

The American Creed traces its roots to the Greeks, who founded the first democratic government over 2500 years ago. It has been influenced by European, Native American, and other cultures. It was further refined during the creation of the United States, which in 1776 declared its independence from British monarchy.

The American Creed affirms that we are each endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights—among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or economic status. It directs our government to be of the people, by the people, and for the people, and calls on each of us to ensure liberty and justice for all.

America's fidelity to this creed is judged by history. Living up to it remains a constant challenge. But it invests our nation with spiritual purpose and—if we honor its precepts—a moral destiny. — Forrest Church, The American Creed

Additional music by

Lux Radio Theatre Theme by Robert Armbruster

Native American Rain Dance Drums

Psalms 100, anonymous, from the *Ainsworth Psalter*, 1612

Rule Britannia, music by Thomas Arne, lyrics by James Thomson, performed by the United States Army Strings

Yankee Doodle Dandy, folk tune

On Canaan's Happy Shore, folk hymn, performed by Saint Cecilia and the Melody Makers

Battle Hymn of the Republic, folk hymn, lyrics by Julia Ward Howe, performed by the London Philharmonic Choir

All other music, lyrics, and book by Joanne Helfrich & Paul Helfrich ©2020 All Rights Reserved



The Westside Waldorf School Grade 8 Class of 2020

☆☆☆ presents ☆☆☆

AMERICAN CREED



A musical radio
show by Joanne &
Paul Helfrich



ACT 1

Scene 1, *Ballyhoo! (Song)*

The Great American Medicine Show is in town!
Meet host George Devine and our fabulous players!

Scene 2, *Gifts of the God of Nature (Song)*

Medicine Mary and Scout Steadfast tell of the Great Nations and healing ways of Nature. If that's not enough, there's medicine tonic! The actors disagree on how to tell their stories.

Scene 3, *The Jamestown Entitled (Song)*

The European people come for commerce. The Powhatan people stand their ground. Lord Lee performs feats of misdirection.

Scene 4, *Pilgrims arrive seeking Liberty! (Song)*

The pilgrims escape the king's persecution. George has concerns about Lee, who says Magic Annie is a liar.
Annie performs *real* magic?

Scene 5, *Thanksgiving (Song)*

The shipmates agree on equal laws for all, and celebrate with their new neighbors. Backstage intrigue effects the show.

Scene 6, *Psalm 100 (Song)*

The settlers sing from the same hymn book but see things very differently. Lee makes a deal with Calamity Cate.

Scene 7, *On Canaan's Happy Shore (Song)*

The curse of slavery and servitude takes hold. Reverend Rightly inspires all to step up and end oppression.

Scene 8, *Rule Britannia! (Song) and Revolution*

The colonists claim liberty as the gift of the God of Nature. Polly Pureheart and Annie tell Daisy Devine of Lee's plot, but Daisy is under Lee's spell.

— INTERMISSION —

ACT 2

Scene 1, *Driving West and Battle Hymn of the Republic (Song)*

Sallywag Sam tells happy and sad tales of American industry. Our actors put aside their differences to stand together for liberty.

Scene 2, *Mother's Day (Song)*

Nellie Devine encourages all mothers to protest for international peace. George's tonic claims get wilder. Lee's plot becomes clear.

Scene 3, *Wild West Show*

The players' discord threatens the show. Lee introduces Daisy as the star. Polly shares her dream with Sam.

Scene 4, *The One Percent, Entitled Reprise (Song)*

Lee tries to force Belle into a new role. Wealthy capitalists preach competition, domination, and greed.

Scene 5, *Americanitis (Song)*

Lee promotes discontent to sell tonic. Nellie discovers better cures... and sets George straight.

Scene 6, *The Statue of Liberty*

Belle finds a new role welcoming neighbors from around the world. Sam finally understands the golden rule.

Scene 7, *Pass the Torch (Song)*

Imperial powers create world wars. Daisy recognizes how she can help a friend... and carry the torch.

Scene 8, *Ballyoo! Finale (Song)*

George makes an important announcement...
the show must go on!