



THIS PRODUCTION IS
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY



The SOUND of MUSIC

December 3-19, 2021

Spotlight: Literacy is a Playhouse program supported by

**Cole-Belin Education
Foundation**



JOHN DEERE



BRAYO
GREATER DES MOINES

Original funding provided by Joanne and Milt Brown.



My Favorite Things

Maria's favorite things include girls in white dresses with blue satin sashes. The cast members of *The Sound of Music* were asked to tell us about their favorite things. This is what they said.



Javier Anselmo (*Baron Elberfeld*) A few of my favorite things are videogames, red velvet pancakes with cream cheese frosting, and writing songs!



Miclo Cuauhtemoc Gonzalez (*Party Guest/Herwegen Trio*) I love hanging out with my family, singing loudly, writing songs, and drinking coffee on rainy days!



Jess Belch (*Maria Rainer*) I love being outdoors, yummy-smelling candles, hot chocolate, and my Corgi, Cooper.



Greta Hammond (*Sister Margaretta*) I like strong cups of coffee, sunshine, traveling to new places, nice long chats with friends, and singing loudly and spontaneously!



Brian Bopp (*Max Detweiler*) I like hot black coffee, crunchy dill pickles, doggy kisses, pizza of any kind, sailboats, singing, and KIDS!



Ryan Henzi (*Friedrich von Trapp*) My favorites are apple cider doughnuts, staying up late playing games, talking to friends at lunch, and tap dancing until my feet hurt.



Alison Buechler (*Ursula/Nun*) Singing is one of my favorite things to do. I also love to perform, all things Harry Potter and Disney, and reading in chilly weather.



Willow Huber (*Baroness Elberfeld/Nun*) I like traveling, music, dancing, and searching for seashells on the beach.



Cheryl Gillespie Clark (*Frau Schmidt*) I like exploring new places, reading books, growing flowers, and doing anything with my grandchildren!



Dawson Huinker (*Louisa von Trapp*) I like listening to music, drawing, animé, and my favorite season, fall!



Vivian Rosalie Coleman (*Marta von Trapp*) Some of my favorite things are small animals, singing, and dancing!



Sage Johnson (*Liesel von Trapp*) I like cuddling with my two cats, the smell of chocolate chip cookies, and singing with my friends!



Kersten Daubitz (*Sister Sophia*) I like going on bike rides, reading books, solving puzzles, and spending time outside.



Alyssa Lee (*Marta von Trapp*) I'm the kid who loves singing *Hamilton*, smiley faces, snuggling with cats, scaling rocks, and sunshine yellow.



Naomi Davidson (*Gretl von Trapp*) I love dancing to all kinds of music, singing, writing stories, reading every book I can, sewing and making crafts, baking, and going to church.



Tatum Lowell (*Brigitta von Trapp*) A few of my favorite things are my family, ice cream, singing, and shopping!



Rachel McDermott (*Frau Zeller/Nun*) I like chocolate milkshakes, laughing too loud with my friends, lazy Sundays with my family, and singing country songs in the car.



Amy McGrew (*Nun*) I like snuggling with my puppy, Charlie, spending time with my grandkids, going on vacations where I can swim or play on a beach, and riding the biggest, fastest, scariest, roller coaster I can find.



Taylor Millar (*Elsa Schrader*) Here are some of my favorite things: Formula One racing, my dogs, coffee, reading mystery books, and teaching.



Megan Geddes Murdoch (*Nun*) I love theme parks, good books, rainy days and spending time with my friends and family.



Matthew Nicholson (*Captain Georg von Trapp*) My favorite things include tacos, spending time with my niece and nephews, doing volunteer work, and snuggling with my two Morkies, Oliver and Pancake.



Ingrid Oakley (*Gretl von Trapp*) A few of my favorite things are running outside in my socks to catch the ice cream truck, identifying bugs and plants, playing electric guitar, doing homeschool late at night, eating blueberries with peanut butter, and the gap between my two front teeth!



Jake Parks (*Franz*) I love snowboarding, making music, video games, and telling stories with friends!



Gavin Runles (*Rolf Gruber*) I love music, people, and exploring the unknown!



Steve Schaff (*Admiral Von Schreiber*) I like blowing bubbles with my granddaughter, making s'mores over a campfire, and sitting on the front porch in a rainstorm.



Evan Schettler (*Herr Zeller*) I love singing, cooking, playing with my cat, and playing video games!



Shannon T. Seals (*Mother Abbess*) I love rainbow sprinkles in vanilla ice cream, reading a good book on a rainy day, and laying down after a long day and stretching out.



