



MICHELLE HONAKER

TRAVIS FITE

SHE BROUGHT HOPE.
SHE BROUGHT PEACE.

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THE STORY OF NANCY WARD

NANYEHI

A MUSICAL BY BECKY HOBBS AND NICK SWEET

Nanyehi – Beloved Woman Of The Cherokee

Music and Lyrics by Becky Hobbs
Book by Nick Sweet and Becky Hobbs

Producer – David Webb
Director – Nick Sweet
Music Director – Becky Hobbs
Musical Conductor/Arranger – Duane Sciacqua
Vocal Director – Tim Turner
Choreographer – Kara Staiger
Fight Choreographer – Andrew “Donny” Tate

Sponsored by Cherokee Nation Businesses and Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa

Act I

From Nanyehi's birth in 1738 until the French and Indian War

Overture

- I. White Wolf on the Horizon – Tenia and Chotans
- II. Song of the Nunnehi* – Young Nanyehi and the Nunnehi
- III. Stickball Song – Chotans
- IV. O Great Spirit – Nanyehi and Kingfisher
- V. Battle of Taliwa – Chotans and warriors
- VI. Donadagohvi (Until We Meet Again) – Nanyehi
- VII. Little Fellow, My Son – Kingfisher
- VIII. Pass the Whiskey** – Bryant Ward and traders
- IX. By the Fire – Nancy and Bryant Ward
- X. Love Doesn't Come In Colors – Attakullakulla and Dragging Canoe
- XI. This Land is Not Our Land*** – Dragging Canoe and warriors

Intermission

Act II

On the verge of the Revolutionary War until Nanyehi's death in 1822

- XII. Nanyehi – Chotans
- XIII. Long Way Over – Nancy and Bryant Ward
- XIV. The Same Thing* – Nancy, Lydia Bean and women
- XV. There Will Be Blood – Dragging Canoe and warriors
- XVI. Pale Moon – Nancy
- XVII. War or Peace**** – Nancy and Dragging Canoe
- XVIII. Let There Be Peace – Nancy and cast

All songs written or co-written by Becky Hobbs

*with Duane Sciacqua

**with Nick and Peggy Sweet

***with James Nihan

****with Nick Sweet

CAST

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Nanyehi (called Wild Rose in childhood, Nancy Ward by whites)..... | Michelle Honaker |
| Dragging Canoe (Attakullakulla's son, War Chief of the Chickamauga) | Travis Fite |
| Attakullakulla (Nanyehi's uncle, Peace Chief of the Cherokee)..... | Jordan DeBose |
| Tenia (Nanyehi's mother) | Amber Leilani Awalt |
| Oconastota (War Chief of the Overhill Cherokees)..... | Michael Stopp |
| Kingfisher (Nanyehi's first husband), trader, various warriors | Lance McCarver |
| Bryant Ward (Nanyehi's second husband), Chotan, Creek warrior | Gustav Pennington |
| Katie (daughter of Nanyehi and Kingfisher)..... | Lily Jaramillo |
| Fivekiller (son of Nanyehi and Kingfisher; Little Fellow in childhood)..... | Donovan Tate |
| Betsy (Nancy and Bryant Ward's daughter), Chotan, white woman..... | Chloe Kennedy |
| Lydia Bean, Chotan | Paula Garner Chaffin |
| Sequina | Candice Byrd |
| Teenage Nanyehi, Chotan..... | Bryanna Swan |
| Teenage Dragging Canoe..... | Darrien Snyder |
| Teenage Sequina | Taylor Pearce |
| Young Katie, Chotan..... | Blanca Jaramillo |
| Young Dragging Canoe | Bryton Snyder |
| Sali, Chotan..... | Z. Eileen Hardy |
| Tooka, Chotan..... | Gayle Campbell |
| Virginia, Chotan, White woman..... | Angie McLemore |
| S. C. Governor Lyttleton, Chotan, trader, warrior | Alan David "Dice" Dawson |
| Isaac Thomas, Chotan, Creek warrior | Freddie Tate |
| Col. Arthur Campbell, Chotan, trader, Chickasaw warrior, Thomas Jefferson.. | Sidney Flack |
| Longfellow, William Peyton, British soldier, warrior | Scott Hutto |
| American soldier..... | Nick Sweet |
| Chotan, Creek warrior | Madeleine Kupec |
| John Moreland, Chotan, trader, warrior | Alex Clair |
| Oconastota's daughter, Chotan..... | Rose DeWeese |
| Chotan, White settler, Chickasaw warrior | Jeffery Roeder |
| Chotan, White woman | Janet Rutland |
| Chotan, White woman | Peggy Sweet |
| Chotan, White woman | Stephanie Baze |
| Chotan, White woman | Bethany Wayne |
| Chotan..... | Jane Lyon |
| Chotan..... | Jocelyn Evans-Palmer |
| Chotan..... | Annastasia Root |
| Chotan..... | Jen Thomas |
| Chotan..... | Lea Ferguson McCormick |
| Chotan..... | Tierra Lafgre |
| Nunnehi..... | Jacelyn Nicole Rossman |
| Nunnehi..... | Ashton Self |
| Nunnehi..... | Gracie Folger |
| Nunnehi..... | Allison Hight |
| Young Little Fellow | Dennis Duncan |

