

THE RMHS DRAMA CLUB

PRESENTS



**From the Newbery Award-winning book
by Lois Lowry
Adapted by Eric Coble**

DIRECTED BY MATT WOOD

MAY 5th & 6th AT 7:30PM

MAY 7th AT 2:00PM

RMHS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

WWW.RMHSDRAMA.ORG

Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, IL

Originally commissioned by
Oregon Children's Theatre in March 2006

Director's Note

Welcome to the RMHS production of *The Giver*. For the past two months I have had the pleasure of working with the many talented and thoughtful members of the RHMS Drama Club to bring this story to life. I first read Lois Lowry's novel when I was in the 7th grade. I loved the subtle strangeness of the world and connected strongly with Jonas' journey of discovery. Jonas lives in a seeming utopia; there is no pain or strife, but neither is there color or choice. As he enters his 12th year, we learn, along with him, what has been sacrificed in order to achieve this placid and orderly society.

From the very beginning of the rehearsal process, the cast and crew have been on their own journey of discovery, unpacking and inhabiting the world of *The Giver*. We asked probing questions, such as, 'What does this story suggest about the relationship between utopia and dystopia'? 'What responsibility does the acquisition of knowledge confer on the learner'? 'Does *The Giver* present an optimistic or a pessimistic worldview'? We discussed these matters and more, teasing out the implications of our discoveries. Often, however, we avoided definitive answers, preferring instead to allow ambiguity to inspire further exploration. It is my hope that these questions will linger in your minds as well.

The Giver takes place in a colorless world, but the dilemmas it presents are not black and white. There are no villains, yet horrible acts are committed. In an attempt to create a cohesive and harmonious society, morality and the nature of reality itself become distorted. The thrilling and sometimes painful process of coming out of ignorance is an experience I think we can all relate to. Like Jonas, we all must face a world that is full of complexity and make our own way through it.

This show would not be possible without the many people who have poured their time and talent into this production. I would first like to express my gratitude to Sue Brown, Katie Donovan, Kevin Gerstner and HollyBeth Murphy, whose expertise and kindness were invaluable to me. I also want to thank the incredible community of parents of PSST who have been vital players behind the scenes. To the cast and crew, thank you for trusting me and making this such a fulfilling collaboration. I am beyond proud of your work and I hope you are too. And finally, a thanks to you, the audience, for your continued support of the Arts. You make our work complete.

Matt Wood, *Director*

Cast

Father.....	William O'Connor
Mother.....	Lucy Boyden
Lily.....	Ryla Demers
Jonas.....	Henry Myatt
Asher.....	Aiden Kiley
Fiona.....	Isabella Boyden
Chief Elder.....	Natalie Medeiros
The Giver.....	Lucas Scozzari
Rosemary.....	Zoe McLaughlin-Shostak
Announcer.....	Gustavo Santos

Ensemble

Ruby Rose Allen, Ellie Brearley, Amy DeMartinis,
Cadence DiFiore, Hope Duffy, Kyle DuRoss, Ava Franklin, Gianna
Gagliardi, Ben Goldlust, Bethany McGrath, Jessica Santilli,
Katie Severance, Meredith Upton, Katrina Van Magness,
Chloe Walker & Laurie Wise

Understudies

Father.....	Gustavo Santos
Mother.....	Amy DeMartinis
Lily.....	Zoe McLaughlin-Shostak
Jonas.....	Ben Goldlust
Asher.....	Kyle DuRoss
Fiona.....	Hope Duffy
Chief Elder.....	Bethany McGrath
The Giver.....	Laurie Wise

Production Staff and Crew

Director.....	Matt Wood
Master Electrician/Set Construction Coordinator.....	Kevin Gerstner
Costume Design.....	Sue Brown
Audio Design/Tech Director.....	HollyBeth Murphy
Assistant Director.....	Katie Donovan
Stage Manager.....	Sadie Patalano
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Justin Raimo
Student Assistant Director/Dramaturg.....	Emelia Burns
Student Set Design.....	Eli Schanck
Student Lighting Design.....	Isabella Saggese
Student Asst. Lighting Design.....	Paul Sorgi
Student Lead Electrician.....	Natalie Kiernan
Light Board Operators.....	TJ Korwan & Lily O'Callaghan
Spot Light Operators.....	Lucas Reis & Maureen Manning
Student Sound Design/Sound Operator.....	Blake Thomas
Sound Effects Design/Operator.....	Oliver Galiza
Mic Chief.....	Kate Vieira
Mic Crew.....	Lucas Reis & Maureen Manning
Deck Crew.....	Lilyana Madden, Nathan Nortelus & Alana Doroquez
Lead Props.....	Kate Whalen
Lead Wardrobe.....	Laura Yatsuhashi
Wardrobe/Hair/Makeup Crew.....	Ashley McCue & Ashlyn Spezzaferro
Lobby Coordinator.....	Quinn Synnott
Lobby Crew.....	Isla Lusk, Devyn Ahlert & Natalie Austin
Electrics Crew	Paul Sorgi, Lily O'Callaghan, TJ Korwan, Lucas Reis, Sadie Patalano, Isabella Saggese, Natalie Kiernan, Lilyana Madden, Gianna Gagliardi, Maureen Manning, Isla Lusk, Myles Lakin, Kate Whalen, Jason Walsh, Natalie Austin, Alana Doroquez
Set Construction.....	The Cast, Crew, and Parent Volunteers
Program Design.....	Sadie Patalano & Gina O'Connor
Artwork.....	Bethany McGrath
Movement Coordinator.....	Ryan McCann
Puppet Design.....	Eli Schanck & Kyle DuRoss

