

# ALT

ALT  
2019 CIVIC CIRCLE  
AMARILLO, TX 79109

A M A R I L L O L I T T L E T H E A T R E

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# Curtain Call 806-355-9991

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[www.amarillolittletheatre.org](http://www.amarillolittletheatre.org)

DECEMBER, 2011

ALT Presents

# OF MICE & MEN

By John Steinbeck

PRODUCTION FUNDING BY

**Bell Helicopter/Textron  
Edward Jones Investments**

PROMOTIONAL FUNDING BY

**Arts Committee/Amarillo Chamber  
of Commerce**

SPONSORED BY

Mr. and Mrs. Orland Lacer  
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Nolan and Carrie Huckabay/AAA Electric  
Bob Huddleston  
Jerry and Sue Norman  
Bob and Mary Stewart

Amarillo Little Theatre proudly presents a classic of American literature – *Of Mice and Men* – as the third Mainstage production of the 2011-12 season. This beautiful and touching play is sure to provide an unforgettable night at the theatre for ALT audiences.

The story deals with two drifters, George and Lennie, with delusions of living off the “fat of the land,” who have just arrived at a ranch to work for enough money to buy their own place. Lennie is a man-child, a little boy in the body of a dangerously powerful man. It’s Lennie’s obsessions with things soft and cuddly that have made George cautious about who he associates with. His promise to allow Lennie to “tend to the rabbits” on their future land keeps Lennie calm, amidst distractions. But when a ranch boss’ promiscuous wife is found dead in the barn, it’s obvious that Lennie, albeit accidentally, is responsible. George is faced with a moral question: *How should he deal with Lennie before the ranchers find him and take matters into their own hands?*

ALT has selected a wonderful collection of nine men and one woman as the cast for this production. They include ALT veterans **Travis Johnson** as George and **Scott Royster** as Lennie. The cast also includes **Dennis Humphrey, Nathan Jones, Bryan Lewis, John May, Don Shipman, Don M. Washburn, Joe Weaver** and **Terah Zolman**. Artistic Director is **Allen Shankles** with **Melanie Sanders** as Assistant to the Director.

*Of Mice and Men* promises to be an exhilarating evening of theatre.

***Make your reservations today!***

## Facts at a Glance

**PERFORMANCE DATES:**

January 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 ..... 8:00 pm  
January 29 ..... 2:30 pm

**BOX OFFICE OPENS TO:**

**Members** - Monday, January 2 ..... 10:00 am  
**Public** - Monday, January 9 ..... 10:00 am

**LOCATION:**

ALT Mainstage  
2019 Civic Circle  
Phone - 806-355-9991  
Rated - PG - 13

Order online by e-mail - [jeff@amarillolittletheatre.org](mailto:jeff@amarillolittletheatre.org)

## Director's Notes

**So, I am currently toiling through an insane period of time here at ALT during which I am directing two shows pretty much simultaneously. This is only possible thanks to some great organization and two very capable assistants who will be running various rehearsals for me during the process.** *Why do I do this?* Good

question. The answer is not really simple. First, I really like both of these shows (***Of Mice and Men*** and ***Chicago***) and I wanted to direct them. Second, as everyone knows, I am a control freak and I am reluctant to turn over the "keys" to just anyone. So, there is currently a short list of directors that work at ALT. They are each very good directors, but not as available as I would like. Third, I am clearly a work-aholic who doesn't know better. I have vowed to not try this endurance test again next year. Time will tell if I live up to that resolution. Anyway, both shows will get all I can give them and I am certain they will be worthy of your support.



Allen Shankles

One reason I am sure each of these shows is poised for success is the fact that we had such strong auditions for each show. The size of the talent pool which auditions in relation to the number of roles available is usually a good indicator for a show's success.....not always, but often.

For ***Of Mice and Men*** we had a total of 21 people vying for 10 roles. That's a pretty good ratio and it assures that the director has a good selection of actors from which to choose. For ***Chicago*** we had 53 people auditioning and we cast 19. That's terrific. And the best news is that every person at those auditions was very talented and could have easily been cast in the show. The competition was fierce and many talented people did not get a role. Unfortunately, that's show business.

The broader point here is this. The success of ALT productions owes much to the talented people who perform in each show. However, those people who audition but are not cast have also contributed to that success by being at the auditions, creating a healthy competitive environment and giving the directors good choices for every role. I applaud every person who "puts it all out there" at these auditions. It can be very scary, but the rewards, even for those not cast, can be great.

***Of Mice and Men*** and ***Chicago*** are well into rehearsals and both promise to be stunning productions. Thanks to the many people who helped to make them so.

So for now I better quit writing and get back to rehearsal.....I'm sure there is one waiting for me.

**I look forward to seeing you at the theatre(s).**

## Notes from the Guild

Greetings:

**I first want to issue a big "thank you" to all who supported the Guild's annual fundraiser this year.** The drawing was held December 10th and the Guild would like to congratulate Ron Railsback of Canyon who will enjoy a trip to Dallas and complementary tickets to a spring show at Dallas Theatre Center. The Guild saw a profit of nearly \$1,100 on this enterprise and all of those funds will be used by Amarillo Little Theatre for production funding for next season's slate of shows. Our annual Christmas party was well attended this past week and members got several items of business completed, including the establishment of a gift fund to purchase 2 outdoor ashtrays for ALT.

