

Press Release

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New Life Fine Arts Musical Theater presents

CELESTIAL CITY: THE STORY OF JOHN BUNYAN AND HIS “PILGRIM’S PROGRESS”

Music and Lyrics by David K. MacAdam

Opens Friday, December 9, 2022

**For Eight Performances at the Groton Dunstable Performing Arts Center
Groton, MA**

November 17, 2022 –For Immediate Release

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CONCORD, MA, November 17, 2022- New Life Fine Arts will present one of its most popular original musical theater productions, “Celestial City: The Story of John Bunyan and His ‘Pilgrim’s Progress,’” for eight performances, December 9th through December 18th at the Groton-Dunstable Performing Arts Center located on the Middle School Campus 344 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts.

This production, written and directed by David MacAdam of Concord, Massachusetts, features a cast of 37 musical theater performers and creatively weaves together elements of John Bunyan’s 17th-century autobiography with his most famous allegories, ‘The Pilgrim’s Progress’ and ‘The Holy War’ that made book publishing history.

Throughout the centuries, it has been standard practice for parents to read “The Pilgrim’s Progress” to their children, as it is a classic adventure story full of practical life lessons, unforgettable fictitious characters, and settings with names that have found

their way into the vocabulary of today's world such as "Vanity Fair", "Hill Difficulty", "The Dungeon of Despair", "Castle Doubting" and "The Slough of Despond".

Bunyan's book, "The Pilgrim's Progress" also has a special distinction in book publishing history as the ancestor of the English novel, the world's best-seller next to the King James Bible for 250 years, translated in more than 200 languages (80 in Africa alone), and since its publication in 1678, it has never gone out of print.

Glenn Gray of Sudbury, Massachusetts, who has performed with New Life Fine Arts productions in England and Israel, as well as in the Boston area, returns in the role of the real-life John Bunyan and his fantasy counterpart in the allegorical character of Pilgrim.

New Life Fine Arts Musical Theater, based in Concord, has been staging original musical productions for 35 years, including such musical entertainment as "Scrooge," an adaptation of Charles Dickens's "A Christmas Carol," "Ruth," and "Esther", based on the biblical stories, "Luther: The Hammer and the Door", the story of the beginnings of the Reformation in Europe, and "Song on the Wind", the rarely told story of the first forty years of relationships with the indigenous people of Musketequid and the English settlers and the King Philip's War that put all to the test.

Evening performances will be held at 7:30 pm Fridays, and Saturdays, December 9th and 10th, and December 16th and 17th, and matinees will be held at 2:30 pm Saturdays and Sundays, December 10th and 11th, and December 17th and 18th.

ADVANCE PURCHASE IS RECOMMENDED as seating is limited. Tickets are now available for purchase online at www.newlifefinearts.org/tickets Tickets are \$25 – Regular Admission; \$23 – Senior & Children under 18; and \$20 for groups of 10 or more. For group rates, please call the ticket line between 8 am and 5 pm Monday – Friday. For more details, please visit www.newlifefinearts.org