... Sarah Hallam  
Bernardo ..... Brock Birkholtz  
Maria ..... Carly Hitchens  
Anita ..... Emilee Oliver  
Chino ..... Ben Baldwin  
Pepe ..... Austin Mandrell  
Indio ..... Daniel Kane  
Rosalia ..... Maddy Weiss  
Consuela ..... Lindsey Austin  
Teresita ..... Eva Georgopoulos  
Francisca ..... Gabby Sams  
Estella ..... Sabrina Doyle  
Margarita ..... Maddie Berry  
Doc ..... Blake Bryan  
Schrank ..... Mitchell Reeser  
Krupke ..... Janzen Eagler

# CAST

## Cast Members (continued)

Ensemble-Jets ..... Caroline Beckman, Samantha Bennett, Lynzee Campbell-Vanzant, Calli Crawford, Chloe Eagler, Breanna Freytag, Alexa Hoffman, Arik Inda, Lily Johnston, Lydia Kupferschmid, Shelby Mitchell, Ella Snyder, Paige Stuckey, Emily Weiss, Kyle Wendt, Bekida Williams, Seth Woollen  
Ensemble-Sharks ..... Emma Baldwin, Tyana Brock, Hannah Crawford, Molly Dugger, Alex Falk, Drew Flesner, Nolan Hale, Maddie Hall, Ryan Haws, Nole Huffman, Lily Morthland, Rachel Nelson, Ria Patel, Leah Peitzmann, Nick Scheibly, Logan Shepard, Brooke Stuckey, Deontae Weikle, Tori Weis, Paige Wendt  
Backstage Crew ..... Shanbriel Dennis, Jasmine Gregory, Noah Hamilton, Cerena Haubner, Matthew Hoback, Lindsay Mandrell, Kayla Mansfield, Macy Morr, Erika Mosley, Isabella Reid, Alyssa Ritter, Zoey Shull, Austin Skirvin, Johanna Thompson

## Orchestra

Piano/Conductor ..... Christopher Weisenborn  
Violin ..... Emily Ma  
Piccolo ..... Anneliese Eads  
Flute ..... Claire Maxwell  
Leah Marty  
Clarinet ..... Maddie Leischner  
Suzanne Peterson  
Emaan Dawood  
Alto Sax ..... Victoria Bower  
Leia Jones  
Tenor Sax ..... Britta Braden  
Bari Sax ..... Ashli Landa  
Trumpet ..... Mike King  
Trombone ..... Matt Nalefski  
Josh Youngs  
Bass Guitar ..... Emma Taylor  
Percussion ..... Alex Kuhn  
Braden Thornton



## WHO'S WHO

### Jairon Ritter

*as Tony*

This show marks Jairon's first lead after being a member of the Ensemble the past 3 years. He was a captain of the Football and Basketball teams, a member of Student Council and NHS, and is one of the Valedictorians. He will be attending the University of Illinois this fall, majoring in Accounting (Honor's Program). Special thanks to his family for actually making him try out and to Mr. W.

### Carly Hitchens

*as Maria*

A junior at MFHS. Past credits include: Liat (South Pacific), Rifka (Fiddler on the Roof). Carly is involved in Student Council, NHS, Honors Choir, and is a Choir Intern. She is looking to major in Musical Theatre after graduation. Carly would like to thank her family for always supporting her and to Mr. Weisenborn for being a great role model and making the musicals fun to be part of.

### Emilee Oliver

*as Anita*

A senior this year. Past credits: Janet MacGregor (South Pacific), Tzeitel (Fiddler on the Roof), Ethel McCormick (Footloose). She is involved in the Millikin Children's Choir, Honors Choir at MFHS, and a Choir Intern. She has also been an All-State Honors Choir member for the past 2 years. She will be attending Belmont this fall majoring in Music Business. Special thanks to her parents.

### JT Grider

*as Riff*

A senior at MFHS. Previous credits include: Emile (South Pacific), Constable (Fiddler on the Roof), Ensemble (Footloose). JT is a member of FFA, Student Council, the Golf Team and Honors Choir. He was selected to the Illinois All-State Choir this year. After graduation, he plans on attending Western Illinois University, majoring in Forensic Chemistry. A special thanks to his parents and Mr. W.