**This fund will be open until the end of January, so if you would like to contribute just contact the ALT Box Office (355-9991) or email [amarillolittletheatreguild@yahoo.com](mailto:amarillolittletheatreguild@yahoo.com).** The Guild is also excited to be assisting the ALT Board of Directors with an amazing event planned for February of 2012 — stay tuned for news! Our next meeting will be moved to Tuesday, February 21st in lieu of the Valentine's holiday. Also, opportunities to volunteer for Concessions/Ushering are fast approaching with shows at both the Mainstage and the Adventure Space in January and February. I'll see you soon.

Melanie Sanders  
ALT Guild President

# Academy Spotlight

**Winter is here and Fall is now in the history books. The Academy certainly had a busy Fall and things are not stopping anytime soon.**



Jason Crespin

We are currently in rehearsals for our next Academy production **13**. This new musical is going to be a fun filled, high energy show that highlights some of our talented students. I am also excited that this show will be our first to have a live band playing for each performance. The energy of our students on stage mixed with the energy of a live band is certainly something you are not going to want to miss! The production runs January 5th-8th with Saturday performances being interpreted for the deaf or hearing impaired. This is another great way to perform theatre for individuals in our community. I hope everyone plans on seeing this fun production!

Don't forget that registration is currently in progress for the Spring semester. Classes begin the week of January 9th. Make sure to check out the list of Spring classes as there are some great classes for all ages, including adults! Sign up soon though as I know many classes are filling up fast!

Looking toward the Spring, we will be busy with auditions of the popular musical **Children of Eden**. This musical is loosely based on the story of Genesis and is one of the most produced musicals for children by community theatres and churches across the world. With music by Stephen Schwartz, this production is an inspirational musical that examines the age old conflict between parents and children. Look in this issue of the Curtain Call for audition information as well as audition packets in your Spring classes.

As we approach 2012, I can not help but look at the past year the Academy had. We produced a play/ballet and learned the meaning of love and compassion with **The Little Match Girl**, rocked and rolled to the sounds of Conrad Birdie in **Bye Bye Birdie**, had a blast with new and returning campers during 8 weeks of Summer camps, and made ALT history by having 90 students perform in our Fall production of **James and the Giant Peach**. We could not have done any of this without our amazing teaching staff who provide so much for our students as well as many Academy families and community members who volunteer so much to our program. The ALT staff as well as our ALT Board provide so much support to our growing Academy as well. The Academy is certainly blessed and I look forward to what memories will be made in 2012.

Happy New Year!!!  
Jason Crespin  
Academy Director

The ALT Academy classes begin on **Monday, January 9, 2012!**  
**REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR YOUR FAVORITE CLASS!**  
Space is limited in each class! Call the **ALT Office 806.355.9991!**

Schedules are available at ALT's website: [amarillolittletheatre.org](http://amarillolittletheatre.org)

## End of Year Donations 2011

### ALT ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIPS

Roxann & Kevin Ball  
Dena Sanders

### ALT OPERATING FUND

Ervin Davis  
Scott M. Edwards, Jr. & Jason Joe  
Jason Hamlen  
Susan Hellberg in Memory of Jeff Hellberg  
Elinor & William McCarty, Jr.  
Troy Don Moore

Ruth Newsom  
Celeste Pine  
Bobbie Radtke  
David & Sherry Schaeffer  
Bob & Mary Jane Sloan  
Helen & Carson Smith  
Dr. & Mrs. Bob Stafford in Honor  
of Allen Shankles  
Betsy Taylor  
Doug & Evaline Thompson

### ALT PRODUCTION FUNDING

Phyllis Curtis  
Mo Hightower  
Sandra J. Jones  
Anne & Pat Northcutt  
John & Gwen Patterson in Honor  
of Don Shipman, Jayne Brainard,  
Jane Juett

### STUDENT OUTREACH

Pam Webb in Honor of Doug Thompson

AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS!

Neil Simon's

Psst... ..Really? ...Oh, My!

# RUMORS

By Neil Simon

Amarillo Little Theatre is pleased to announce open auditions for its fourth Mainstage production of the season.

## RUMORS by Neil Simon

### AUDITION DATES

Monday and Tuesday, January 23 and 24, 2012 @ 7:30 pm  
ALT Mainstage

### PRODUCTION DATES

March 1-11, 2012  
ALT Mainstage

### DIRECTED BY

Bobby Schaffer

- Roles are available for **5 adult men** and **5 adult women**
- Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script.
- Perusal scripts are available at the ALT Box Office with a \$10.00 refundable deposit.
- If you have questions regarding the auditions, please contact us by phone at 355-9991 or via email at [info@amarillolittletheatre.org](mailto:info@amarillolittletheatre.org)

# Children of Eden

A Musical

ALT Academy announces auditions for

## Children of Eden A Musical

### AUDITION DATE

Saturday, January 28th @1pm  
ALT Mainstage

### PRODUCTION DATES

March 23rd-25th, 2012  
ALT Mainstage

### DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY

Jason Crespin

### MUSIC DIRECTION BY

Brandon Bellar

- Roles are available for **12-15 Academy Students** plus a large singing and moving ensemble that will be used throughout the show.
- Auditions are open to all enrolled Academy students 5 years and older.
- Auditions will consist of a prepared vocal selection not to exceed 60 seconds and a movement combination taught during auditions.
- Vocal audition piece should be from a musical.
- A CD player will be available.
- If you have questions please contact Jason Crespin at 352-0731 or via email at [jason@amarillolittletheatre.org](mailto:jason@amarillolittletheatre.org)