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**The
Wiz**

September
27 & 28

October
4,5,11,12,13



THE WIZ

Book by William F. Brown

Music & Lyrics by Charlie Smalls

Adapted from "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum

Cast

Aunt Em Phyllis Harris, Ira Jean Tate
 Dorothy Stacie Nyree Pinkney
 Uncle Henry Gary Pinkney
 Tornado Amy Anderson, Mariah Bradley, Aylene
 Elske, Myrna Key, Kaarin Johnson, Tanesha
 Middleton, Pamela Street, Patricia Wilson
 Munchkins Donnye Canada, Ian Duncan, Elisabeth T.
 Maiura, Novella Pinkley, Roxanne Pinkney,
 Patricia L. E. Wilson
 Addaperle Karen Konrad
 Yellow Brick Road (Y.B.R.) Amy Anderson, Mariah Bradley, Pamela
 Street, Myrna Key
 Scarecrow G.T. Gilmore
 Crows Maria Bradley, Kaarin Johnson, Elisabeth T
 Maira, Tanesha Middleton
 Tinman Jomo
 Lion Avance Byrd II
 Strangers Donnye Canada, Kaarin Johnson, Elisabeth T.
 Maira, Tanesha Middleton
 Kalidahs Maria Bradley, Ian Duncan, Aylene Elske,
 Pamela Street, Patricia L. E. Wilson
 Poppies Maria Bradley, Kaarin Johnson, Myrna Key,
 Pamela Street
 Mice Donnye Canada, Ian Duncan, Aylene Elske,
 Novella Pinkney



Gatekeeper Gary Pinkney
 Emerald City Citizens Maria Bradley, Mariah Bradley, Amy Ander-
 son, Kaarin Johnson, Elisabeth T. Maiura,
 Tanesha Middleton, Roxanne Pinkney,
 Pamela Street, Patricia L. E. Wilson, Myrna
 Key
 The Wiz Richard Ferguson
 Winkies Amy Anderson, Maria Bradley, Mariah
 Bradley, Donnye Canada, Ian Duncan, Aylene
 Elske, Kaarin Johnson, Elisabeth T. Maiura,
 Tanesha Middleton, Novella Pinkney,
 Roxanne Pinkney, Patricia L. E. Wilson
 Lord High Underling Pamela Street
 Evillene Myrna J. Key
 Winged Monkeys Tanesha Middleton, Kaarin Johnson
 Quadlings Donnye Canada, Ian Duncan, Aylene Elske,
 Novella Pinkney
 Glinda Kathy Thomason

Prologue

Act I

Setting: Kansas

Time: Present

Act II

Setting: OZ

Time: Present

This
Production Made
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Director's Bio

Michelle Blackmon just returned from Aspen, Co where she performed A...My Name is Alice for the Snowmass/Aspen Reperatory Theatre. Though a native New Yorker, she currently resides in Seattle where she has been seen in such shows as Little Shop of Horrors, The Colored Museum, A...My Name is Alice, Nuts, Takunda, Perfectly Frank, Godspell, For Colored Girls..., Jungal Book, The Snow Queen and others. Michelle recently directed and choreographed A...My Name is Alice for the Oregon Stage Co. in Portland and Ain't Misbehavin' for the Evergreen Theatre Co. (ETC) in Seattle. She also directed Hair for ETC and The Wiz for the Paul Robeson Theatre Co. She has been involved in developing, directing, and teaching theatre workshops for young people for the past 12 years and performed in the Soviet Union 2 years ago as a member of the Seattle/Soviet Theatre Arts Exchange.

Frederick Charles Canada first came to TLT as director of the Award winning Master Harold & the Boys in 1989-90 season. Since then he has appeared on stage in Fences, Driving Miss Daisy, Miss Evers Boys, and Ma Rainey's Black Bottom in theatres around the country, and in the made for TV movie I'll take Romance and as a Safe Streets proponent in a Graffiti removal commercial. As you read this he is performing at the Nationally acclaimed Goodman Theatre in Chicago in Miss Evers Boys. A native of Tacoma, Charles studied Drama at TCC and the University of Wash-

ington. He has performed in over 50 different professional productions in Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Colorado, Oregon, California, Alabama and Washington. He has also performed in Florida and Canada. He would like to give a special thanks to Gayle, Jones, Donnye for putting up with a nomadic lifestyle; and to Donnye & James Adams for always being there; and to Bernice Canada, for without her, he would never have been here in the first place. And lastly, thank you God.

Director's Notes

The story "The Wizard of OZ" has always been synonymous with the essence of the spirit of youth burgeoning it's way into adulthood. I dedicate this production to that spirit in all of us which is constantly urging us on to experience life's new adventures. And no matter where life takes you always remember to have the courage to take the first step; Use your brain; Always have a heart; And no matter how far away you go there's no place like home.

The Cast

Tornado, Y.B.R., Winkie, Citizen, Amy Anderson - Amy is in the 7th grade at Mason Middle School. She takes dance from Jo Emery and enjoys acting.