Natalie Simon (*Sister Bertha*) I like to make people laugh, and also enjoy playing the piano and singing any kind of song!



Jason Stanbro (*Party Guest/Nazi Soldier*) I like singing, acting, playing guitar, hanging with friends and family, playing outdoors, and laughing.



Caethen Stocker (*Kurt von Trapp*) My favorite things are dancing like Michael Jackson, Chick Fil A's spicy deluxe chicken sandwich, playing with my kittens, creating my own music, and studying World War II airplanes.



Medina Suljic (*A New Postulant/Nun*) I like singing in the shower, dancing in the rain, hot chocolate on a cold winter day, eating strawberry shortcake, and towels warm from the dryer.



Jenny Throckmorton (*Herwegen Trio/Nun*) I love being an outdoor explorer, searching for adventure, and taking pictures of all the cool things I see!

What is crisp Apple Strudel?

One of Maria's "favorite things", apple strudel, is a pastry that dates from 1697 and became popular throughout the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The name is German but it was made famous in Vienna, Austria. Here is an easy semi-homemade version for you to make with an adult!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 can Pillsbury Crescent Rolls 8 rolls
(or use the Crescent Roll Sheet if you can find it)
- 1 1/2 cups apple pie filling or from a can,
use about 3/4 of a can
- 1 egg
- Granulated sugar for sprinkling
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 Tablespoon apple juice



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Unroll Crescent Rolls onto a large sheet of parchment paper that will fit on a cookie sheet. Press the seams together.
3. Using a knife, cut strips 1" apart up and down both sides of the Crescent Roll rectangle, leaving about 3" of untouched space in the center for the filling. Place the pie filling up and down the center where there are no cuts. Wrap each slice up and over the filling, overlapping as necessary.
4. Pinch the ends shut using the tines of a fork.
5. Brush the outside of the Crescent Roll with beaten egg and sprinkle with granulated sugar. Place parchment sheet with the strudel on a cookie sheet.
6. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown and cooked through. Cool completely before glazing.
7. To make the glaze: whisk powdered sugar, vanilla, and apple juice. Drizzle over strudel, slice, and serve. Optionally, top with drizzled caramel instead of glaze.
8. Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days.

So long, farewell

If you listen to the von Trapp children say goodnight to the party guests, you will hear them say good-bye in different languages. Auf wiedersehen is German. Adieu is French. There are many ways to say good-bye. See if you can match each word to the country it comes from.

ciao
zai jian
adeus
adjo
aloha
dovidjenja
namaste
adios
hooroo

Hawaii, US
India
Spain
Croatia
Italy
Portugal
Australia
China
Sweden

ciao, Italy; zai jian, China; adeus, Portugal; adjo, Sweden; aloha, Hawaii, US; dovidjenja, Croatia; namaste, India; adios, Spain; hooroo, Australia

The Real Story



The real von Trapp family did live in Salzburg, Austria, which is so near the German border that most of the inhabitants speak German. In 1926, the real Maria thought she would be a nun, but before she could take her final vows she was sent to work as a tutor for one of the von Trapp children. However, she was really sent because she was suffering from blinding headaches and not because she was a questionable candidate for life in the abbey. The doctor thought because she had been raised high in the mountains, she was not accustomed to the denser atmosphere of the city below. Maria really did fall in love with the children and in later years said that she married more to be their mother than to be the Captain's wife.

As in the play, there were seven children in the family but Maria and Georg had three more children together, for a total of 10! The children's names were all changed for the musical.

Historically, the play is accurate in regard to the political events in Austria. In 1938 when the Nazis took over Austria in the Anschluss*, soldiers in the Austrian army were expected to join up for a war that was about to begin. Many did not want to fight for the Nazis, but felt they had no choice.

At the time of the takeover, the von Trapps had already begun touring as a singing group. In fact, they did win the Salzburg Festival in 1936, but their escape did not happen until two years later. When the Germans tried to force Captain von Trapp into serving in their navy, the family left by train to Italy, telling people they were going to America to sing. After touring Scandinavia and the United States, they permanently moved to Vermont in the 1940s and opened the Trapp Family Lodge. It is still open today, and is run by Maria and Georg's youngest son, Johannes, and grandson, Samuel.

*Anschluss means union in German, specifically the union of Austria with Germany.

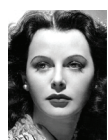
Other Famous Austrians

Austria is a landlocked country in Europe about half the size of Iowa. Its capital is Vienna. Even though it is small, it has produced many important citizens. Here are a few of them!



