



## Content Advisory

**Due to the mature content in BRIGHT STAR, age 13 and under are not admitted without an adult. Children age 5 and under will not be admitted.**

The Western Stage has a commitment to presenting diverse material that is entertaining and sometimes challenging. Content and themes may not be appropriate for all, as sensitivities vary by individuals. While TWS does not determine suitability, we offer the following inventory of content that some may consider adult in nature and of stage effects that may be of concern for patron health. Please keep in mind that the words listed, taken out of context, may seem more offensive than they would in the context of the play.

### ***Bright Star***

By Steve Martin & Edie Brickell

**Synopsis:** Set in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina in the 1920s and 1940s, "Bright Star" tells the story of literary editor Alice Murphy and her journey of love, loss, and redemption. The musical weaves together two storylines across two different time periods, featuring bluegrass-inspired music that reflects the American South. The narrative explores themes of reconciliation, forgiveness, and the enduring power of hope.

#### **Special Effects:**

- Atmospheric lighting changes
- Set pieces that move/rotate
- Live music/band on stage
- Train effects (lights, sounds)

#### **Language:**

- Mild profanity including "damn," "hell"
- Period-appropriate Southern colloquialisms
- References to God/religious expressions

#### **Drugs/Alcohol:**

- Characters drink alcohol
- References to moonshine
- Social drinking scenes

**Death or Violence:**

- A baby is forcibly taken from its mother (emotionally intense scene)
- Physical confrontation between characters
- References to a character being thrown from a train
- Implied infant murder

**Possible objectionable/triggering experiences:**

- Unwed pregnancy and societal judgment
- Themes of grief and loss
- Parent-child separation
- Class discrimination
- Depiction of patriarchal authority
- References to infant death
- Emotional trauma
- Scenes depicting childbirth
- Discussion of adoption without consent
- Period-accurate depictions of gender roles and expectations
- Emotionally intense reunions and revelations