



**VALLEY MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS**

**9 to 5 the Musical**  
July 7 - 22, 2023  
Morgan Performing Arts Center  
400 East 1st Ave., Ellensburg

**BUY TICKETS:**  
<https://our.show/valley-musical-theatre/9to5themusical>

**BIG NEWS!**  
**Our Name is Changing!**  
Read the Newsletter for all the details!

**THEATRE COMPANY**  
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1977

## News, Needs, Notes & Nods

### 9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL

Tickets on Sale!  
July 7 - 22

Page 2

### VMT IS BECOMING VTC

We're changing our name! Find out more here...

Page 1 & 4

### 2023 VMT SCHOLARSHIP

Meet the winners of the 2023 Valley Musical Theatre Scholarship

Page 6

## WHAT'S IN A NAME

*Jim Denison, VMT Board President*

In the late 1990's, Laughing Horse Summer Theatre, a long-running community produced summer stock theatre program in Ellensburg, shut its doors. At that time, a sub-committee of the Laughing Horse Arts Foundation earnestly committed to step-up into the gap to provide quality community theatre, with a specific focus on musical theatre. From these early discussions, Valley Musical Theatre was born, and our first production (Oliver!) took place in the summer of 1999.

Over the past 24 years, we have expanded our theatrical offerings from one summer musical blockbuster to 5 regular events, including a youth production, a cabaret style dinner theatre, a Christmas/Holiday production, and our more edgy "After Dark" series with small cast plays and musicals. We've also added workshops in acting, technical theatre, stage combat and more. While our mission to provide quality community-based theatre remains unchanged, the number of actors, crew and patrons have grown as well, and there has been a greater need to offer more than just musicals. In the future, we have visions of being able to offer Shakespeare in the Park (at the new Unity Park), Reader's Theatre, workshops, youth camps, and more!

The Kittitas County community has been extremely supportive of VMT over the years. When we were worried about our financing during Covid, the community rallied behind us and bought thousands of dollars' worth of tickets to our "No Show," which was a show that did not exist and would never be performed. Around the country, many community theaters were closing their doors forever, but due to the generosity and love from our community, we were able to return after Covid stronger than ever.

*Continued on page 4*

## Mission

Valley Musical Theatre has been bringing quality musical theatre to Ellensburg for over 20 years. Our mission statement:

Valley Musical Theatre, established in 1999, strives

- To bring quality live musical theater to the Kittitas Valley area, providing talented area residents of all ages with opportunities for performance and artistic growth in a positive, supportive environment.
- To develop and enhance existing facilities for musical theater performance.
- To work collaboratively within the Laughing Horse Arts Foundation with other entities such as Central Washington University, local school districts, and other community / semiprofessional theaters in the area to promote the goal of producing musical theater events.
- To further the goals of the Laughing Horse Arts Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce in developing Ellensburg as a tourist destination.

## Grant Support

### Acknowledgements

Valley Musical Theatre would like to express its sincere gratitude to the following organizations and grants that support in part our productions in 2023:

- Kittitas County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (for *9 to 5 the Musical*)
- Ellensburg Arts Commission (for *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* and *Godspell Jr.*)



# 9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL

JULY 7 - 22, 2023 - TICKETS ON SALE

Valley Musical Theatre is proud to present this year's summer musical theatre hit, "9 to 5 the Musical" with 10 shows performing from July 7-22nd at the Morgan Performing Arts Center (400 E. First Ave).

This musical adaptation of the iconic film, 9 to 5 is an undeniably upbeat show about friendship, standing up for what's right, and making a change. Pushed to the boiling point, three female coworkers concoct a plan to get even with the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot they call their boss.

In a hilarious turn of events, Violet, Judy and Doralee live out their wildest fantasy – giving their boss the boot! While Hart remains "otherwise engaged," the women give their workplace a dream makeover, taking control of the company that had always kept them down. Hey, a girl can scheme, can't she?

Music and lyrics by Dolly Parton, book by Patricia Resnick and directed by Kelle Vandenberg, this hilarious spin on women's equality will leave you hanging from the edge of your seat.