SIGMUND FREUD

At the age of five, Freud and his family moved from Moravia to Vienna, Austria. He was an excellent student and had no problem enrolling in medical school. His real interest was in psychology or the study of why people behave and think and feel the way they do. He created an approach for helping troubled people called psychoanalysis. In addition to this he wrote about the interpretation of dreams and the wording of jokes as well as the nature of temper tantrums. In 1938, after Austria was taken over by Nazi Germany, Freud, who was Jewish, had no choice but to immigrate.



HEDY LAMARR

Hedy Lamarr (Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler), was born in Austria in 1917 and emigrated to the United States. Once known as “the most beautiful woman in the world,” she was primarily known for movies such as *Samson and Delilah*. She was also a largely self-taught inventor who developed technology known as frequency-hopping spread spectrum. Originally intended to be used for radio-controlled Allied torpedoes in World War II, it was designed to make them harder to detect or jam. Although the U.S. Navy did not incorporate the technology until 1962, it ultimately became the basis for Bluetooth and GPS. Because her patent had expired, she did not receive any payment or credit.



WOLFGANG AMEDEUS MOZART

Mozart was born in 1756 in Salzburg but spent most of his life Vienna. He was already giving piano and violin concerts for royalty by the age of five. Before his death at the age of 37, he composed over 600 pieces of music that are highly regarded the world over. He composed many types of music – some for his own amusement. One such piece is called a “table duet.” The single sheet of music is placed on a table with two violinists standing on either side. One plays the piece right side up, one plays it upside down. Although it seems impossible, it results in perfect harmony.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Arnold Schwarzenegger was born in 1947 in the Austrian village of Thal and became a naturalized American citizen in 1983. He began his career as a professional bodybuilder by winning the Mr. Universe title at the tender age of 20. He then went on to win the Mr. Olympia contest seven times. After retiring from bodybuilding, he went on to international fame as the star of movies such as *Conan the Barbarian*, *True Lies*, and the Terminator movie franchise. He also served as chairman of the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports from 1990-1993. He “retired” from acting when he was elected Governor of California, an office he held from 2003-2011, after which he has since returned to acting.

Edelweiss (“noble white”) is a small plant that lives primarily in the Alps. Although scientifically not a flower, it does have flowering white leaves that form a double star shape. It is a very hardy plant that grows in rocky places between 5,000-9,500 feet. It is considered a symbol of bravery and courage. In fact, the Edelweiss Pirates were a group of German youths ages 14-17 who formed in opposition to the Hitler Youth and Nazi rule during World War II. Edelweiss holds great symbolic meaning for the country of Austria. Today, edelweiss is disappearing from some areas, and is illegal to pick in many countries.



Where are the puppets?

There are many differences between *The Sound of Music* movie and the play. For example, in the movie, Rolf, at the last moment, blows the whistle on the hiding family; in the play he does not turn them in. Another big difference is that in the play, "The Lonely Goatherd" is performed in Maria's bedroom and not as a marionette piece.

The puppets made for the movie have a permanent home here in Iowa at The Charles H. MacNider Museum in Mason City. An American puppet master, Iowan Bill Baird, gained an enormous world-wide audience working out of New York City. He created the puppets and choreographed the marionette performance in the film *The Sound of Music* starring Julie Andrews.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Before and after the show, here are some questions that encourage you to think more about it.

In the play, the von Trapps hike over the Alps to escape to Switzerland. We know that in real life, the von Trapp family actually took a train to Italy after telling everyone they were going to sing in America.

Why did the playwright change the details of their departure? Find Salzburg, Austria on a map. What country would the family have ended up in if they had really hiked over the Alps?

The play takes place in 1938. How is the von Trapp family different than a modern family? How are they the same?

The actors speak to tell the story, but there are other elements in a play that help to tell the story as well. How do the lighting, scenery and costumes work to tell story?

We all know that in reality, most people do not break into song like in a musical. This is a challenge because the actors must sing in the middle of a scene yet still create a sense of truth. What does the addition of music give to a play to make it dynamic and interesting?

Alissa

Dawson Huinker

Rachel McConitt

Sage Johnson

Shannon Seals

Ingrid Oakley

Jess. Belch

Garvin Kunkles

Megan Murdoch

Naomi

The SOUND of MUSIC

Art Alford

Willow Habel

Cheryl Clark

Greg

AUTOGRAPHS

Debra Hammond

[Signature]

Alisa Frank

Amy McShaw

[Signature]

William Rosalie Coleman

Medina

John Dancy

Mido I. Kanyaly

[Signature]

Cathy Salathe

Horatio Davitt

[Signature]

[Signature]