

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I've certainly had my share of days that could be categorized as *terrible, horrible, no good, and very bad*. It has always been a challenge to handle them in a mature way... whatever that means! I may not wake up with gum in my hair but something will go wrong first thing in the morning and, sure enough, the situation does not get any better at school... in fact it gets worse! It is only when I remind myself that I haven't been singled out for this unique fate that I manage to pick myself up and move on. Maybe one of these days that will mean packing up and going to Australia!

I can't count the number of times someone has stopped me to say that *Alexander* was their favourite book growing up or that they read it over and over to their young children. We've all known Alexanders or perhaps we were one our selves. This musical version stays absolutely true to the story with the addition of unforgettable songs! It has been an absolute pleasure working on it with an energetic adult cast that had no trouble accessing their inner children. I hope that after watching you remind yourself to laugh about your problems more often and that you, more often than not, experience wonderful, marvelous, fabulous, very good days!

On behalf of the cast and crew I wish you all *the sweetest of nights and finest of days*.

Karen Towsley

Bios (con't)

Kathy Parris: Some of you may last remember Kathy in the production *Evita*. Don't cry for her Fort McMurray, it has been "way, way, way too long" since Kathy has been on stage. Kathy would like to thank Karen for her chance to play again, Mr. Eddy for his musical gift and this talented cast & crew. What makes this extra special for Kathy is that she gets to play Alexander's mother onstage and André's "proud" Mom offstage. Talk about art imitating real life!!

Alistair King: Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day marks Alistair King's triumphant return to theatre in Fort McMurray. Theatre goers might remember him from his roles in the Cheepiyak Theatre Company's productions of *Tartuffe*, *City of Angels*, and *Noises Off*. He would like to thank his family, especially his daughter Mary-Jayne.

Danny Guenette: This is Danny's first show in Fort McMurray in many years and he couldn't be happier to work with such a fun and energetic team on such a fun and energetic show. While Danny was at the University of Alberta he had the opportunity to be involved with many projects and now that he is in Fort McMurray, he is looking forward to may more shows to come!

Monica Baczuk: Monica is delighted to be in her first Wayawitmayihk production. When not at the theatre, she keeps teaching music and bathing her cats. Although she has appreciated the flexible rehearsal schedule, she still can't put her feet behind her head.

WAYAWITMAYIHK THEATRE COMPANY



Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

Book and Lyrics by
JUDITH VIORST


Music by
SHELLY MARKHAM

Director: Karen Towsley

Music Director: Michael Eddy

Lighting Designer: Alan Roberts

Costume Designer: Hazel Kersey



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Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

Book and Lyrics By Judith Viorst
Music by Shelley Markham

Director.....Karen Towsley
Music Director.....Michael Eddy
Lighting Designer..... Alan Roberts
Costume DesignerHazel Kersey
Technical Director.....Bill Towsley
Stage Manager.....Darlene Mitchell

Cast

<i>Alexander</i>	André Landry
<i>Ensemble #1, Nick, Albert Moyo</i>	Teri Mort
<i>Ensemble #2, Anthony, Becky</i>	Monica Baczuk
<i>Ensemble #3, Audrey, Philip Parker</i>	Melissa Everitt
<i>Ensemble #4, Paul</i>	Danny Guenette
<i>Mother, Mrs. Dickens</i>	Kathy Parris
<i>Father, Dr. Fields, Shoe Salesman</i>	Alistair King

Crew

Board Operator: Bill Towsley
Asst. Stage Manager: Nicole Krinke
Asst. Stage Manager/Venue Technician: Tracy Nunns

Set Construction: Jim Mitchell, Bill Towsley, Daniel Koyato, Norm Francoeur, Harry MacDonald
Scenic Painters: Sarah Hilliard, Amy Dakin
Painting: Jim Mitchell, Bill Towsley, Daniel Koyato, Norm Francoeur
Props: Karen Towsley

Bios

Karen Towsley (Director) A Drama Teacher and Director at Westwood Community High School since 1986, Karen completed her Masters of Fine Arts in Directing at the University of Alberta in May 2000. Prior to founding the *Wayawitmayihk Theatre Company* she spent many years performing and directing at Keyano Theatre and was a member of the *British Sm'Isles* comedy troupe. Besides her many directing projects Karen derives much pleasure from coaching the nationally renowned Westwood Improv Team and is founder of the Alberta Regional Tournament of the *Canadian Improv Games*. Karen served many years on the Board of Directors of Theatre Alberta, including two years as President. Although she is a workaholic, also serving on the Board of Governors of Keyano College, she does hope to find time to act again sometime in the next twenty years.

