



Dear Cast and Crew of *CHOOSE YOUR OWN OZ*,

As I write this letter, I have such a heavy heart. It is so disappointing to know that the most original, unique, audience-interacted show I have ever directed, *CHOOSE YOUR OWN OZ*, will not get performed this summer. I sincerely thought that the show would be happening right about now. Last week, when I saw the red Poppy hairpieces, the colorful Munchkin hats, the yellow brick road dancer shirts, the sparkly green vests of the OZ guys, and the fantastic tree costumes, I felt like crying. Okay I admit it, I did cry for just a minute, and then. . . (cue angel music). . . it was like Saint Genevieve (*the patron saint of actors*) wiped my tears away and gave me what I think may be a great idea--Let's save the show for a 2021 production; after all, the St. Patrick community has never seen it performed!

Here's the plan: Sometime in 2021 (after the fear of Covid-19 is gone and we are allowed to gather in big groups again), we will have new auditions for *CHOOSE YOUR OWN OZ*, and we will recast the parts with current 6th-8th graders to perform the show. Same music, same lines, same dances, just with a brand new cast. This new cast will perform first, on a weekend in the spring, but the very next weekend, any past 8th grader (current high school freshman) can come back and revive their part. These former students will be allowed to attend any rehearsals we have to freshen their memory, they can also watch the video that was filmed on March 13th to practice with at home, and before they perform on the second weekend, we will have a dress rehearsal. Now, we know how busy high school freshmen can be, so if for some reason they cannot return to perform, then the newest cast member would step into that role for the second weekend.

But at this time, *CHOOSE YOUR OWN OZ* that was scheduled for March 14, 15 and 16, 2020 is cancelled. We ask you to consider donating your ticket purchase to support our program. If you would like to offer your full purchase as a donation, no further action is needed. If you require a full or partial refund, please email tickets@showtix4u.com with a refund request. Please do this sometime before September 11, 2020. After September 11, the account will be closed. For those of you who make this kindly donation, thank you so much!!!

So for now, the St. Patrick Stage will stay dark. When it's safe to perform and gather together, we will be in touch and our theatre magic will begin again! Until then, stay healthy and may God bless you all!

Karen Sirianno