Drama Club Officers

President.....	Lucy Boyden
Vice-President.....	Lucas Scozzari
Secretary.....	Emelia Burns
Treasurer.....	Laura Yatsunami
Historian.....	Isabella Saggese

Class Representatives

Senior.....	Amy DeMartinis
Junior.....	Sadie Patalano
Sophomore.....	Ryla Demers
Freshman.....	Emma Mahoney
Interim Drama Club Faculty Advisor.....	Ms. Katie Donovan

Parents Supporting Student Theatre (PSST)

Co-President.....	Mrs. Rosalee Scozzari
Secretary.....	Mrs. Corey Olson
Co-Treasurer.....	Mr. Josh Goldlust and Mrs. Kate Goldlust
Publicity.....	Mrs. Gina O'Connor
Fundraising.....	Mrs. Kristina Patalano
Ticket Sales.....	Mrs. Kathryn Cook
Refreshments.....	Mrs. Kate Goldlust and Mrs. Etain O'Dea
Drama Grams.....	Mrs. Linda Kiene and Mrs. Merri DuRoss
Raffles.....	Ms. Linda Burns

Our Mission Statement

The Reading Memorial High School Drama Club offers challenging, diverse productions with quality on-stage and off-stage training. Our program nurtures aspiring actors and technicians at every level, fostering a caring environment where all students can flourish. The drama club uses the power of live theatre to educate, inform, and entertain members of the school community and the residents of the greater Reading area.

With Gratitude...

*...we could not do what we do
without the generosity and support of others.*

Dr. Thomas Milaschewski, Superintendent
Dr. Sarah Hardy, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching
Dr. Jennifer Stys, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Ms. Susan Bottan, Director of Finance
Ms. Michelle Roach, Human Resources Administrator
Ms. Kristyn Cohen, Payroll and Personnel
Mr. Kevin Tracey, RMHS Principal
Ms. Kadi Buckley, RMHS Assistant Principal
Ms. Jessica Theriault, RMHS Assistant Principal
Ms. Jessica Callanan, Director of Academic Achievement
Mr. Tommy Zaya, RMHS Assistant Principal of Activities
Mrs. Kathy Drummey, Mrs. Stacy Scouten,
Mrs. Tracy Jorgenson
Mr.. Moe Hillis, Mr. Jim Morley
Mr. Kevin Gerstner, Facilities
Coolidge Middle School Drama, Parker Middle School Drama
The Reading Chronicle, Readings Magazine, The Reading Patch
The Reading Fire Department
Addison Audio
Cordele Photography
GBL Vending
Boston Graphics
Ms. Kendall Brown
PSST Board, Coordinators, and parent volunteers
Set build parents: Mr. Coram, Mr. Goldlust, Mr. O'Connor, and
Mr. Whalen

Special shoutout to Bethany McGrath for the beautiful artwork
designed for our full 2022-2023 season

Thank you so much for everything you do!
The RMHS Drama Club





Thank you to the RMHS Drama Club and our amazing parent volunteers. Thank you to the advisors and the cast and crew for bringing the beloved story of *The Giver* to life - with a extra special shout out to our director Matt Wood for stepping into our drama community and graciously working on this show with us.

Would you like to contribute to the Drama Club?

Donations support our extracurricular club advisors (Playwriting, Improv, and additional show support), as well as our RMHS Drama Club Achievement award, nourishing our cast and crews during long setbuild and tech days, and so much more!

Make checks payable to:
Parents Supporting Student Theatre
PO Box 432
Reading, MA 01867

@psst-rmhs



venmo



RMHS Choirs

SPRING INTO SONG

featuring

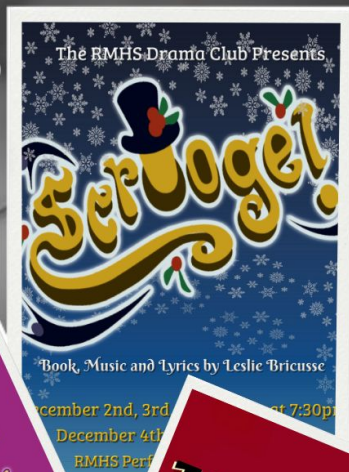
Select Choir
Fermata Nowhere
The Crescendudes
RMHS Singers
Harmonium
Mixed Choir

Friday, May 19, 2023

7:00 pm

Reading Memorial High School
Performing Arts Center

**We had a fantastic 2022-2023 season!
Many thanks everyone in the community for
attending our shows and supporting us.**

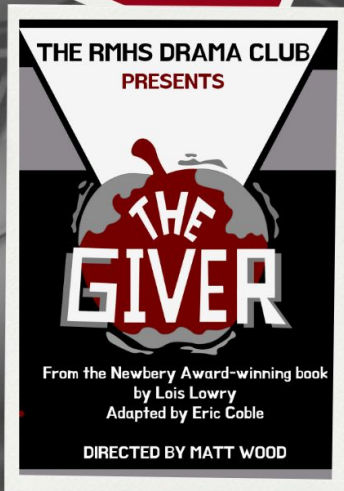


2022/2023 Season

**SCROOGE
DEC 2ND - 11TH**

**THIS IS A TEST &
THE ACTOR'S NIGHTMARE
FEB 10TH-12TH**

**THE GIVER
MAY 5TH - 7TH**



**The 2023-2024 will be
announced in June.**

Stay tuned!

RMHSDrama.org