



DLO e-stage

Volume 1, Issue 6

June 2009

DLO at ARTS IN THE PARK

Recapping our 54th season and providing a sneak peek at our 55th!

As part of the Arts in the Park event, Danville Light Opera will showcase some of our finest talent on Sunday, June 28 at 5 p.m. at Lincoln Park. Featured selections include songs from our past season's shows *My Fair Lady*, *Cabaret*, and *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?*. We will also offer a sneak peek at our 55th season – A Season of Hope – including *The Civil War*, *The Spitfire Grill*, and *The Secret Garden*. **This new season features shows never before performed in our area!**

Accompanied by the talented Jill Prasse, the performers will entertain the audience with scenes and songs.

This will also be a last chance to purchase adult season memberships at 10% off! The discounted price is only \$45! Please note that if you were to purchase individual tickets for each show, you would be spending more than \$70. The discounted price includes all three shows – including the dinner theatre! This discount is only good until June 30th, so don't delay!



Flapper

A madcap musical comedy tribute of the 1920's!

Book by Tim Kelly

Music and Lyrics by Bill Francoeur

Directed and Choreographed by Stephanie Keller

Musical Direction by Karen Romig

Produced by Cindy Nichols

Fri., July 24
7:00 p.m.

Sat., July 25
7:00 p.m.

Sun., July 26
2:00 p.m.

DACC

Bremer Conference Center

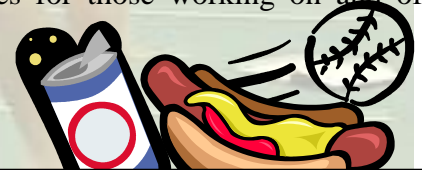
Adults: \$7.00 Youth (through high school): \$5.00

Tickets at BC Collectibles in the Village Mall or at the door 30 minutes before performances.

Danville Light Opera's annual summer youth show auditions kids from 8 years old through high school. This year's cast boasts almost 40 of Danville's most talented young people!

For a full cast list, please visit our website at www.danvillelightopera.com.

Plan on joining us to support the next generation of community theatre participants! You will enjoy great entertainment and boost the thrill of this experiences for those working on and off stage!



TAILGATE PARTY AND DANVILLE DANS GAME END-OF-THE-YEAR DLO WRAP PARTY FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY!

If you participated in any of the shows that took or are taking place during our 54th season – whether you were on stage or off, from actors to spotlight runners to set builders to producers to instrumentalists to costumers and break down crew... please join us for a season-end wrap party! We will provide the hot dogs, pork burgers, chips and beverages, AND FREE TICKETS TO THE DANS GAME! Party at 5:30 p.m., game at 6:30 p.m.

[My Fair Lady](#) ♦ [Cabaret](#) ♦ [Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?](#) ♦ [Flapper!](#)

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009 ♦ R.S.V.P. with your name and how many attending to jeanze@comcast.net

To: Friends of DLO
From: Gary Lickfett, President, and Molly the Lab
Subject: Summer & Our Upcoming 55th Season

Molly and I agree that the season of adult shows just concluded was “dog-gone good” and that our summer youth show *Flapper* will be, too! If Molly only knew what we have in store for you in the coming year! You, our audience, **do** know, and from what I hear on the street, excitement and anticipation is already building.

Whereas *My Fair Lady*, *Cabaret*, and “*Shoes*” had all been part of earlier seasons, the three shows selected for 2009-2010 are **all new to DLO** and the Danville area. While it is always fun to reprise a show and make it even better the second (or third) time around, it’s even **more** exciting – and more **challenging** – to bring new material to the stage. We hope you will agree.

Hope is, in fact, the common thread woven through all three shows in the new season, which opens with *The Civil War*. The time prior to and during the Civil War was one characterized by extremes: of distrust – even hatred – of those on the “other side”; of fear – of known and unknown perils; and of despair in the hearts of families that were ripped apart. Yet even in the midst of all this anguish, there was hope, and somehow, it prevailed.

The story of *The Spitfire Grill* is one in which hope seems to have been extinguished in our main character and the tiny town to which she moves to rebuild her life. As one song says, “When hope goes, hearts close.” But we watch as an ember of hope is sparked, and the characters who gather at The Spitfire Grill do find hope again, and ultimately experience the grace of redemption.