Vandenberg last directed VMT's Cabernet Cabaret, "The Books of Broadway" and had this to say about directing "9 to 5", "when we first talked about selecting this show as part of the season, I began to slowly sing the opening number, 9 to 5. I hadn't heard the song in decades, but I knew every word. It was a part of my culture and as a teen growing up in 1979, I was deeply influenced by everything going on around me. Women's rights, gas lines, potential war with Iran, and aerobics, or as we knew it, slimnastics. I wanted to tell this story using honesty and humor. I am honored to tell our history as women trying to fight for our place in the working world."

At Valley Musical Theatre, we are proud of the amazing talent in our community and pleased to share it with you.

9 TO 5, THE MUSICAL - Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

### Show Sponsors:

Grant funding provided by the Kittitas County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee  
Performance Night Sponsor: Kittitas Valley Healthcare  
Production Element Sponsors: Model Ke Cleaners, Bluestone Academy





# CABERNET CABARET

FALL CABARET, DINNER THEATRE  
& SILENT AUCTION

Cabernet Cabaret presents

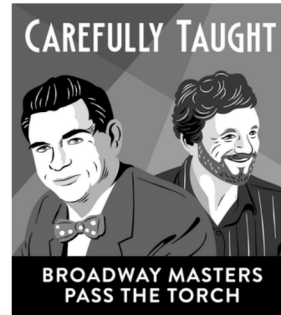
*Carefully Taught: Broadway Masters Pass the Torch*

Directed by Rice Majors

October 20-21, 2023

Hotel Windrow

AUDITIONS - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH



Join us for an evening of hit songs from Broadway legends Oscar Hammerstein and Stephen Sondheim, and the modern composers who were mentored by Sondheim: Lin Manuel-Miranda, Jonathan Larson, Jason Robert Brown, Tom Kitt, Stephen Flaherty, and Adam Guettel. From *South Pacific* to *Into the Woods* to *Ragtime* and *Rent*, you can see the inspiration, musical technique and craft that has been handed down from mentor to next generation of musical composers.

Only one weekend, only three shows, and seats are limited to about 90 per performance. Friday, October 20 at 7:00 PM, and Saturday, October 21 at 1:30 PM are show only tickets, and Saturday, October 21 at 6:00 PM is Valley Theatre Company's annual gala, silent auction, and dinner theatre performance. This is the event of the season, and we've sold out two years running so get your tickets early! Tickets will go on sale in September.

Enjoy a delectable dinner, complimentary wine, and be entertained with songs from some of your favorite musicals, and participate in a silent auction to support Valley Theatre Company and its 25th Theatrical Season. **Carefully Taught** features song selections from *Hamilton*, *Tick, Tick...Boom!*, *Anastasia*, *Songs for a New World*, *Company*, *Follies Carousel*, *Showboat*, and more!

Show Sponsors: Performance Night Sponsor: Kittitas Valley Healthcare

Production Sponsor - James Kirkham Law

Poster art by: Susan Burghart [www.susanburghart.com](http://www.susanburghart.com)

## HOLIDAYS

4th Annual - Noel - *The Heart of Christmas*

Arranged by Jill Whitman, and Directed by Hal Ott  
Thanksgiving Weekend - Part of Moments to Remember  
Hotel Windrow



Enjoy a quartet of harps, flute and viola serenading with celtic Christmas music interspersed with dramatic poetry readings. Slow down, pause, and remind yourself of what this season is truly about. Put aside your cares and worries and enjoy this heartfelt tribute to the season.

Ending off Ellensburg's Moments to Remember celebration, this one-hour Christmas themed show features music and poetry performed by local Washington musicians and actors. It's the perfect event to invite friends and family who are visiting for Thanksgiving weekend. Shop local on Plaid Friday, see the tree lighting ceremony and the dance performances downtown and then walk over to Hotel Windrow, get a cup of hot chocolate and enjoy a show for the whole family.

