Methodist College
50th Anniversary Musical
We're All in This Together

CO-DIRECTORS: Mr. Andy Yau and Ms. Candy Lo
SCRIPTWRITER: Ms. Denise Richardson
MUSIC ARRANGEMENT: Mr. Ma Man, Mr. Arthur Lee, and Ms. Grace Lee
PERFORMERS: Students from Methodist College
The 50th Anniversary/Musical: ‘We’re All In This Together’

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Methodist College, a musical entitled “We’re All in This Together” was staged in the auditorium of Tsuen Wan Town Hall on July 10, 2000. Fifty memorable years flashed in front of our eyes in the most magical way as over a hundred students sang, danced and acted, retelling the history and the highlights of the last 50 years at Methodist College. Do you want to find out the secrets of success behind the musical? Let’s go backstage to find out more.

Preparation Stage

Interview with the Directors

The success of the musical was a concerted effort of different parties. Let’s find out how they came up with the sparks of the musical!

After graduating from Methodist College a few years ago, you now have the chance to come back to be the Co-Directors of the musical. How do you feel about that?

It’s an honor to come back to my secondary school. I was very delighted to contribute to the school. It is because both Candy and I have worked in the career of drama since we have left secondary school, so therefore we would like to do something related with our career for our school.

Mr. Andy Yau, Co-Director

I would like to do this because I feel that the students need to have a chance to express themselves. Also, I think it’s important for the students to have a good understanding of the drama. It’s also a good opportunity for them to learn something new.

Ms. Candy Lau, Co-Director

As a Director, try to be an outsider and let the students how to develop their role in the play.

How do you make use of your experiences to direct our classmates during the musical?

It is crucial that the students can enjoy the training process, I would like to teach them the necessary attitude that actors need to have, as well as the professional knowledge related to the drama. Of course, the outcome of the show is necessary, but what the students concerned the most with is how they can deal with other people and what their attitude should be when facing difficulties.

Mr. Andy Yau, Co-Director
I have been teaching in the school for 3 years. During the last year, I was quite stressed since I was responsible for the opening ceremony for the South Wing. It was because we had to prepare for the show in a short period of time and we needed to perform the best in front of the audience. Since then, I am not as stressed as before. This year, I am glad to see that many students are willing to help in the musical after they have finished the public exams like those ICSE and IGCSE. With their help, I feel less pressure.

Mr. Andy You, Co-Director

I hope that everyone enjoys it. We all have learned from it, both the performers. I hope that it can inspire everyone's emotion in general, even the interest of the audience. And for the people who come to watch, it is an open door for them to be exposed and be brave to explore their own dreams.

Ms Candy Lu, Co-Director

I hope that we can show our best to the audiences. Also, I hope the students can perform as they are trained to be on the stage.

Mr. Andy You, Co-Director

R: What is your role in the musical?
I: In the musical, my name is Shan. She is a hardworking, conscientious girl. She is a Christian. As she likes to help teenagers build up their confidence and develop their potential, her dream is to become a teacher when she grows up.

R: What will you do to make the musical a great show?
I: I will work wholeheartedly and do my best in order to make this musical a great success.

R: How do you get into the character?
I: In terms of acting skills and stage presence, the directors, both Andy and Candy have really given me a great helping hand. They encouraged me to get into the character of Shan. Better still, they taught me how to get familiar with the personality of Shan. All these have made me feel more comfortable about acting and the role I am playing.

R: What is your expectation towards the musical?
I: I am sure the musical will be an overwhelming success, because there are lots of people supporting us, like our principal Ms Emily Wong, Ms Grace Lee, our directors Andy and Candy and last but not least the Assistance Stage Managers. I sincerely hope this musical can let people who were not very familiar with Methodist College know more about our school, both the history and the unique culture. I also wish that the alumni can treasure this precious chance to refresh their old memories of the school.

Ivy Lau of 65 played a leading role in the musical. Let's find out more about her!
The Methodist College Golden Jubilee Musical was fabulous. The show opened with an exciting performance of singing hymns and praises by the Worship Team organized by our alumni. Not only did it arouse a passionate sentiment from the audience, but it also provided a spiritual prelude to the Musical.

After the prayers and the Principal’s Welcoming Speech, our school orchestra delighted us with an inspiring musical performance. Surprisingly, our alumni also took part in the show and that was indeed a breath-taking and memorable sight to be seen. The Musical was launched by an amusing introduction of a talking tree. This cotton tree was vivid and vigorous in Act One, “The Planted Seed”. Most interestingly, the performers used various body gestures to personify the old tree on the slope of Methodist College.

Following Act One, there was a continuous linking of another gracious act. Act Two was titled “God Has Provided”. It was about the development of our school in the 1960s.

