



# DEATH BY CHOCOLATE

**Written by Paul Freed**

**Toni Lorenz**  
Director

**Angie Hoffman**  
Production Manager

Presented with special licensing from Concord Theatrical

# FROM THE MCT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Welcome to our production of Death by Chocolate!

We are incredibly excited to bring you this show in our 22nd Season. We want to thank you for being a supporter of the arts. It's the support from our amazing community that allows us to continue our mission of providing a creative outlet for the performing arts.

At each show we produce, know that every member of the cast, crew and production team has put their heart into creating a beautiful story and experience for you. Our goal at MCT is to continually entertain, educate and enrich our community through the stories we tell on stage.

With that said, as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, we depend on the support of community members like you to continue doing what we do. We ask that you consider making a donation to support your Theatre with Heart.

You can make a donation online at [marshfieldtheatre.org](http://marshfieldtheatre.org) or by mail at:

P.O. Box 344

Marshfield, MO 65706

There are other ways you can support MCT, as well, including:

- Becoming a member: MCT memberships are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults and \$25 for families, plus MCT members get extra perks throughout the year
- Volunteering: You can volunteer to work with MCT at any time throughout the year, and we will happily find the place that fits your specific talents
- Auditioning for shows: We are a theatre troupe, after all! We're always looking for talent, so take a leap of faith and audition for one of our upcoming shows this season.

Thank you for your support of MCT. We appreciate you being here, and we hope you enjoy the show!

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**Thank you to the following  
for making this show a success:**

The Jubilee Theater Center & The Wright Family  
Marshfield First Baptist Church

# CAST

Lady Riverdale.....	Sandee DePriest
Dyslexia.....	Linley Wilson*
John Stone.....	Kelby Lorenz
Ralph Deadwood.....	Dalton Young
Margaret Daniels.....	Maureen Wilson
Alfred Mellox.....	Miguel Gramley*
Edith Chiles/Henry Meadowbrook.....	Sharon Day
“Sweet Pea” Meadowbrook.....	Emily Pipkin
Dick Simmering.....	Brendan DePriest
Anne.....	Brandy Rice
Ed Parlor.....	Randy Hoffman

\*Denotes MCT mainstage debut

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager.....	Angie Hoffman
Director.....	Toni Lorenz
Technical Design.....	Kelby Lorenz
Light Board Operator.....	Robert Canon
Sound Board Operator.....	Heaven Padilla Resch
Properties.....	Rachel Salsig

## THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



# SYNOPSIS

Members of the newly renovated Meadowbrook Health Resort are dropping like flies, including famed chef Edith Chiles! On the eve of the grand re-opening, this is not the best advertisement. It's up to John Stone, the manager, to find the cause and the murderer. Delightfully sarcastic and cynical, Stone finds himself teaming up with Ed Parlor, mystery writer and amateur sleuth, in a wacky race against time. The clues point to a sinister box of chocolates, and the suspects include all the outlandish characters working for the resort. Could it be Lady Riverdale, owner of the resort and a woman with dark secrets? Or Ralph Deadwood, gym instructor and all around cad? Dick Simmering, the aerobics instructor? Anne, the panic-stricken nurse? Or could it be "Sweet Pea" Meadowbrook, overweight and grieving daughter of the recently deceased founder of the resort? Death by Chocolate combines all the elements of classic murder mysteries with a scathing satire of today's health crazes.



# BIOS



## **Kelby Lorenz - John Stone**

Kelby is excited to return to the stage at MCT! Kelby has been involved with MCT for several years and is their current Marketing & Membership Committee Chair. Kelby was most recently seen on stage at MCT in *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Charlie Brown), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Charlie Brown), and *Mamma Mia!* (Eddie). Kelby has also worked behind the scenes at MCT for the last several years, most recently for *Leaving Iowa* (Director), *Disney's High School Musical On Stage* (Lighting & Sound Design), *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Producer), *Night of the Living Dead* (Director), and *The Great Gatsby* (Director). Kelby is the Marketing Manager for the non-profit NumFOCUS, where he leads the marketing team and helps create marketing strategies to promote the organization and its programs.