## Quotable Quotes

Here a couple of our favorite Dolly Parton quotes who wrote the lyrics to *9 to 5 the Musical*:

*I've always been  
misunderstood because of how  
I look.*

*Don't judge me by the cover  
'cause I'm a real good book.  
So read into it what you will,  
but see me as I am.*

*The way I look is just a  
country girl's idea of glam.*

*from "Backwoods Barbie"  
- Dolly Parton*

*What to do and where to start?  
Things are falling all apart  
Trying hard to move ahead  
But keep losing ground instead  
Still I have to take a chance  
Putting fear and doubt aside  
Had no warning in advance  
Nothing left to do but try  
And I just might make it work  
I just might make it after all...*

*from "I Just Might" - Dolly Parton*

*9 to 5 the Musical is perfect for  
anyone that's ever wanted to  
string up their boss, which is  
almost all of us.  
- Dolly Parton*

KVHEALTHCARE.ORG



## KVH WORKPLACE HEALTH

702 East Mountain View Ave, Suite 2 - Ellensburg | 509.933.8830

focused on pre-employment service, care, and  
treating work-related injuries and illnesses



## Volunteer with VMT

### GENERAL NEEDS

Do you know that it takes a village to put on a show? Our summer shows have 20-30 people working behind the scenes, and even our smaller productions have 10-20 people helping with everything from taking tickets, to building and painting sets, to working as stage crew, and other technical areas.

If you have been wanting to get involved backstage and have interest and skills in any of the below areas, please reach out to us at [valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com](mailto:valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com) or complete our VOLUNTEER FORM AT: [www.valleymusicaltheatre.com/volunteer-form](http://www.valleymusicaltheatre.com/volunteer-form)



- Directors
- Producers
- Set Design/Crew
- Lighting Design/Crew
- Sound Engineers
- Stage Management
- Choreographers
- Music Director
- Orchestra (indicate instruments played in comments)
- Makeup Design/Assistants
- Costume Design/Sewing
- Props
- Graphic Design/Advertising
- Box Office/Front of House
- Board of Directors
- Fundraising/Auction Assistance

## WHAT IS IN A NAME

*Continued from page 1*

The Board was faced with many changes in a short-period of time: the large outpouring of support, the increase in participants and patrons, and the change in the shows we were presenting to the community. All these changes gave the Board of VMT clear indication that VMT needed to change as well. The VMT Board took all this into account and has deliberated for the last few months about updating our organizational name to better reflect the breadth and scope of the performing arts we currently deliver and plan to bring to Ellensburg and the Kittitas Valley in the future. We needed a name that would grow with us as a theater company.

As the Board President this year, I am pleased to announce that Valley Musical Theatre is formally becoming **Valley Theatre Company**. Our new logos are below, and we will be rolling out additional changes over the next several months. We are in the process of building a new website ([valleytheatreco.org](http://valleytheatreco.org)) and will soon have a new email address ([info@valleytheatreco.org](mailto:info@valleytheatreco.org)). All of these changes should finalize by October and the start of our new fiscal year.

During the interim transition you can continue to reach us at [valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com](mailto:valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com) and find us online at [valleymusicaltheatre.com](http://valleymusicaltheatre.com).

The entire **Valley Theatre Company** family wants to express our gratitude for your support over the years, and we look forward to this transition as we enter our 25th theatrical season.

## VALLEY THEATRE COMPANY

*Introducing our new logos*

Here are the new logos (in different shapes and sizes for different needs).



VALLEY THEATRE COMPANY



COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1999

*Pick up some Valley Theatre Company swag!*

To launch off our new name, we have designed some new VTC logoed swag. Some samples are pictured below. These are available for purchase and will be direct shipped to customers from our ticketing platform. Scan the QR code to visit: <https://our.show/valley-musical-theatre/9to5themusical/>



While you are there - don't forget to reserve your tickets for the summer blockbuster - **9 to 5 the Musical!**





# 2023 SEASON SUPPORTERS

Valley Musical Theatre is so appreciative of the continued support this community shows the performing arts. Your generosity is what allows us to keep the lights on! Supporters listed reflect donations made between October 2022 and June 2023.