### Brock Birkholtz

*as Bernardo*

A sophomore at MFHS this year, Brock has certainly caught the theatre bug! Past credits include: Ensemble (South Pacific). He was a member of the Basketball and Baseball teams, a member of the Human Rights League, and plays travel baseball. A shout out to his parents for helping him prepare his lines and to Mr. Weisenborn for giving him this opportunity to show his talent.

## WHO'S WHO

### Christopher Weisenborn (Director)

This marks the seventh production Mr. Weisenborn has directed here at MFHS. He holds a Bachelor of Music Degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Vocal Education from Millikin University and will graduate with his Master's in Music Education from Illinois State University on May 9th! As an active pianist, he has played in several pit orchestras. Favorite credits include Les Miserables, West Side Story, and All Shook Up (Little Theatre on the Square). He also has been sought out to Direct and Music Direct for The Little Theatre on the Square and the Decatur Park District. This year marks his first year as Director of the Men's Ensemble for the Millikin Children's Choir. He also served as director for the Decatur Park Singers (2011-2013). Mr. Weisenborn belongs to the National Association for Music Education, the Illinois Music Educators Association, the American Choral Directors Association and serves as a District 5 Choral Rep. for ILMEA. Much love to his family for their love & support!

### Tony Capps (Choreographer)

Tony has been choreographing in local schools since 1979. His love of performing in musicals and show choirs was the spark that led him into wanting to choreograph himself. As a high school senior, he performed in Millikin University's production of West Side Story as a dancer with the Sharks. This is Tony's 19th production with Maroa-Forsyth High School. On a personal note, he would like to thank his wife Stephanie for her patience and sacrifice. Also thank you to Mr. Weisenborn, the cast, parents and MFHS for another outstanding production.

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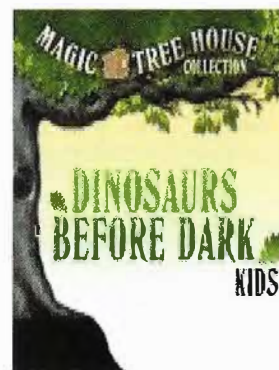


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**BEST OF SUMMER STOCK**

Everyone is a star in the B.O.S.S. musical theatre camps! In just 6 weeks, actors aged 6 – 18 will experience first-hand what it takes to stage a live production. B.O.S.S. JR (ages 6 – 11) will present the Magic Tree House favorite story *Dinosaurs Before Dark* and B.O.S.S. SR (AGES 12 – 18) will present the high energy *LEGALLY BLONDE, The musical, JR!*

Each camp is directed by our professional, experienced musical theatre staff and includes Christopher Weisenborn, Michele Collingwood, Jen Theis, Angie Miller, Emma Taylor, Arthur Hinton and Marc Black to name a few! The program is directed by Marie Jagger-Taylor. Registration ends June 15!

Camp runs June 22 – August 2 with B.O.S.S. JR rehearsing Monday – Thursday 9 am – noon and B.O.S.S. SR rehearsing 1 -4 pm. There is a special preview concert July 17 and performances July 31 – August 2 at the Civic Center Theatre. Rehearsals are held at the Poage Arts and Recreation Center, 2020 N. Oakland Avenue and fee is \$190 or \$175 with resident discount and includes performance t-shirt, script and practice CD. For more information or to register call 422-5911 or log onto <http://www.decaturnparks.org/the-arts/perform-and-b-o-s-s/>



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This production would not have been possible without the help of some very special people. Our apologies if we inadvertently left anyone off this list.

