

**ANKENY COMMUNITY
THEATRE PRESENTS**

CRY IT OUT



**BY MOLLY
SMITH METZLER**

JUNE 3-12, 2022

Cry It Out
In Order of Appearance

Jessie	Maureen Moroney*
Lena	Riley Devick
Mitchell	Todd Reed
Adrienne	Isabella Velez*

*ACT Debut

Time: Spring this year

Place: Jessie's backyard in Manorhaven,
a suburb of Long Island

Scene 1	Early afternoon, after a rain
Scene 2	Three weeks later, morning
Scene 3	Same day, afternoon
Scene 4	Same day, evening
Scene 5	The next Monday, morning
Scene 6	Same day; very, very late
Scene 7	The next week

There is no intermission during this production.

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio
and/or visual recordings of this production is strictly
prohibited under copyright law.

Cry It Out is produced by special arrangement with
The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.

Production Team

Director	Cheryl Clark
Assistant Director	Ali Kirwen
Producer	Lisa DeWaard
Set Designer & Construction	Cheryl Clark
Light Designer	Matt Tuttle
Light/Sound Technician	Matt Tuttle
Sound Designer	Abby Martin
Costumes/Props	Cheryl Clark
Playbill	Lynn Arterburn
Show Logo	Nicole Titus
Marketing	Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn, Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills, Anna Sunstrom

Director's Note

You might be familiar with “cry it out” as a sleep training method for infants. The theory goes like this: babies should be able to self-soothe and settle into sleep on their own, as long as they are dry, fed, not too cold or hot, and not ill, at around 6 months of age. Proposed in the 1980’s in popular parenting books, it meant “put the baby to bed, shut the door, and don’t open it until morning”. Maybe its something you tried with your children; maybe not. Maybe it worked for you; maybe not. I’m not here to debate the merits of the method.

Although the play’s characters, Jessie and Lena, discuss “cry it out” in Scene 1, this play is not a story about how not responding to a baby’s cry might affect the baby. It is, instead, a story about how not responding to the “cries” of the parent affects us all. In this play, I see all the characters “cry it out” in their own way: for someone to acknowledge them, their exhaustion at being a new parent, their loneliness at spending days on end with no adult interaction, their conflicted feelings about returning to work or not, their agony over lack of quality, affordable childcare, their overwhelming stress over how much it costs to raise a family, and on and on and on. New parenthood is all-consuming, bigger-than-life, at times a mental health crisis-in-the-making.

It is pretty well accepted that it “takes a village to raise a child”. It is also true, but less often acknowledged, that it takes a network to support the adults who parent this child. Will you respond to the cries or shut the door?

Biographies



Riley Devick (Lena) first appeared on the ACT stage in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and has since appeared in many shows here, including *Passing Notes*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *The Middle of Yesterday*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Riley has also worked with Des Moines Young Artists Theatre in Des Moines and Ankeny Centennial's high school theater department. She graduated from DMACC this spring and plans to go to ISU in the fall majoring in Early Childhood Education. Riley works as a nanny, loves to work with children, likes to read, learn random hobbies, and act with her friends and family.



Maureen Moroney (Jessie) is making her debut on the ACT stage and she is excited to be back to theater after taking a break for school. She is a research scientist at Iowa State University and a graduate student in microbiology. In her spare time, Maureen enjoys writing, baking, and traveling.



Todd Reed (Mitchell) last appeared on the ACT stage in *Geezers* and is a regular on the stage in Ames and Boone. Favorite shows include *I Do, I Do*, *Sabrina Fair*, and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. In addition to acting, Todd has also directed and produced. Todd is Assistant Community Coordinator at Timberland Village in Story City. Reading, movies, and playing with his grandkids fill his spare time.



Isabella Vilez (Adrienne) is the youngest of seven siblings and works at MercyOne in West Des Moines as a scrub tech. Her hobbies include animals, make-up, food, plants, and birds - she loves her bird Milo. This is Izzy's first time on stage at ACT or anywhere!