(\* Denotes VMT Scholarship Fund Supporters)

## PRODUCER'S CIRCLE (\$5,000+)

Steven & Sydney Moe

## DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Kittitas Valley Opportunities (Gust Fest),  
Anonymous Donor for additional microphones

## TITLE ROLE CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

Rollie & Marla Bernth

## PATRONS (\$200 - \$499)

Chris & Wendy Bridger, Central Washington Driving School, David & Carol Cross, Jim Denison, Karen Eslinger, Beth Habib, Jackie Herum, David & Laurae Lygre, Kathy & Marty Miller, Patrick Nolan\*, Hal & Gay Ott\*, Lora Stovall, Warren & Libby Street, Rolf and Michelle Williams, Josephine Yaba Camarillo\*

## DONORS (\$100-\$199)

Rob and Louise Acheson, Pam Aguilu, Kathleen Beach\*, Erleen Beckley, David & Jessica Black\*, Christine Hales, Wendy Hinkle, Karen & Lynn Jenison\*, Diane Jones, Christine Leffert, Ingrid Lutz\*, Mary Ann Macinko, Rice Majors\*, Richard & Lee Mundy, Doug & Peggy O'Neil, Beverly Ormbrek, Marilyn Panattoni, Steve & Cami Reinke\*, Paul & Ginny Sorenson, Janett Walker, Richard & Alison Wedin\*

## CONTRIBUTORS (\$50-\$99)

Ron & Robin Anderson, J.E. & Gloria Baldi, Barbara Bicchieri, Sue Connolly, Debby Desoer, Ellen Hanson, Joy Lessard, Linda Marra, Karen Martinis, Charles & Gisela McGehee, Larry & Linda Sharpe, W. Joey Thornton

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Denison, President  
Hal Ott, Vice President  
Kathleen Beach, Secretary  
Patrick Nolan, Treasurer

### Directors:

Ingrid Lutz  
Rice Majors  
Steve Reinke  
Elise Rhodes  
Erin Slaughter  
Kelle Vandenberg  
Adrienne Zimny

Jessica Solberg Black, Executive Director  
valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com  
509-972-6633

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Prop Committee  
Jim Denison

Set Committee  
Kathleen Beach

Recruitment & Show Solicitation  
Hal Ott

Makeup Committee  
Kelle Vandenberg

Costuming Committee  
Adrienne Zimny

Budget Committee  
Patrick Nolan

*Become a Season Supporter and/or Donate to the VMT/VTC Scholarship Fund*

**We need your help to make our 2023 season a success.** Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to VMT/VTC to support our ongoing work.

The **Valley Musical Theatre Scholarship** enters its second year in 2023 and we couldn't be more excited. The \$1,000 scholarship is intended as a reward to a graduating high school senior who has invested their time, effort and love into theater in our community—whether it be on-stage or backstage. **See Page Six for our 2023 Scholarship Award winners.**

Give online at: [www.valleymusicaltheatre.com/donate-1](http://www.valleymusicaltheatre.com/donate-1) or mail your donation to:  
Valley Musical Theatre | PO Box 1551 | Ellensburg, WA 98926

Under designation or memo you can indicate if you would like the funds directed toward the VMT scholarship fund.

*Laughing Horse Arts Foundation DBA Valley Musical Theatre is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, EIN 91-1211173. You may be able to deduct the value of goods or services you donate per IRS Publication 526. Check with your attorney or tax professional to determine how tax laws apply to you.*

# 2023 VMT SCHOLARSHIP

## *Recognizing our Graduating Thespians*

In early June, we were privileged to attend the EHS Scholarship night and awarded not one, but TWO \$1,000 Valley Musical Theatre Scholarships to graduating seniors: **Elin Callender-Bohman**, and **Carol Ritzenhaler**. Both ladies have been involved with community theatre from a young age, continuing through high school, and the accolades keep coming. Both ladies qualified for national competition with International Thespian Society this year and received state Thespy awards for musical theatre performances, and Carol won a National Thespy award for her solo musical theatre performance. Carol also received the 5th Avenue Theatre Award for Most Outstanding Actress in a Supporting Role, and the Dana Brown Thespian Society Scholarship. Join us in congratulating them for a job well done!