Immediately after the review of the 60s, time flew and we moved on to Act Three. We met Shan, a senior form student at Methodist College, expressing her dream to become a teacher. She illustrated her strong feelings of passion towards her dream to become a teacher in the future by singing a solo, “I Have a Dream”. Ivy Lau played the role of Shan and she sang in such an elegant way showing her strong desire of contributing to society as a teacher after her graduation.

With spectacular nonstop action, Act Four was really marvelous as there was a catwalk depicting various careers our graduates have chosen which effectively demonstrated their contributions to society. It was the most inspiring show and it showed how Methodist College has been carrying on her mission cultivating a pool of talented members of society. So the name of this act, “Aspirations” was indeed appropriate.

While the audience was touched by the above acts, the climax of the musical came little by little. Act Five was titled “Changes”. The audience was treated to the most exciting Tap Dance that really enthused the audience and left them with a feeling of awe. Finally, just prior to the curtain falling on the school musical, the audience enjoyed a fast-paced act which was a combination of music, singing, dancing and acting. All the performers from the different forms wore the school PE uniforms and danced to the theme song from the musical, “We’re All In This Together”. Nothing was more remarkable than seeing so many students hanging together and clearly having fun. Their effort in the end paid off and the musical was undoubtedly a success.

As the reporters, we were responsible for bringing a straight hit to all of you. After the curtain fell on the stage, we immediately rushed backstage and interviewed the main characters and other key figures in the musical. We found an exuberant group of people, hugging and crying and reveling in their success.
Interview with the Co-Director

Q: Different students have their own distinguishing characteristics and talents. How did you manage to fully utilize their own personality to contribute to the musical?
A: It is crucial to guide them and make them enjoy the creative process during the practices. If they are pleased and cheerful while going through the process, then everything will be fine and good.

Q: Was there any difficulty in driving them into different roles of the characters?
A: Sometimes they were very nervous. Also, they always took our opinions too seriously since they are not confident enough. But in fact, every one of them is good and did well. Whenever they have a kind heart, they can act very well.

Q: Can you use one word to describe your feeling right at this moment after the end of the musical?
A: I think it was 'EXCELLENT'. I have been training them for 3 years since they were in Form 4. I can see that their performance skills have improved a lot. Also, their personality and the way of getting along with people have progressed greatly. I think that’s much more important than anything else.

Interview with the Scriptwriter

Q: The musical is very successful. So how do you feel about the show at this moment?
D: It surpassed my expectations. I am so happy and I am walking on air. The adrenalin is rushing through my body. Everything amazingly came together beautifully at the last minute. The students performed so well tonight. I am so impressed with and proud of every student on the stage tonight. I just couldn’t believe how great they were. They have come so far and we have some really talented students. I think there may be even a few students who could have a career in performing.

Q: Is there anything you would like to tell us?
D: This was the first time that I wrote a large scale script like this for someone else. It was not an easy task for me. It actually was a bit of a painful experience at times, as I had to please so many people and it was extremely difficult for me to get my head around all of the history and the facts, and to plan them out. I had only been at Methodist College for a few months before I began writing the script. It was very exciting to see the lines that I wrote come alive and be spoken by students on stage tonight. I am very proud to have been part of the team responsible for bringing the musical to life and in the end, for helping to make it such a success.
Interview with Lead Role Performer

R: Would you tell us what motivated or inspired you to act in this musical?
I: I have been acting for two years now. As a result, I am fascinated with musicals. Not only does it teach me about the skills of acting, but it also increases my sense of responsibility. Moreover, it makes me understand that if you are diligent in your work, nothing is impossible.

R: Did you feel a boost in your self-confidence after the performance?
I: Yes. In the past, I had never thought of having a chance to dance in front of an audience of almost a thousand people. Besides, I did not dare to dream of having such ability in acting. As a cast member of the musical, I can say, we finally did it and it proved to be very successful. So this really boosts our self-confidence.

R: How did it feel when everything finally paid off and the audiences showed their appreciation for your performance?
I: I am very delighted since I have never felt such strong feelings of success.

R: When you were on the stage performing in front of the audiences, what were you thinking of at that time?
I: There were not many distracting thoughts and I was not frightened at all. Only when we were all dancing to the song, "We're all in this together", which I knew would be our last time on stage together, I got a feeling of sadness as I could not bear the idea of parting from my cast mates. However, I felt excited at the same time because we all strived to dance and perform well and to give the audience an outstanding show. We showed them the fruits from our harvest.

Here we are at the end of our Jubilee Anniversary Celebrations. Even though the fabulous show has finished on the stage, the memory of the joyous moments will still live on in our minds. We owe our gratitude to God for the smooth running of the musical.