Mike Eddy (Music Director) Mike is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario with a degree in Theory and Composition. Mike has taught music at Westwood Community High School since 1986. He has been accompanist for over 20 Keyano productions as well as music director for British Sm'Isles, Keyano Theatre, Wayawitmayihk Theatre Company and Cheepiyak Theatre (Westwood)

Alan Roberts (Lighting Designer) *Alexander* marks Alan's 6th lighting design for Wayawitmayihk Theatre and he has loved working on every one. The other five lighting credits include *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again, A Moving Song, The Attic, The Pearls, and Three Fine Girls, How to Eat Like A Child* and *Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*. He has also designed for Keyano Theatre's productions of *Amadeus, A Street Car Named Desire, Remoka Rink, A Wonderful Life* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (twice!) – just to name a few. Alan has created the lighting for Westwood Community High School's production of *Into the Woods* and *Murder in the Cathedral*. Last summer he did the lighting design for PH Productions one woman show – *Tell Me on a Sunday*, by Andrew Lloyd Weber. Some of his other freelance credits include *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, and *Your Wildest Dreams*, for Great West Theatre Company plus *The Other Side of the Pole* for Primestock Theatre. Alan occasionally moves outside of the world of lighting to see what damage he can do with Set Design and surprisingly has not been lynched by Bill with his set designs for *The Attic, The Pearls, and Three Fine Girls, Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, and *Murder in the Cathedral* although it came close for *Les Misérables*.

Darlene Mitchell (Stage Manager) The only production Darlene missed with Wayawitmayihk Theatre was when she and her husband traveled to Australia last year. Each time Alexander makes reference in this play to going to Australia, Darlene just wants to shout "OK, Let's Go". Several members of the cast are actors that Darlene has met for the first time and it truly has been a pleasure to work with all of them. Darlene would like to thank the Director, Music Director, Lighting Director and Technical Director for again letting her be part of the immersion while having a lot fun in the process.

Bill Towsley (TD) The co-founder of *Wayawitmayihk Theatre Company*, Bill discovered his love of the technical aspects of theatre while attending Thornhill Secondary School. He has remained involved ever since, including the last 17 years as Technical Director of Westwood's *Cheepiyak Theatre*. In addition, Bill has spent countless hours volunteering and mentoring backstage for Keyano Theatre. Bill was the resident stage manager and technical director for *British Sm'Isles* and has often been blamed for the blackout that prevented audiences from seeing the "full" monty. Bill has appeared on stage only once, as Roy in the Keyano Theatre production of *The Odd Couple*.

Terri Mort: Terri is excited to be rediscovering her inner child in this Wayawitmayihk show. She recently had the pleasure of directing her own drama production *Under Jekyll's Hyde* at Greely Road School where she teaches grade four. Terri also appeared in Keyano Theatre's production of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Other stage performances have included roles in: *Grease, Anne of Green Gables, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Glace Bay Miner's Museum* and *Moo*. Terri hopes that all the children and adults enjoy ATTHNGVBD, and remember that the good days always out weigh the bad ones!

André Landry: This is André's third Karen Towsley directed show and his first with Wayawitmayihk Theatre. The last show he took part in was *Les Misérables* as Jean Valjean (also directed by Karen Towsley and Michael Eddy) with Cheepiyak Theatre. Not unlike the other shows he has done under the wing of such great people, "Alexander" has been another tremendous learning experience for him. Also, this is the first time, since a long time, André has had the pleasure of working alongside someone who has been like a mother to him his whole life. *Alexander* takes you back to the days of the Incredible Hulk (the original series), the Brady Bunch, Bazooka and Bubble Yum gum, Izod "pouch" wind-breakers, Jordache jeans, Donnie and Marie or Sonny and Cher posters, and having Jaws to thank for your hydrophobia. Just let yourself be a kid again and have as much fun watching it as André does performing it!

Melissa Everitt: This is the first Fort McMurray production for Melissa and her first play out of theatre school. She is very excited to be working with such a fun cast and would like to thank them for an amazing learning experience. In her spare time, Melissa teaches junior high.

Wayawitmayihk Theatre Company would like to thank the following for their support:

Garrett Gregoraschuk & Investors Group, Keyano Theatre, Alan Roberts, Harry MacDonald, Tom Walch, Dave Piercey and General Paints, Staples Office Depot, Darlene Mitchell, Jim Mitchell, CJOK/KYX98, The Fort McMurray TODAY, Little Business Extras