We asked Elin and Carol to share what Theater means to them, and I hope you are as inspired as we are:



Elin: *"Theater is vulnerable and scary; it is hard and grueling work, and you are constantly being pushed and tried to far extents both physically and mentally. And yet, I would not have spent my childhood doing anything else. All of the challenges that come with doing theater will turn out to be the most rewarding aspects. You learn through failure and challenge, and theatre has allowed me to fail and get back up while being surrounded by the most caring people I have ever met. To me, participating in theater means being a confident and strong young woman. To me, theater is and always will be a reflection of all the incredible things I know that I will accomplish in my life. To me, theater is home."*

Carol: *"The stage is set, the cast shifts nervously behind the curtain as the audience chatters. The lights dim. Mr. McCloskey makes the pre-show announcement over the 'god-mic'. Everything is still. The overture starts, its curtain time, and away we go! Everything's a blur of quick changes and stage combat interspersed with song and dance and the thrill of theatre! The satisfaction of a job well done! Being a part of that means everything to me. Working with a plethora of talented people to create a show for people. A show that will remove them from the real world for an hour or two, that can show them new perspectives, new ways of thinking."*

We'd also like to recognize the other EHS Scholars that were Valley Musical Theatre participants including Grady Fortier, (who you may remember as Joseph in VMT's production of *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*), who was third EHS senior who won a State Thespy and competed at the 2023 International Thespian Festival.





# SPONSOR & ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES



For over twenty years, Valley Musical Theatre / Valley Theatre Company (VTC) has been a vibrant, vital organization because of the support of local businesses in our community like yours. Although much has changed at VTC over the last 25 years, one thing remains the same: Theatre inspires creativity, compassion, and connection with the broader community.

VTC aspires to provide positive experiences for Ellensburg families - from our "Rising Stars" productions that provide a creative outlet specifically for middle school students and teens, to our Summer mainstage and Winter shows that provide opportunities for both adults and children. We also publish a quarterly newsletter Voice of the Valley, with a distribution average of 1500-2000, that brings additional advertising opportunities for local businesses.

You can help us continue to keep the arts alive and thriving in Kittitas County by becoming a VTC sponsor and making our audience, your audience! In an average season, VTC utilizes the talents of hundreds of local children, adults and families to bring quality theatre productions to audiences that exceed 5,000 people. In an effort to keep theatre an accessible, affordable, family-oriented activity, VTC has made it a goal to keep ticket prices low, even though the cost of a production can be upwards of \$15,000. Ticket sales alone do not cover these costs. Sponsorships, advertisers and individual patrons are required to cover the excess costs.

We offer several sponsorship levels and advertising opportunities, and our commitment to you, as a valued sponsor, ensures that you will receive the attention, recognition and publicity you deserve in exchange for your generous contribution.

We have also expanded our opportunities for business cross-promotions. These opportunities allow for participation with little to no cost, or for in-kind donation involvement in productions. Check out our section about Theatre Experience Partners to see how your business can get involved.

DOWNLOAD ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP PACKET FROM [VALLEYMUSICALTHEATRE.COM](http://VALLEYMUSICALTHEATRE.COM) OR SCAN THE QR CODE.

## SHOW SPONSORSHIPS

There are a limited quantity of sponsorships available for each production.

### Community Sponsor

Company or Individual Name listed as sponsor on show website page and in show programs.

### Production Elements Sponsor

Sponsor a specific element – Costumes, Sets, Props, Choreography, Orchestra.  
4 per production available.

### Performance Night Sponsor

7 or 8 available depending upon show

### Premier Sponsor

1 per show

### VMT/VTC Benefactor

An unparalleled opportunity to support VMT/VTC and community theatre. Details and creative acknowledgement to be discussed with the VMT/VTC Board of Directors.

## ADVERTISING

### Show Programs

Ad spots available in individual show programs, or get our yearly rate (pay for ad in 3 productions, get the 4th production free)

Options for advertising:

- Fall fundraiser & show: *Cabernet Cabaret* (October 2023) – Dinner theatre and limited run Cabaret Performance 200-300 attendees.
- Winter Play: *The Odd Couple* (Feb. 2 – 10, 2024) – average 600-800 attendees over two weekends.
- Spring Rising Stars Production: *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood* (May 10-18, 2024) – average 600-800 attendees over two weekends.
- Summer Mainstage Production (July 11-20, 2024): *Anastasia* - average of 1800-2200 attendees over 2-3 weekends.

