



ONE THOUSAND WORDS

Book By: Michael Braud & Shawn Semana

Music By: Curran Latas & John Van Geem

Lyrics By: Michael Braud

otwmusical.com

SYNOPSIS:

One Thousand Words is an exploration of love, loss, and the enduring power of friendship set against the backdrop of 1940s America. The story follows two young friends, Warren and Daniel, who forge an unbreakable bond amidst the harsh realities of life. From a coal mining town to New York City to a world at war, they navigate the challenges of growing up, leading them on a journey of self-discovery. Through the framework of a present-day journalist interviewing an elderly Warren, the story unfolds, revealing the impact their experiences had on their lives and the legacy of their relationship.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 21 Songs
- 8 Piece Orchestra:
 - Trumpet, flute, violin, cello, piano, acoustic guitar, electric bass, drum set
- 16 Principle Characters
 - 11 He/Him (3 teenagers, 1 geriatric, 1 African American)
 - 3 She/Her (1 teenager)
 - 2 They/Them
- 5-8 Ensemble Members

ARTISTIC STATEMENT:

Do you know how many LGBTQ+ servicemembers fought in World War II? The answer is shrouded in the fog of history, a secret buried deep within the archives of time. Back then, being gay was a crime, a blight on one's reputation, a path to dishonorable discharge. Yet, countless brave souls, their identities hidden beneath a veil of secrecy, stepped forward to defend our nation. They fought valiantly, bled freely, and died honorably, their sacrifices often overlooked, their stories untold.

We are driven to share the story of One Thousand Words because it offers a glimpse into this forgotten generation. It's a chance to bridge the gap of understanding, to foster empathy, and to celebrate the love and resilience of the LGBTQ+ community. As a team of four LGBTQ+ men, three of whom are veterans of the United States military, we are passionate about honoring these untold stories. Through the lens of a gay elderly man and a straight male reporter, we aim to touch hearts and minds worldwide. Just as our musical transforms lives within its narrative, we hope to inspire and uplift audiences, leaving a lasting impact on the world.