Mr. Mike Williams, Superintendent  
Mr. Scott Adreon, Principal  
MFHS Faculty and Staff  
Mr. Josh Youngs (5-12 Band Director)  
Mr. Edd Powers (K-5 General Music Director)  
Tina Leach  
Tim Mullins, Janet Peasley, Denise Renfro, Wes Weikle  
Mark Woods (Woods Photography, Clinton, IL)  
Refreshment Services Pepsi-Decatur  
Crawford's Pizza & Pub (Opening Night Party)  
Val Jordan & Brad Ochiltree (Publicity Posters)  
Mrs. Alison Alender (Monticello HS Band Director)  
Amber Bennett (Ticket Sales)  
Kelly Berry (Specialty Concession Items)  
Jack & Laura Grider  
Barry & Kris Hitchens  
Katrina Hubbard  
Mike & Gretchen Kirby  
Shelly Oliver (Props)  
Kelly Ritter  
Diana Richardson (Videography)

## Past Productions at MFHS

Guys and Dolls (1996)  
Grease (1997)  
South Pacific (1998)  
You're a Good Man Charlie Brown (1999)  
The Music Man (2000)  
Lil' Abner (2001)  
Damn Yankees (2002)  
Grease (2003)  
Little Shop of Horrors (2004)  
Anything Goes (2005)  
Once Upon a Mattress (2006)  
Sugar (2007)  
Snoopy (2008)  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (2009)  
All Shook Up (2010)  
Oklahoma (2011)  
Footloose (2012)  
Fiddler on the Roof (2013)  
South Pacific (2014)

## Jets vs. Sharks

Need a snack before the show or during Intermission? Visit the concession carts to purchase from YOUR gang of choice--the Jets or the Sharks! Which gang will come out on top at the end of the night?

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

We have an extremely nostalgic view of the 1950's in this country. When we think of the teenagers of the period, we have a tendency to picture the bobbysoxers of *Grease*, rather than the growing numbers of street gangs that prompted the 1954 Senate Committee Hearings on the plague of juvenile delinquency in America. In 1957, the brilliant and timely *West Side Story* opened in New York. This cutting-edge masterwork used the plot and structure of the great tragedy *Romeo and Juliet* to give context to a growing social issue. Drawing upon widespread racism, poverty, and the increasing volatility of urban teens, Arthur Laurents beautifully sculpted the tale of the feuding Montagues and Capulets into their "present day" counterparts: the Jets and the Sharks; two immigrant gangs, Caucasian and Puerto Rican, ready to wage war against each other to protect what they perceived as their turf on the upper west side of Manhattan. Leonard Bernstein's score used contemporary jazz and Latin themes to perfectly represent the tension and the divide between these two cultures. He continued this juxtaposition subtly into the aching, unrequited themes for the illfated lovers. Finally, choreographer Jerome Robbins took dance narrative to a place that had never before been seen in musical theater. Until that time, dance had largely been used to enhance the story, but in *West Side*, it **was** the story. Remove the *Prologue* or *Dance At The Gym*, and you wouldn't be able to follow the plot. Robbins' use of dance as text elevated the art form unlike any choreographer, before or since. *West Side Story* is most definitely a period piece, but its themes of love, hate, family, loyalty, and violence are timeless. If there was ever a question of relevance, we need only turn on our local news.

This production has been in the works since my first year here at Maroa-Forsyth, when I showed the now Senior Class the DVD of *West Side Story* when they were in 6th grade. They asked if we could ever do this show. After having worked on WSS at The Little Theatre on the Square, I knew the challenges it presented. However, I made them a deal. If they stuck with choir and the musicals the rest of their time in MS and HS, we could do this show their Senior year. Well, here we are!

### To our Cast and Crew:

I can't express enough how much you mean to me. You have done an outstanding job bringing our interpretation of this story to life. This was no small production, but you rose to the occasion. You have spent hours rehearsing and preparing for this weekend and you will soon see the fruits of your labor. Have fun and Break a Leg!

### To all involved in this production:

I am truly blessed to be working along such dedicated individuals. **YOU** are the best parents a director could ask for in his program and have once again gone above and beyond in making this production a memorable one for all of us!

Tony--it has been an honor working with you again! THANK YOU for everything you brought to this production.

Thank you for coming to our production and supporting the Fine Arts at Maroa-Forsyth High School. Sit back, relax, and enjoy *West Side Story*!

Christopher Weisenborn