Marshall University Music Department Presents the MU Opera Theatre and the Cabell Midland Choir Boosters, The Tender Land, an American opera by Aaron Copland

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The Tender Land  
Music by Aaron Copland  
Libretto by Horace Everett  

Linda Dobbs, *stage director, scenic design*  
Mark Smith, *musical director*  
Michael Campbell, *pianist*  
Marlo Shaver Wentz, *choreography*  

**Cast**  

Beth ................................................. Jennifer Billups  
Ma Moss ........................................ Aurelia Ward (Friday)  
                                        Rachel Bartram (Saturday)  
Mr. Splinters ........................................ Michael Sidoti  
Laurie Moss ........................................ Leeah Weber  
Grandpa Moss ....................................... Matthew Sparks  
Top ............................................... Blake Racer  
Martin ............................................... Adam Stephenson  
Mr. Jenks .......................................... Michael Rose  
Mrs. Splinters ...................................... Kelsey Anderson  
Mrs. Jenks ......................................... Burcu Korkmaz  

Friends and Neighbors: Justin Wiget, Arnold Rispress, Katie Pettit, Leah Gore, Shelby Blankenship, Kayla Henson, Morgan McMicken and Amanda Wood  

Hoedown Dancers (Elite Performance Academy): Alex Rahal, Alex Smith, Lexi Smith, Rachelle Thompson, and Natasja van Dijk, Desirée Hall, and Jennifer Billups and Michael Rose (MU Opera)
ACT I

The afternoon of Laurie’s graduation party. The long awaited graduation dress has arrived. Laurie returns from school questioning her future when two itinerant workers arrive at her grandfather’s farm looking for jobs. Her grandpa agrees to hire the two and Laurie invites them to her party.

ACT II

The graduation party. Neighbors gather to celebrate with food, drink, songs and dancing. Laurie and Martin are immediately attracted to one another. Their innocent kiss shocks Grandpa whose reaction abruptly ends the party.

ACT III

Laurie and Martin later meet to plan a future together.

*There will be a 10 minute intermission following Act I.*

Production

Scenic Mural, Program Cover: David Castleberry
Farmhouse (2000): James Morris-Smith

Lighting: Jane Modlin

Set Construction
Wendell Dobbs, Fred Workman, Linda Dobbs, Rachel Bartram and Michael Rose

Properties: Rachel Bartram and Linda Dobbs

Tickets: Delta Omicron

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Cabell Midland High School Music Department
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Ron Caviani and Rhonda Smalley

Marlo Shaver Wentz, Elite Performance Academy

Michael Campbell

Jane Modlin, Paul Blazer High School

Earline Allen, Department of Art, Marshall University

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