### Voice of the Valley Newsletter

Put your 1/8 or 1/4 page ad right here in our quarterly newsletter distributed to 1400-2000 via email, social media, and the VTC website, and distributed at live events.



# VALLEY THEATRE COMPANY

Presents the 2023-2024 SEASON



**October  
20-21**

**Hotel Windrow  
Elks Ballroom**

## **Cabernet Cabaret Production:**

### **Carefully Taught: Broadway Masters Pass the Torch**

Join us for an evening of hit songs from Broadway legends Oscar Hammerstein and Stephen Sondheim, and the modern composers who were mentored by Sondheim: Lin Manuel-Miranda, Jonathan Larson, Jason Robert Brown, Tom Kitt, Stephen Flaherty, and Adam Guettel. From *South Pacific* to *Into the Woods* to *Ragtime* and *Rent*, you can see the inspiration, musical technique and craft that has been handed down from mentor to next generation of musical composers. We are looking for singers, stage management and crew, and auction assistance. AUDITIONS: September 9th. Only 3 performances.



**November  
24-25**

**Hotel Windrow  
Elks Ballroom**

## **VTC & Moments to Remember**

### **Noel: An Evening of Music and Poetry**

Enjoy a quartet of harps, flute and viola serenading with celtic Christmas music interspersed with dramatic poetry readings. Slow down, pause, remind yourself of what this season is truly about, and enjoy this heartfelt tribute to the season. Ending off Ellensburg's Moments to Remember celebration during Thanksgiving weekend, this one-hour Christmas themed show features music and poetry performed by local Washington musicians and actors. Looking for actors to read poetry dramatically, script in hand. Also need stage management, box office, and minimal crew. AUDITIONS: Early November.



**February  
2-10**

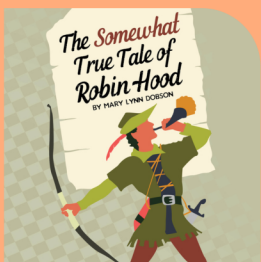
**The Ramsay  
Ballroom**

## **VTC Winter Play Production:**

### **The Odd Couple**

Neil Simon is known as "the father of modern comedy" and his classic work, *The Odd Couple* is considered by many as the finest stage comedy ever written. The plot concerns two mismatched roommates - one divorced and one estranged and neither quite sure why their marriages fell apart - move in together to save money for alimony and suddenly discover they're having the same conflicts and fights they had in their marriages.

Non-musical. Roles for 6 men, 2 women. Looking for actors, and crew roles. AUDITIONS: Early December.



**May  
10-18**

**The Ramsay  
Ballroom**

## **VTC Rising Stars Production:**

### **The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood**

A frantically funny, Monty Pythonesque retelling of the classic tale of Robin Hood. This time around, the legendary legend, in his never-ending quest to aid the needy, encounters a lovely damsel-in-distress; an ever-scheming sheriff who would rather bowl a strike than hit a bull's-eye; a gold-hoarding, bad-guy monarch wannabe; and a good-natured "Town's Guy" who manages to make his way into every scene, whether he belongs there or not. Combine them and you've got an irreverent jaunt through Sherwood Forest you won't soon forget! AUDITIONS: March 2024. Open to 6th - 8th grade students.



**July  
11-20**

**Morgan  
Performing  
Arts Center**

## **VTC Summer Production**

### **Anastasia: The Musical**

From Tony winners Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, creators of such Broadway classics as *Ragtime* and *Once On This Island*, this dazzling show transports its audience from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet officer determined to silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing con man and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love and family. AUDITIONS: April 2024

**MORE  
INFORMATION**

valleymusicaltheatre.com  
valleymusicaltheatre@gmail.com  
(509) 972-6633

**COMING SOON!**

ValleyTheatreCo.org  
info@valleytheatreco.org