Crow, Citizen, Kalida Queen, Poppy, Maria Sanchez Bradley - TLT gave Maria her first chance on stage almost 25 years ago as "Floria" in their production of Time of the Cuckoo. Her latest show was Amahl and the Night Visitors with the Tacoma Opera. She has sung with the UPS Civic Chorus and performed with Shakespeare NW in the schools, and done movie and TV extra work.

Tornado, Y.B.R., Winkie, Citizen, Mariah Bradley - Mariah is an accomplished musician and is an active participant in the Tacoma Youth Symphony and in the Chamber Music Association. She has been in several productions including Hansel and Gretel, Tempest and All My Sons. She also holds a position of the Youth Planning Board at Holy Cross Church.

Lion, Avance Byrd II - Avance, a Music Ed major from Indiana University school of Music, and a native of Indiana has appeared in several operas and musicals including, the Bartered Bride, Carmen, La Traviata, Daughter of the Regiment, Show Boat, Porgy and Bess, and Die Fledermaus. Avance is Currently teaching general vocal music for Tacoma Public Schools.

Munchkin, Winkie, Mouse, Quadling, Stranger, Donnye Canada - Donnye, a 4th grader at Franklin Elementary, is a veteran Stage perfmfer. She has appeared in the Black Youth Ministry Theater productions of A Serious Problem (1989) and Drug Pain (1990). Donnye enjoys singing and acting at her church, dancing, playing recorder and soccer, and her Barbie dolls.

Scenic Designer, Costume Designer, Judith Cullen - Judy has been designing professionally for six years. She designed scenery for TLT's Camelot last spring. After opening night of The Wiz, Judy will be 'easin' on down the road' to Portland where she is chief scenic artist for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival - Portland.

Munchkin, Quadling, Mouse, Winkie, Ian Duncan - Ian, in 3rd grade, likes to read, act and dance. He makes his musical debut in The Wiz. At four he wanted to be on stage and in the movies. He is currently working toward his goal with dance and acting classes and he has also done some modeling. He was in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever at the Lakewood Playhouse.

Quadling, Mouse, Tornado Dancer, Kalidah, Winkie, Aylene Elske - Aylene, a 3rd grader at Fruitland Elementary in Puyallup has been dancing since she was 2 and now performs with the Elite School of Dance. She was Tiny Tim in Chinook's production of Scrooge and Christmas and participates in

their Summer Workshop. Aylene takes singing lessons and likes to play soccer and tetherball.

Wiz, Richard Ferguson - Richard is no stranger to the stage. His stage experience includes J.B. Simple, Murder in the Cathedral, Red White and Blue, and You Come a Long way Baby. This is Richards second performance on the TLT stage, Th first being Master Herold and the Boys.

Scarecrow, G. T. Gilmore - G. T. has been in musicals including Showboat, A Chorus Line, and The Me Nobody Knows. He enjoys Running, cycling, canoeing, traveling, shopping. Although working is very important to surviving, spending quality time with his family is most important. "You can always make up a lost day at work, but you will never get back the last time with your family."

Aunt Em, Phyllis Harris - Phyllis has performed in many plays including Simply Heavenly, Gods Favorite, Amen Corner, Good Times. She has sung with Washington State Mass Choir, and been a part of Hi-Jinks Viriety and Fasion Shows.

Tornado Dancer, Poppy, Winkie, Citizen, Stranger, Kaarin Johnson - Kaarin, a Sophomore at Franklin Pierce was last seen as Mole in The Wind in the Willows. She has had parts in The Miracle Woker, Pied Piper and was Wendy in Peter Pan. Acting is Kaarin's favorite hobby.

Tinman, Jomo - Jomo's first appeared on stage at Bailey Street Elementary in

Waycross, Georgia as one of the "Ivettes" singing Poison Ivy. It wasn't until this April that Jomo scratched "the itch" to act when he auditioned to play a role in The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail, at the Lakewood Playhouse. Jomo soon followed the urge again when he answered the local ad to audition for The Wiz.

Evillene; Wicked Witch of the West, Tornado Dancer, Poppy, Citizen, Y.B.R. , Myrna J. Key - Myrna, an employee of Weyerhaeuser, held the 1980 AAA League State Speech Champion in Oral Interpretation. She has sung with various choirs, but The Wiz is her first play. She is the daughter of Mr. William E. Key and Mrs. Juanita A. Brown.

Addaperle, Karen Konrad - The most glorious aspect of community theatre is watching a production go from seed to flower. In Karen's theatrical garden, The Wiz will join performances in South Pacific and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. Story telling and singing within the community prevents any off-season wilting!

Choreographer, Cleveland Mack - Cleveland has choreographed Grease, Hair, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, and Pajama Game, to name just a few. A transplant from New Orleans four and a half years ago, he has also performed in Seattle theatres in My One and Only, Cinderella, The Real True Story, Pajama Game etc. The Wiz marks his Tacoma and TLT debut.

Munchkin, Citizen, Stranger, Winkie, Crow, Elisabeth T. Maiura - Elisabeth is a sophomore at Wilson High School and enjoys singing in the school and church youth choirs. She enjoys acting in church, school, and now TLT plays.

