



MAY 7-9, 1998  
BISHOP CHARTERED H.S.

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## Cast of Characters

Barnum.....	Ryan Jacobs
Charity.....	Jennifer Rea
Ringmaster/Bailey.....	Ryan Moran
Joice Heth.....	Christa Cappel
Tom Thumb.....	Megan Kemp
Jenny Lind.....	Dawn Sukup
Blues Singer.....	Annie Chang
Mrs. Lyman.....	Jeanette Roell
Amos Scudder.....	Daniel Grissmer
1 <sup>st</sup> Woman.....	Amy Biech
2 <sup>nd</sup> Woman.....	Katie Winn
Sherwood Stratton.....	Josh Berntsen
Mrs. Stratton.....	Carrie Jones
Goldschmidt.....	David Orr
Concertmaster.....	Christine Gersdorff
Mrs. Wilton.....	Jaime Frayer
Templeton.....	Megan Costello
Morrissey.....	Julie Hornbach
Baton Twirler.....	Tanya Robbins
Gymnast.....	Chris Hotka
Dancers:	Allison Hall, Melissa Morris, Leighanna Hotka, AnneMarie Weber
Clowns:	Scott Netherton, Dan Scott, Laura Taylor, Molly Kessinger, Shannon Mazelin, Lindsey Lehner, Katie Laux, Heather Renick, Matt Scieszka

## Ensemble

Baritone.....Kate Walton  
Trumpet.....Kevin Jordan  
Flute.....Laura Holtz  
Drums.....Ryan Weingardt  
Clarinet.....Mrs. Mary Zinkan  
Piano.....Mr. Casey Hayes

### Act I

There Is A Sucker Born Ev'ry Minute - Barnum  
Thank God I'm Old - Joice Heth  
The Colors of My Life - Charity & Barnum  
One Brick At A Time - Charity & Chorus  
Museum Song - Barnum  
I Like Your Style - Charity & Barnum  
Bigger Isn't Better - Tom Thumb  
Love Makes Such Fools of Us All - Jenny Lind  
Out There - Barnum

### Act II

Come Follow the Band - Barnum & Chorus  
Reprise: Love Makes Such Fools - Jenny Lind  
Black & White - Charity, Blues Singer, Chorus  
Reprise: The Colors of My Life - Charity & Barnum  
The Prince of Humbug - Barnum  
Join the Circus - Barnum, Bailey & Chorus  
Finale - Barnum



## Production Crew

Assistant to the Director.....Kryssa Kaupke  
Selected Choreography..... AnneMarie Weber,  
Allison Hall  
Properties.....Emily Brand, Leah Berg  
Lighting.....Mackenzie Kirby, Laura Hanley,  
Vickie Gruner  
Follow Spots.....Courtney Brennan, Adam Price  
Costumes.....Lydia Lehner  
Set Construction.....Cast of BARNUM,  
Annie Murphy, Sarah Stierch, Matt Miller,  
Amy Soel, Stephanie Irwin, Jamie Bourquin  
Makeup.....Laura Brady, Vickie Gruner  
Cheerleading Consultants.....Jessica Harlan,  
Angela Hirt  
Sound Engineer.....Mr. Charlie Dispenzieri  
Circus Trainers.....Craig & Lori Miser  
Director.....Mrs. Peg Dispenzieri

## Special Thanks to...

...Tom and Marty Krug and Karen Burkett for building our theatre boxes, running numerous errands and finding countless props.

...Greg Welch for working with the clowns on makeup and posture.

...Marianne Cappel for gathering costumes from all corners of the city.

...the Dick family for taking captivating cast pictures,

...Parents of the cast and crew for entrusting your sons and daughters to trapeze and web and allowing them to develop their wonderful artistic talents.

spring 1998

## **BARNUM**

Welcome to the nineteenth century world of Phineas Taylor Barnum. P.T. Barnum spent his life trying to entertain people in the strangest of ways. From Siamese twins to mermaids, Barnum sought oddities to attract as many paying customers as possible. During his career, he also managed to bring a famous Swedish singer to America for a cross-country tour, establish a museum for his oddities in New York and, of course, start a three-ring circus. A brief look into the life of Barnum takes one on a most curious tour of America in the 1800s.

Barnum fine-tuned the art of "humbug"—that is the art of lying or exaggeration. His first attempt at duping the paying public began in 1835 with purchase of Joice Heth. According to Barnum, Joice Heth was the former nursemaid of George Washington and was 160 years old. This ancient woman was only able to raise one arm and speak softly to the audience. During her show, she discussed the care she gave young George Washington. The first fake Barnum presented was the "Fejee Mermaid". This mermaid was a mummified monkey that was attached to the bottom part of a dried fish! When Barnum was faced with truth of his oddities, he simply admitted that he had been lying or exaggerating and dared more people to come to his shows and see how he had fooled the public. And they came! And they paid more money to see the lies!

Barnum also found true "freaks" of nature (or so they were called in the 19th century). The two most popular oddities presented for display were the Siamese twins Eng and Chang and the midget Tom Thumb, who at five years old was only 25 inches tall. A true friendship developed between the charismatic Tom Thumb and Barnum as they traveled together for several years.

The American Museum was created by Barnum in 1845. It served as a showcase for such diverse attractions as educated dogs, industrious fleas, automatons, jugglers, ventriloquists, living statuary, gypsies, giants, dwarfs and rope-dancers—just to name a few. The museum also presented chiefs from various native American tribes. Ultimately, this museum served as a platform for popular entertainment in the 1800s.

Even though Barnum was most often surrounded by human oddities, there was one act he brought to the American public that was not an oddity, not a fake, just outstanding entertainment. One of Europe's finest sopranos, the Swedish Nightingale Jenny Lind, was convinced to tour America after receiving an offer she could not refuse. Barnum offered her \$1000 a night for up to 150 nights. He also agreed to pay for her servants, carriages and secretary while she was on tour. Miss Lind's tour of America was a great success, and it gave Barnum an air of legitimacy he had not enjoyed until her arrival.

Perhaps Barnum is most known for the three-ring circus he created. Circuses had toured America for many years before Barnum entered the arena; however, the "Greatest Show on Earth" emerged under Barnum's guidance. It was Barnum that created the fantastic circus parades that announced the circus was in town. It was the parade of animals, musicians, and brightly colored wagons through city streets that helped peak interest in the circus. Once at the circus, the audience was treated to a show of acrobats, showgirls, clowns, bareback riders, elephants, camels, lions and tigers. When Barnum joined forces with Bailey—well, we think you know the rest.

So sit back, relax and enjoy, as BCHS introduces everyone to Barnum and his unique creation—the Greatest Show on Earth.