MUSICIANS

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| Becky Hobbs..... | Piano, keys |
| Duane Sciacqua..... | Electric, acoustic and synthesized guitars |
| Jim Paul Blair..... | Mandolin, acoustic guitar and percussion |
| Jim Loftin..... | Bass |
| Ron Boren..... | Percussion |
| Farren Mayfield..... | Synthesizer, additional keys |
| Shelby Eicher..... | Fiddle |
| Jared Johnson..... | Drums |

CREW and OTHERS

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Producer..... | David Webb |
| Director..... | Nick Sweet |
| Music Director..... | Becky Hobbs |
| Musical Conductor/Arranger..... | Duane Sciacqua |
| Vocal Director..... | Tim Turner |
| Choreographer..... | Kara Staiger |
| Fight Chorographer..... | Donny Tate |
| Costume Designer..... | Cherokee National Treasure Tonia Weavel |
| Stage Manager..... | Stephanie Stone |
| Property Producer..... | Michelle Widener |
| Lighting/Scenic Designer..... | Tim Turner |

Special thanks to Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker, Dr. Phillip Bridgmon and Anita Thompson of Northeastern State University, Rev. Rich Kilmer and the Broken Arrow Church of Christ, David Hampton and the Association of the Descendants of Nancy Ward, Debra Yates, Patti Parrish School of Dance in Sapulpa, Tahlequah Community Playhouse, Tulsa Opera, John and Vikki Heuman, Peggy Sweet, Lea Ferguson McCormick and Gary and Barbara White.

Nanyehi's wild turkey feather cape designed and constructed by Cherokee National Treasures Wendell Cochran and Shawna Morton Cain.



COMPOSER, CO-PLAYWRIGHT AND MUSIC DIRECTOR



Becky Hobbs – Born and raised in Bartlesville, Becky Hobbs is a fifth great granddaughter of Nancy Ward (Nanyehi) and a Cherokee Nation citizen. Her song, "Angels Among Us," recorded by Alabama, has been used to raise money for numerous charities throughout the world. Other songs of hers have been recorded by Conway Twitty, George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Glen Campbell, Emmylou Harris, Helen Reddy, Shirley Bassey, Wanda Jackson, Janie Fricke, the Cherokee National Youth Choir and more. As a recording artist, she's had more than 20 Billboard chart singles, including "Jones on the Jukebox," "Honky Tonk Saturday Night," and Top Ten Duet with Moe Bandy, "Let's Get Over Them Together." The "Beckaroo" lives in Nashville, Tenn., with husband, Duane Sciacqua. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame on Oct. 16, 2015.

MUSICAL CONDUCTOR/ARRANGER



Duane Sciacqua – Originally from Madera, Calif., Duane Sciacqua has been playing professionally since the 8th grade. He moved to Los Angeles in 1978 where he became a noted 'guitar slinger,' playing, recording and touring with artists including Glenn Frey, Joe Walsh, Paul McCartney, Vince Gill, Gary Morris, Rodney Atkins and others. His playing has been featured on numerous television and motion picture soundtracks including "Airwolf," "Hotshots," "Cobra," "Navy Seals," "Stone Cold" and "Hardball," just to name a few. He currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., with his wife, Becky Hobbs, where he owns Rough Edges recording studio, writes, produces and works as a session guitarist.

DIRECTOR AND CO-PLAYWRIGHT



Nick Sweet – Nick Sweet has been a freelance stage director since 1977 and has directed 135 productions for theatres in Oklahoma, Texas, Alaska and Georgia, including the outdoor historical drama, Trail of Tears, at the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah. He co-founded the drama program at Oklahoma Wesleyan University and directed the college's first five musicals and also taught various courses. As a historical playwright, he wrote and directed "Pride of the Prairie" and "City of Legends" (Bartlesville's centennial plays), and many others. Nick was named senior poet laureate for Oklahoma in 2010 and Texas in 2013 by the Amy Kitchener Foundation. He has been named the only honorary descendant by the Association of the Descendants of Nancy Ward. He and his wife, Peggy, reside on the outskirts of Houston, Texas.

PRODUCER



David Webb – After putting up posters when he was 16 for Jim Halsey in his hometown of Independence, Kan., David Webb started a booking agency. He moved to Lawrence, Kan., as an agent for Mid-Continent Entertainment. A move to Chicago led him to work with Muddy Waters and Willie Dixon, where he became a partner in Celebration Productions. The big hit "Heaven's Just A Sin Away," by country duo The Kendalls, led Jim Halsey to offer Webb a position as vice president of sales and marketing at Churchill/MCA. There, David worked with artists Roy Clark, Hank Thompson and Ronnie Dunn. He then worked and managed James Brown. Webb served two terms as vice president of the GRAMMY organization. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame.

