

# KeizerCommunity

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## McNary theatre season starts in Oz

By DEREK WILEY  
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary drama department's first show of the 2017-18 season will be its biggest.

*The Wizard of Oz*, a musical based on the 1939 film, will open in the Ken Collins Theater on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. and run Nov. 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18. Additional matinees are Nov. 11 and 18 at 2 p.m.

With new drama director Tom Cavanaugh finishing up at Parkrose High School, McNary choir teacher Joshua Rist and choreographer Zoe Banton held auditions in June. The three then met to pick a musical.

"We thought it would be something everyone could get behind and really turn out for," Cavanaugh said of the *Wizard of Oz*.

"I really just deferred to Josh and Zoe for the casting decisions. They were really excited and put a really great cast together. It's been neat to get to know the kids. I've never directed a show somebody else has cast before."

About 100 McNary students will be involved in the musical, including 50 in the cast, 30 backstage and 15-20 in the orchestra pit.

"It's going to be a huge, huge set, lots of stuff flying, big set pieces, lots and lots of green everywhere," Cavanaugh said. "There's a couple of additional numbers that aren't in the movie. A big dance number that they've added called the *Jitterbug*. If you've



LEFT: McNary students Matthew Albright and Avery Smith sing with an ensemble during rehearsals for the *Wizard of Oz*. Madison Munro, one of the members of the stage management team, talks with drama director Tom Cavanaugh.



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never seen the play but you've seen the movie, there's some new stuff for you to see."

Grace Condello is playing Dorothy. The rest of the main cast includes Camryn Ronnow as the Wicked Witch of the West, Syndie Gould as Glinda, Matthew Albright as the Tin Man, Steven Cummings as the Scarecrow, Brian Gragg as the Cowardly Lion, Jacob Fritts as Wizard of Oz, Kennadi Thomas as Emerald Guard, Madelyn Hurst as Aunt Em and Ricky Galvan as Uncle Henry.

When Cavanaugh met with the McNary Thespian Board over the summer to plan the rest of the season, the students made their love for the One

Act Festival clear.

"It was very important to the kids that it was something that kept going," Cavanaugh said. "I think it's a cool tradition to have and to make that a thing that is completely student generated."

The One Act Festival is Jan. 18-20.

McNary wants to make the audience laugh with its third show—*Lend Me a Tenor* (Feb. 22-24, March 1-3).

"It's a smaller cast, single set, typical door slamming, mistaken identity farce type stuff," Cavanaugh said. "I think it's one of the better farces just because so many farces the first act is only set up for punch lines in the second act

but this is actually really funny all the way through and you still get the setup in the second act."

McNary will close the season with William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* on May 23-26.

Inspired by Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 1980s adaptation of *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night* will feature pop songs from the 1980s and 90s.

"All of the characters will have their theme song that they pick that they'll sing

at some point throughout the show to help flush out what the characters motivations are," Cavanaugh said. It's something that will let the kids have fun with the costumes they put together and some music as well."

## ServeFest Sunday, Sept 24

Canceling Sunday church is a radical move, but that is exactly what the leaders of Lakepoint Community Church will do on Sept. 24.

In place of traditional services, the church will host ServeFest 2017 at the Keizer Civic Center, to provide needed services from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

ServeFest is an annual ministry that encourages Christians to mobilize and "be the

church" by practicing their faith in a way that serves critical needs within their community.

Some 200-plus members of Lakepoint Community Church will host ServeFest. Lakepoint will provide lunches, family photos, haircuts, manicures, wellness clinic, including vaccinations (those being vaccinated will need to bring their medical insurance cards with them), bicycle repair, a children's carnival and

many other free services for the community.

In addition to these services, Lakepoint will be giving away free school supplies, personal care items, clothing for people of all ages and surprise raffle items.

All are welcome to join the members of Lakepoint Community Church as they help serve the community.

Keizer Civic Center is located at 930 Chemawa Road N.E. in Keizer.

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