Tornado Dancer, Stranger, Citizen, Winkie, Crow, Tanesha Middleton - Tanesha played in Chi Che - a Chinese Cinderella at the Puyallup Fair. She enjoys drum and dance at School, and has taken ballet for more than a year.

Musical Director, Accompanist, Paul Pew - Paul Pew has been involved in music and musical theater in the Puget Sound area for the last 13 years. He is a cum laude graduate of Chapman School of Music in Southern California and recently completed his post-graduate musical studies at the University of WA. The Wiz is Paul's second opportunity to act as musical director for Tacoma Little Theatre, having directed Dickens' A Christmas Carol in 1990. Paul is a resident of Gig Harbor where he teaches at Kopachuck Middle School and performs professionally with his wife, Karen, a flutist

Uncle Henry, Royal Gatekeeper, Messenger, Gary Pinkney - Gary has lived in Tacoma for 11 yrs and works as an Activity Director at the Federal Way Convalescent Center. He is also producer / director of Able Videos, Video Co. He is the father of three daughters that are also in the play. He enjoys reading, sports and the arts.

Winkie, Mouse, Munchkin, Quadling, Novella Pinkney - Novella, a 9 yr old 3rd grader at Chambers Elementary is one of 4 Pinkney's in the Wiz. She plays the piano and sings in two choirs: Rays of Joy, and in Motion for Christ. She also enjoys TV, games, singing, and volunteering at the nursing home where her father works.

Munchkin, Winkey Citizen, Roxanne Pinkney - Roxanne is one of 4 Pinkneys in The Wiz. At 13, she studies drama at Drama Intermediate School. She comes from a musical family, plays violin, and sings with 6 choirs including In Motion for Christ. Roxanne likes to "STEP" (clapping hands and stomping feet) to different beats.

Dorothy, Stacie Nyree Pinkney - Stacie, age 17, is a senior at Curtis Senior High. She enjoys singing with the Swing Choir, Acappella Choir, Vienna Tour Chior and in the school musical "Take a Shot at Love". She also sings with the Youth Choir, Mass Choir, Sounds of Pentecost, and the Redeemed Chior at her church.

Lord High Underling, Tornado Dancer, Kalida, Poppy, Y.B.R., Pamela Street - Performing in The Wiz has nourished a life long dream of Pam's. She works for Tacoma's Street people at Nativity House. Pam is a native Chicagoan and a recent graduate of Union College in Schneclady, NY where she received a bachelor degree in psychology.

**TACOMA
THEATRE**

Lighting Designer, Sarah Talbot - Sarah is a student designer studying at Evergreen State College. She has worked in costuming, stage management, and technical direction along with lighting design. Her lighting experience includes the thematically related collaborative dance pieces called "Creation in the Time of Destruction."

Aunt Em, IraJean Tate - IraJean, a Mother of three, works at Boeing. She sings with the Greater Christ Temple church. She enjoys acting, singing and writing and hopes to act in more roles that will build her acting skills and improve her singing whether on stage or screen.

Glinda, Kathy Thomason - A newcomer to TLT, Kathy has sung professionally at weddings and engagements. She has entered several singing competitions sometimes winning trips or money. She has enjoyed work as a DJ at several Karaoke establishments.

Munchkin, Winkie, Kalidah, Citizen, Patricia L. E. Wilson - Patricia has performed in a number of plays including Church Easter plays, high school and college dramas. Patricia is excited to gain experience acting in many more plays in the future.

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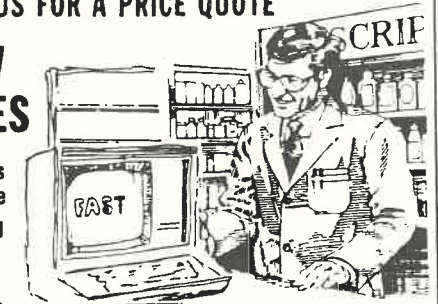
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Production Staff

Director Michelle Blackmon & Charles Canada
 Musical Director Paul Pew
 Accompanist Paul Pew
 Choreographer Cleaveland Mack
 Set Design Judith Cullen
 Light Design Sarah Talbot
 Costumes Judith Cullen, Jimmy Anderson, Tracy Berryman, Gen Carnahan, Maura Cullen-Couch, Betty Cullen, Shelly Kupu, Frances Rankos, Hans Meier
 Set Construction Chris Berryman, Tom Hubbell, Judith Cullen, Paul Littlejohn, James King, Danny Forbush, Tim Kelly, J Howard Boyd, Debra Frasch, Bruce Robison, Doug Martin
 Rehearsal Assistant James Canada
 Stage Manager Alan Marshall Brown
 Assistant Stage Manager Francis Davis
 Production Manager Alan Marshall Brown
 Properties Hans Meier
 Lighting Operator Gary Huston
 Light Crew James Canada, Terry R. Gibson
 Dance Captains Myrna Key, G.T. Gilmore
 Brochure Design Terry Marks
 Costumer Gen Carnahan

Special Thanks To:
 James Canada, Penny Elske, Lee Duncan Gary, Gail Canada, Gerry Johnson, and All Parents of Wiz Kids

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