PRINCIPAL ACTORS



Michelle Honaker (Nanyehi) – Thrilled to reprise her role of Nanyehi for the fourth time, Michelle currently lives in New York City where she actively works with AMERINDA, an organization dedicated to supporting Native American artists and culture. She also spent two seasons performing in the outdoor drama "Unto These Hills" (Nancy) in Cherokee, N.C. Honaker received her bachelor's degree in musical theatre from Young Harris College and her stage combat certifications from the Society of American Fight Directors. Her Off-Broadway credits include "Miss Lead" (Robyn), "Daughters of Leda" (Iphigenia), and "Macbeth" (Malcolm/Witch). Honaker gives all the glory to the Lord and sends her love and gratitude to Beckaroo, Nick, her parents and the Cherokee people for their support.



Travis Fite (Dragging Canoe) – A Cherokee Nation citizen, Travis Fite studied at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo. Travis has toured with funk-soul bands such as Phat Thumb, What It Is, Leon Russell, Full Flava Kings, Waymon Tisdale band, Eldridge Jackson and Toni Estes. Fite can be seen with his funk-fusion ensemble What's That. Travis currently runs SoulTree recording studio, writing, producing and recording music for local and national artists. He is reprising his role as Dragging Canoe for the fourth time. He and his wife, Deb Watson, live in Tulsa.



Jordan DeBose (Attakullakulla) – Jordan DeBose is happy to be filling in for the great Rudy Ramos as Attakullakulla. You may have caught him in Theatre Tulsa's "Miss Saigon." He has been seen in "The Full Monty" (Horse), "Once On This Island" (Agwe), "Jesus Christ Superstar" (Simon) and more. He thanks his family and friends for their support.

Candice Byrd (Sequina) – A native of Tahlequah and of Cherokee, Quapaw and Osage descent, Candice Byrd is portraying Nanyehi's friend, Sequina, for the third time. She has been involved with numerous plays, musicals and dance concerts including "Crimes of the Heart" (Lenny), "After Miss Julie" (Christine), "Spider's Web of Stories" (Spider) and played the title role of Nanyehi for the Tulsa workshop in 2011. She received her Master's of Fine Arts from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2015.

Andrew C. Donovan Tate (Fivekiller, fight choreographer) – Andrew C. Donovan Tate is a writer, Off-Broadway actor, activist and teacher from Mifflin, Pa. His favorite roles have been Septimus Hodge in "Arcadia," Andrew Jackson in "Unto These Hills," and Willmore in "The Rover." In addition to his Master's of Arts from European Center for International and Strategic Research, Tate also holds a counter-terrorism certification from CRI and is a mixed martial arts coach. Tate also has coached numerous international grappling champions, been a professional wrestler for more than seven years, and achieved an undefeated MMA record along with winning a National Judo Championship and National/World Jujitsu Championships.

Michael Stopp (Oconastota) – A seventh great-grandson of Nancy and Bryant Ward, also of Creek descent, Michael Stopp is a graduate student in finance at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. He previously attended the United States Military Academy at West Point. He is portraying Oconastota for the second time and played the role of Attakullakulla in the 2013 production of "Nanyehi."

Lance McCarver (Kingfisher; warrior) – A chemical engineer born in Arlington, Texas, Lance McCarver graduated from the University of Arkansas - Fayetteville in 2006. This is his first theatrical production. He and his wife, Michelle, live in Broken Arrow.

Gus Pennington (Bryant Ward) – From the Tulsa area, Gus Pennington has been acting and singing since he was a small child. His previous acting roles include parts in "Les Miserables," "Young Frankenstein," "Footloose," "Miss Saigon" and "The Sound of Music" as Captain Von Trapp.

Paula Garner Chaffin (Lydia Bean) – A sixth great granddaughter of Nancy Ward, Paula Garner Chaffin has been in two previous productions of "Nanyehi." She is a graduate of Northeastern State University with a masters in business administration and attended one year of law school at the University of Arkansas. Besides her husband, Harvey, and their two children, her greatest passions are horses and music.

Amber Leilani Awalt (Tenia) – A native of Honolulu, Hawaii, Amber Leilani Awalt has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas. She now teaches at Oneta Ridge Middle School Tulsa. She has previously appeared in several community playhouse productions. She and her husband, Brett, live in Tulsa.

Bryanna Swan (young Nanyehi) – A Cherokee Nation citizen born in Bartlesville, Bryanna Swan is a seventh-grade student in Pawhuska Elementary School. She is the daughter of Jamie and Jeffrey Swan and was in Bartlesville's Children's Musical Theatre's production of "The Little Princess" in 2013, "Peter Pan" in 2014 and performed in two plays at the Constantine Theater in Pawhuska. She played young Nanyehi in the 2014 production.