

# CLOC

for kids

PRESENTS...

## The MUSIC MAN

**RUNTIME** or: how  
long does this last?

**1 HOUR**  
and 10 minutes

20 minutes

45 MINUTES

## WELCOME TO THE HIGHFIELD THEATER!

We're so excited that you're here for today's performance of *The Music Man*! Here at CLOC, we consider kids like you some of our most special guests, and so, before the show starts, we wanted to share a few things with you...

**PLOT** or: what's going on?

*Need help following the plot? Here's a handy-dandy summary to help.*

*The Music Man* takes place in the fictional city of River City, Iowa, where newcomer Professor Harold Hill has just arrived in town. The townspeople don't know it, but he is a con man; Harold can't play a single instrument, but he claims he can lead a band for the local children (what he really wants, however, is their parents' money).

While in River City, Harold meets Marian Paroo, the town librarian who also offers piano lessons. She is the only one to see that Harold is a fraud, but she is interrupted when she tries to reveal who he really is – and she even falls in love (as does Harold!). Will she be able to help Harold defend his name when his nemesis, Charlie Cowell, comes to River City?

## THE WELLS FARGO WAGON or: what is it?

*"O-ho the Wells Fargo Wagon is a-comin' down the street..." What are they singing about, you ask?*

When people purchased items from traveling salesmen like Harold Hill, they would have to wait for them to be delivered by **the Wells Fargo Wagon**, much like today when we wait for packages that were ordered online to come in the mail! In addition to the stagecoach, Wells Fargo also delivered purchases via steamship and train.



**TRUE OR FALSE?** *The Music Man* was a movie before it was a musical!  
**Check on the back for the answer.**



theatre history:  
**WHO IS  
 BARBARA  
 COOK?**

**Barbara Cook** was a Broadway actress who starred in famous musicals from the 1950s, such as *Plain and Fancy*, *Candide*, and, yes, *The Music Man!* The original Marian the Librarian, she received a Tony Award (like the Oscars, but for a play or musical) for the role.

**WORD PUZZLES**

or: solve the riddles!

*Don't be fooled by these puzzles! Put your brain to the test and try solving them.*



**1.**

man  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 board

Man Overboard

**2.**

po **FISH** nd

Big Fish in a Small Pond

**3.**

o  
 r o a d s  
 d  
 s

Crossroads

**4.**

stand  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 |

I Understand

**CHARACTERS**

or: who is who?

*Not sure which person is which? Here are the main characters of the story.*

harold hill

A traveling salesman and conman; the protagonist

The town librarian; befriends Harold

marian paroo

mayor shinn

The town mayor; suspicious of Harold

The overbearing wife of the mayor

eulalie shinn

mrs. paroo

Marian's widowed mother; likes Harold

An old friend of Harold

marcellus

**MUSICAL NUMBERS**

or: follow along with the songs!

act one

The Wells Fargo Wagon

Rock Island

Iowa Stubborn

Trouble

Piano Lesson

Goodnight, My

Someone

76 Trombones

Sincere

The Sadder-But-

Wiser Girl

Pickalittle (Talk-a-Little)

Goodnight, Ladies

Marian the

Librarian

My White Knight

act two

It's You

Shipooopi

Pickalittle (*reprise*)

Lida Rose

Will I Ever Tell You

Gary, Indiana

It's You (*reprise*)

Till There Was You

76 Trombones/

Goodnight, My

Someone

Till There Was You

Finale

**FALSE.** *The Music Man* premiered in 1957 – the film followed in 1962!



want to usher and review CLOC productions?

We are always looking for students to join our Young Critics Circle! If you are in middle school or high school and want to learn more, please email [boxoffice@collegelightoperacompany.com](mailto:boxoffice@collegelightoperacompany.com).

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