## **Sandee DePriest - Lady Riverdale**

Sandee DePriest's first theatrical production was in a Christmas play when she was 6 years old. She does not remember her first line, but she does remember that she wore a red velvet dress. Now, 55 years later, Sandee confesses she struggles with some of her lines from yesterday's rehearsal. She took a hiatus from the stage due to her loss of hearing; however, she heeded the call when the role of Lady Riverdale beckoned. She is grateful to Toni, the cast and crew for their patience and accommodations so that she can once again tread the boards. She gives all glory to God, Who reminded her that He knows when it is time for you to be seen. Sandee is a President Ex Officio of MCT and a founding member. She directed "Nonsense", "Best Christmas Pageant Ever", "Music Man", "South Pacific" and "Forever Plaid" for MCT, and appeared as Mrs. Potts in "Beauty and the Beast", the Wicked Witch in "Wizard of Oz" and Dolly in "Hello Dolly". In Kansas City, Sandee appeared as an alien in a bubble, a ballerina princess, a tap-dancing Red Riding Hood and a country-singing skunk during her professional career in children's theatre, and was understandably afraid of dying onstage in an animal costume. Thanks to those endeavors, however, she earned her Actors' Equity card and also performed at the Midland Theatre, Waldo Astoria dinner theatre and Missouri Rep there. She co-wrote the nationally published/performed "Six Women With Brain Death." In 2009, Sandee appeared at the God and Country Theatre as Louise in "Always, Patsy Cline", and was nominated for Entertainer of the Year. Sandee is also familiar to Springfield Little Theatre and Vandivort Center Theatre (now Springfield Contemporary Theatre) audiences, having performed in many shows there during the last 30 years. Favorite roles in these local theatres include Baker's Wife in "Into the Woods", the title role in "Shirley Valentine", Miss Hannigan in "Annie", Rita in "Educating Rita" and Mother Superior in "Nonsense". By far, however, her favorite productions have been co-produced with her husband, David: Their sons, Brendan and Eli. She is also very proud of her extended MCT family and how it has become a vital contributor to the quality of life in Webster County.



### **Emily Pipkin - "Sweet Pea" Meadowbrook**

Emily is excited about being in another show with MCT! She credits her mom for the love of theater and appreciates the opportunity to play. Her previous roles include Nancy in Oliver, Abby in Arsenic and Old Lace, Ismene in Antigone, Officer Bainbridge in You have the Right to Remain Dead, and in the Ensemble of Leaving Iowa.



### **Miguel Gramley - Alfred Mellox**

Miguel has been acting for over a decade now, portraying many characters like Mr. Mushnik and Colonel Mustard. This is his first show with Marshfield Community Theatre! He is very excited to work with this wonderful community. He plans on pursuing acting on a professional level.



### **Maureen Wilson - Margaret Daniels**

Maureen Wilson has been in the acting game for three years now, with several appearances in local community theaters. One might say the "arts" are in her he"art". She invites you to join her in an adventure of the imagination. The plot thickens!



### **Randy Hoffman - Ed Parlor**

This is Randy's fourth performance with MCT. He was previously seen on stage as Uncle Phil in Leaving Iowa, a Zombie in Night of the Living Dead, and the Fireman in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. He was recruited by his wife who assured him this would be fun and as usual she was right.



### **Dalton Young - Ralph Deadwood**

Dalton is excited to be bringing Ralph Deadwood to life in MCT's Death by Chocolate! This is Dalton's fifth production at Marshfield Community theater, starring in other shows such as Puffs, The Great Gatsby, and Night of the Living Dead. Off of the stage, Dalton is an English Education student at Missouri State University, and spends most of his time writing, reading, and preparing for his next show.



### **Sharon Day - Edith Chiles**

With chocolate as her go-to comfort food, Sharon is so excited to indulge in the scrumptious Lady Riverdale Chocolates for MCT's Death By Chocolate! After her MCT debut this past December as Sally in A Charlie Brown Christmas, Sharon is ready to take on the stage in this hilarious murder mystery as Head Chef Edith Chiles. In her free time, Sharon loves to host "grand" sleepovers, crochet, knit, fly-fish, kayak, and hang out with her man, Noel, and is nearing completion of her current LTFTFT (last-time-for-the- first-time) project - an eye-spinning Bargello quilt. And, of course, she is always down to enjoy just about any kind of chocolate - especially dark chocolate bars.



### **Linley Wilson - Dyslexia**

Linley Wilson is currently a K-12 Music Teacher at Norwood Schools. She has been involved with theatre since she was little by being involved with shows at Hartville Schools, Ozark Mountain Players in Mansfield, Springfield Little Theatre, and Southwest Baptist University. Some of her Favorite roles include Little Red in "Into The Woods" and Izzy in "Finishing Sentences." She would like to thank her friends and family for their loving support and hopes that everyone enjoys the show!



### **Brendan DePriest - Dick Simmering**

Brendan DePriest is looking forward to performing in this coming show! A Marshfield Community Theatre veteran of more than twenty years, he has been cast, crew, and directorial staff as time has passed, and has enjoyed theatre ever since he was just a little munchkin in a golden dress suit. His most recent credits are Murder on the Orient Express, Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic, Night of the Living Dead, It's a Wonderful Life! Radio Show, and You Have the Right to Remain Dead! When he is not doing theatre-related work, he can always be found in downtown Springfield reading the latest science fiction book or spending time with those close to him. As always, he would like to thank his family, friends, and most importantly his cast and crewmates for their support!



### **Brandy Rice - Anne**

Brandy is excited to be returning to the MCT stage! She has previously been seen in A Charlie Brown Christmas, High School Musical, Mamma Mia, You Have the Right to Remain Dead, The Holly Jolly Variety Show, The Great Gatsby, Night of the Living Dead, and The Haunted Houses. Brandy has also been backstage for MCT productions of Charlie Brown and The Addams Family. She has also been seen in recitals at True North Movement. If Brandy isn't helping build, paint a set or designing escape rooms, she is dancing or singing. She also loves spending time with her new granddaughter. She would like to thank everyone that she has met on her theatre journey. She would have never been able to do any of this without the help from all of you.



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