Cheryl Gillespie Clark (Director) has over 50 years of experience in community theater, acting, directing, and designing costumes at ACT, Tallgrass Theatre, Des Moines Playhouse, Iowa Stage Theatre Company and CAP in the metro area and in her hometown, Iowa Falls. Her recent work with ACT includes *The Perfect Rendezvous* (Adele) and *A Christmas Story* (Director). She serves on the Iowa Community Theatre Association Board of Directors and is a trained and certified AACT adjudicator. Cheryl is a Family Wellbeing Specialist for ISU Extension & Outreach. Spare time activities are reading, sewing, knitting, traveling, and spending time with family.



Ali Kirwen (Assistant Director) recently decided to take a break from being an instructional designer in order to be a stay-at-home mom; she's a PhD candidate in human computer interaction at Iowa State University. She lives in Ankeny with her husband, Joe, her 5 month old nocturnal tornado, Patrick, and cat sons, Leibniz and Tesla. She's thrilled to be part of this production as she currently lives the struggle of the characters. She'd like to especially thank the ACT community for their support and love of her new little family.



Lisa DeWaard (Producer) has been participating in local theater since 2004. Some of her favorite shows include *Lend me a Tenor*, *Godspell*, *Song of Survival*, and *Happily Ever After*. Her most recent role was Joanne in *The Vanities*. She is very excited to participate in this wonderful show. She works at Panera Bread and enjoys karaoke and her cats.

B R A V O

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Ankeny Community Theatre

41st season | 2022-2023

World Premiere

Borrowed Beats

By Tommy Lee Johnston

Sep 30–Oct 9, 2022

She Loves Me

Book by Joe Masteroff, music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, based on a play by Miklós László

Dec 2–11, 2022

Exit Laughing

By Paul Elliott

Jan 20–29, 2023

Marjorie Prime

By Jordan Harrison

Apr 14–23, 2023

The One–Act Play That Goes Wrong

By Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields

Jun 9–18, 2023

Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare

Aug 4–13, 2023

Presented by special arrangement with these publishers:

She Loves Me: Music Theatre International. *Exit Laughing*: The Dramatic Publishing Company. *Marjorie Prime*: Concord Theatricals. *The One–Act Play That Goes Wrong*: Dramatists Play Service.

2021 - 2022 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

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THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.
JOIN US FOR THE NEXT SHOW!

GODSPELL



MUSIC BY STEPHEN SCHWARTZ
BOOK BY JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK

AUGUST 5-14, 2022


A small group of people help Jesus Christ tell different parables by using a wide variety of games, storytelling techniques, and hefty doses of comic timing. An eclectic blend of songs, ranging in style from pop to vaudeville, is employed as the story of Jesus' life dances across the stage. Dissolving hauntingly into the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, Jesus' messages of kindness, tolerance and love come vibrantly to life.

Reservations can be made online at ankenycommunitytheatre.com or by calling Midwestix at 515-244-2771 Monday-Friday from 9:00 - 5:00.

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

2021-2022 SEASON


**A PIECE
OF MY
HEART**



BY SHIRLEY LAURO

OCT 1-10, 2021


GEEZERS



**BY TOMMY
LEE JOHNSTON**

DEC 3-12, 2021


AURA



**BY TOMMY
LEE JOHNSTON**

APR 1-10, 2022


**CRY IT
OUT**



**BY MOLLY
SMITH METZLER**

JUN 3-12, 2022

GODSPELL



**MUSIC BY STEPHEN SCHWARTZ
BOOK BY JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK**

AUG 5-14, 2022

1932 SW 3RD STREET, ANKENY, IA 50023

**FOR TICKETS, CALL MIDWESTIX AT 515-244-2771
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A Piece of My Heart is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.
Geezers, Cry It Out, and Aura are presented by special arrangement with The Dramatic
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