



## **“Jack and the Beanstalk”**

### **The Story**

**It is an operatic version of the story of Jack & the Beanstalk based on scenes from the operettas of Sir Arthur Sullivan.**

**Living in poverty with his mother, Jack sells the family cow to a mysterious dustman for a handful of beans. When he returns home and shows his mom the scrawny seeds, she throws them out a window in despair. The beans, of course, take root, and in the moonlight a magical stalk grows to the sky.**

**Discovering the beanstalk and climbing it, as any boy hero would, Jack finds himself in the castle of a very large oaf and his kindly, but haggard, wife. Learning that this giant has taken his father's golden hen, Jack, with the help of the Giant's wife, stealthily takes it back.**

**The Giant, in pursuit of Jack, receives a bump on the head after falling from the beanstalk, causing him to forget he's supposed to be “bad.” Realizing all the trouble he's caused, the Giant resolves to behave well, agreeing that he will always treat others as others would do, if the others and I were in each other's shoe. That's the GOLDEN RULE.**

## *Biographies*

*Drew Quintero – Jack Nimble* Drew is a graduate of Quincy University and a Quincy Native. He has sung the leading roles in several Muddy River Opera Children's Operas and in several major Operas in the past. He will appear in the upcoming opera "The Merry Widow" by Franz Lehar in the role of Njegus. Drew appears quite often in Quincy Community Theatre productions.

*Emily DePauw – mother of Jack & wife of the Giant – Emily* Is a graduate of Quincy University. She has sung the leading roles in several Muddy River Opera Children's operas. Before moving to St. Louis, MO, she appeared in several major operas for the Company. She is now Administrative Director for the Union Avenue Opera in St. Louis and is a charter member of the Missouri Women's Chorus.

*Kevin Jobe- the Giant* - Kevin appears quite frequently in Quincy Community Theatre productions and has sung in several Children's Operas and major operas of the Muddy River Opera Company. Last year he appeared as The Admiral in MROC production of "The Pirates of Penzance". Kevin will sing in the upcoming production of "The Merry Widow" for MROC.

*Allen Means – Trouble Man* – is a graduate of Western Illinois University and is presently Instructor of choral music and student vocal instruction at Quincy University. Allen is constant member of the cast of the Children's Operas and has appeared in several MROC major operas. He will sing the role of Cascadas in the upcoming production of "The Merry Widow". Allen is also Chorus Director for the "Merry Widow".

## *Biographies (continued)*

*Brandon Thomsen – Stage Director* - Brandon is currently the Director of Student Theatre/Head of Education for the Quincy Community Theatre. He recently directed the hit show "Tom Sawyer" for QCT. This is his second directing job for MROC Children's Opera having directed "The Toy Shop" in 2011. Brandon has also appeared on stage in several MROC and QCT productions and will appear in the upcoming opera, "The Merry Widow" as Baron Zeta.

*Garrett Ruffin- Piano Accompanist* – Garrett is a classically trained pianist with an added flair for jazz and gospel voicings. Garrett has recently moved back to Quincy and works for the Quincy School District as accompanist for QJHS Boys' Chorus and the Instrumental Chorus. Garrett has been accompanist for several MROC and QCT productions. He studied piano for many years with Leonora Gehrlich.

*Paul Denckla – Set Designer* – Paul is Set and Lighting Designer for Quincy Community Theatre and a man of many talents. He has appeared in several QCT productions and hopefully some day in a MROC production. Paul is always ready to take on the job of helping other organizations with their sets and special lighting when the need arises.

*Avril Marie Bernzen- Artistic Director/Production Manager* – Avril Marie is a graduate of Quincy University and a graduate in Piano and voice from other institutions. She has sung with Opera Companies, Musical Theatre, Dinner Theatre, and as guest artist for USO Concerts. She has served as Artistic Director for MROC for 12 years and off and on as President of the Company. She has a voice and piano studio in her home.

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