You will find in *The Secret Garden* still another view of how hope can survive, and how people can grow and thrive in the face of circumstances over which they have no control. (See the marvelous contribution from director Greg Williams in this month’s **DLO e-Stage!**)

Besides the common thread of hope, these three shows share a common thread of superb lyric and melody that runs the gamut from patriotic to poignant, from stirring to sweetly innocent. It is at times reflective, and yes, even hopeful, and always truly delightful. Advance planning for all three shows has already begun. All of us at DLO hope (there it is again!) that you will join us for our most memorable season ever!

ADULT SEASON MEMBERSHIPS ARE DISCOUNTED TO \$45 UNTIL JUNE 30th! If you were to pay for all three shows individually, it would cost over \$70, so please take advantage of this discount while you still can!

The Secret Garden

Greg Williams, Director

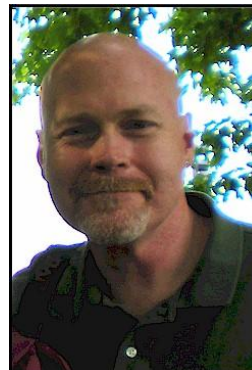
Performances: April 23-25, 2010

Because of the recent tragedy in our family, I have been drawn to stories which deal with loss and redemption. Of course, we all experience loss, but we must *choose* redemption over the alternative, darkness and despair. That life-affirming choice is what *The Secret Garden* is all about.

I was first attracted to this Tony Award-winning show fifteen years ago because of the compelling story and the stirring and evocative score. The songs for *The Secret Garden* are some of the more beautiful I have ever heard in a musical—delicate, tortured, spirited, inspirational, and, ultimately, triumphant. Each song is truly memorable.

The settings and characters convey a rich tapestry of the British Empire during the Victorian Age—from Colonial India to the Yorkshire moors; from the stiff, reserved upper class to the common but wiser servant class; from adults who lock away their hearts to children who embrace the possibilities of hope and love. What weaves the various storylines together is a magical life force which, like springtime, brings wholeness and rebirth. Because the neglected, hidden garden of the title is “wick,” green shoots will grow, order will be restored, and life will, once again, be full of promise and beauty.

Mostly, I am looking forward to telling a story about a little girl, an orphan named Mary Lennox, who is not only rescued but who rescues others. She is a classic Frances Hodgson Burnett young heroine—inquisitive, compassionate, determined, and courageous—and her fantastic tale will uplift audiences next spring. My production team is honored and excited to be bringing this musical to the DLO stage.



~ Greg Williams

(Watch for articles about *The Civil War* and *The Spitfire Grill* in upcoming issues of *DLO e-Stage*.)

Let Us Entertain You!

Your support is critical to the on-going success of community theatre and the performing arts during these difficult economic times. Let us entertain you!

Danville Light Opera Presents...

FLAPPER!

*Our Summer Youth Musical
Directed by Stephanie Keller*

PERFORMANCES: July 24, 25 & 27, 2009

DACC Bremer Theatre

Tickets: Adults \$7, Youth (through High School) \$5

For additional information check our website:

www.danvillelightopera.com

Director Stephanie Keller working with some of the cast of FLAPPER!



**DLO appearing at
ARTS IN THE PARK**

A review of our previous season and a sneak peek at what's coming up in 2009-2010!

Free Summer Entertainment!

Sunday, June 28, 5 p.m.

Lincoln Park, Danville, Illinois

Submissions for **DLO e-Stage** *Let Us Entertain You!* may be emailed to danvillelightopera@hotmail.com. Please type **e-Stage Submission** in the **subject line**. Submissions must be specifically arts-related, in and around Vermilion County. **DLO e-Stage** reserves the right to accept or decline submissions based on content, propriety and/or space limitations.

Danville Light Opera Information

Telephone for Info/Box Office..... 217-431-1660

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On the Internet

Website..... www.danvillelightopera.com

Email danvillelightopera@hotmail.com

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ANNOUNCING

The 2009-2010 Board of Directors

(Officers to be announced in the July e-Stage)

- Jason Asaad, Jeanne Dunn, Tom Fricke,**
- Karen Grove, Gary Lickfett,**
- Ron McDaniel, Todd Nardoni, Belinda Smith,**
- Carolyn Smith, Kathleen Spain-Swiersz,**
- Jenny Taylor, Susie Willard**



DLO e-stage

DLO e-Stage will be delivered to you via email during the first week of each month. Special alerts for upcoming auditions and performances may arrive between issues. Other than that, you will receive no email from this subscription list.

What would you like to see in future issues of DLO e-Stage?

Please email your comments, suggestions and questions to danvillelightopera@hotmail.com, and put **e-Stage** in the subject line.