



The Anne Of Green Gables Musical

Book and Lyrics by Benita Scheckel • Music and Lyrics by Michael Upward

www.BendintheRoadMusical.com

Nominated for 4 Broadway World Awards including Best Musical!
An Ovation's Recommended show!
Official selection for NYMF's Next Link Project!

Synopsis:

BEND IN THE ROAD: The Anne of Green Gables Musical is a fun and heartwarming family comedy based on the beloved classic novel, *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery. *BEND IN THE ROAD* tells the story of young Anne Shirley, an orphan, who is mistakenly adopted by Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert to help them on their Avonlea farm. Anne's intelligent, joyous and imaginative ways change the lives of all those around her in this small town. Anne finds fast friendships at school and a rivalry with classmate Gilbert Blythe turns complicated as they grow up.

Development History:

2012 – Sold Out, extend 5-week workshop at the **Carrie Hamilton Theatre at the Pasadena Playhouse**.
2013 – Sold out, extended run at the **New York Musical Theatre Festival**.
2016 – Readings at **3D Theatricals** and the **Zephyr Theatre**.
2017 – Reading at **Universal City** for NAMT Spring attendees.
2017 – Sold Out Staged Reading and Workshop at **Children's Theatre of Charlotte**.
2019 – Reading at **Glendale Center Theatre**.
2020 – OnStage Virtual Performance at **Children's Theater of Charlotte**.
2021 UPCOMING – Northwest Premiere at **Kitsap Forest Theatre**.

A Few things to know:

- *BEND IN THE ROAD* is based on the beloved classic *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery. *Anne of Green Gables* has sold more than 50 million copies and has been translated into 20 languages. Numerous best-selling sequels followed by author L. M. Montgomery.
- *BEND IN THE ROAD* is a high-energy, family friendly musical-comedy perfect for all ages.
- *BEND IN THE ROAD* themes of finding a home, the power of imagination, the challenges of growing and empowerment of young women to be intelligent and independent resonate with audiences from all walks of life.
- Co-writer Benita Scheckel is an award-winning teacher, principal and music educator. *BEND IN THE ROAD* has several built-in educational components that would work perfectly for any theater's educational and community outreach. A teacher's Study Guide is available.



The Characters:

9 women / 5 men – ensemble may be expanded

Anne Shirley	(playing 12 - 17. Mezzo, red hair and freckles)
Marilla Cuthbert	(40 - 60 years old, Mezzo, graying hair)
Matthew Cuthbert	(40 - 60 years old, Baritone, weathered)
Rachel Lynde	(40 – 60 years old, Mezzo, elegant)
Diana Barry	(15 - 18, Soprano, dark curly hair, sweet)
Gilbert Blythe/Soldier	(playing 15 - 18, Tenor, incredibly handsome)
Minnie Mae/Ensemble	(playing 5 – 10 years old)
Mrs. Camille Barry/Ensemble	(mid-30s, Mezzo, dark hair)
Teddy Phillips/Stationmaster	(19 – 29 years old, nervous and nerdy)
Josie Pye/Wife	(playing 13 – 18, Soprano, very pretty, blonde)
Charlie Sloan/Salesman #1	(playing 16 – 20 years old, Tenor)
Billy Andrews/Salesman #2	(playing 16 – 20 years old, Tenor)
Prissy Andrews/Ensemble	(playing 12 – 17, Mezzo)
Ruby Gillis/Ensemble	(playing 13 – 18, Mezzo)

Bend in the Road can be done with as few as 14 cast members or filled with more ensemble cast members of all ages.

The Setting:

Prince Edward Island, Canada. Time: 1896 to 1901.

The action takes place in the town of Avonlea over five years in the life of Anne Shirley.

Musical Numbers:

1. A Home For Me	Anne & Company
2. Anne with E	Anne (& Matthew)
3. Rachel's Surprise	Rachel & Marilla
4. The Lord's Prayer	Anne and Marilla
5. Walk Like Sisters (Kindred Spirits)	Anne & Diana
6. Math and Mayhem	The school kids
7. That Girl	Marilla & Matthew
8. The Feud	Marilla, Rachel & Mrs. Barry
9. Trouble is Trouble	Matthew & Anne
10. What Do You Call a Boy/Girl?	Josie, Gilbert and the school kids
11. That Girl (Reprise)	Gilbert
12. I Could Have Gone Alone	Anne & Gilbert
13. The Haunted Wood	(Instrumental, Ensemble Dance)
14. One Little Drop	Matthew & Anne
15. The Bend in the Road	Anne & Gilbert & Company



Reviews:

“*Bend in The Road* would be most welcome on Broadway!” - Michael Giltz, *Huffington Post*

“*Bend in the Road* is delightful family fare. It is sure to have a long life and receive a great reception wherever its journey takes it!” - *Upstage-Downstage*

“Just flat-out wonderful!” - *Usher Nonsense*

“A good bet for the young and young-at-heart!” - *Curtain Up*

“One may be watching the birth of a hit...” - *Stage Struck Review*

“*Bend in the Road* is wonderful!” - *Life Upon the Sacred Stage*

“*Bend in the Road* is a winner – one can imagine it getting the full, lavish Broadway treatment, and it being just as successful on a bare stage, being performed by children’s theatre companies nationwide.” - *JK’s Theatre Scene*

“A masterpiece production...” - *Yahoo*

“An invitingly charming production for all ages!” - *Arts in LA*

“A true family show which will keep even the most jaded adult involved.” - *Theater Pizzazz*

“A delightful, character driven musical!” - *Theatre Reviews Limited*

“Funny, thoughtful, and quite true to its source!” - *Lauri’s List*

Clips:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3fEvgme8Uo&noredirect=1>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIKqESuxxMk>

For a full media gallery of clips and photos visit: <http://bendintheroadmusical.com/media/>

Listen to the Demo:

<http://www.reverbNation.com/bendintheroad>



The Anne Of Green Gables Musical



Benita Scheckel (Book / Lyrics)

Benita Scheckel is a San Gabriel Valley native, growing up in Alhambra and making Pasadena her home. After attending the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Benita toured with an opera company and performed musical improv at the Ice House in Pasadena. Some of her stage credits include, *Camelot*, *Into the Woods*, *Evita*, *Music Man*, *The Secret Garden* and *Oklahoma*. TV work includes *Miracles* and voiceover work on Disney Channel's hit show, *Phineas and Ferb*. Ms. Scheckel started directing and producing in 2003 for local philanthropic organizations and in 2007 began her career as a director and educator in the Pasadena Unified School District working with middle and high school students at Blair School. She has been honored for her work with children and has been recognized by the PUSD Special Education Department for her particular knack of including students with special needs both physical and emotional into performing arts programs. Benita is Principal of Altadena Arts Magnet School.



Michael Upward (Music / Lyrics)

Michael Upward is a composer, pianist and musical director with a Master of Arts degree in Music Composition. He has written a Requiem Mass for chorus, soloists and orchestra and over 50 choral compositions currently performed throughout the U.S. In addition to *Bend in the Road*, Michael has written three other full-length musicals including *Detention! The Musical*, for young voices. He wrote two Nutrition Education musicals for Network for a Healthy California, performed hundreds of times a year in school districts across Southern California.

In addition to composing, Michael is a musical director, having directed such shows as *The Fantasticks*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Evita*, *Nunsense II*, and *Quilters*, for which he won the an award for Best Musical Direction. Michael is a voter for the Los Angeles Ovation Theater Awards and currently the Contemporary Music Director at two Catholic Churches in Southern California. You may find out more about his music at www.michaelupward.com.

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