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A Note from the Director

Big Fish is a celebration of a lifetime. It could be any of us questioning our purpose, wondering if we will leave behind a legacy, or hoping that we have made an impact on the lives of those dearest to us. I know I ask myself this often. This story is a story of faith, love, forgiveness, and closure. As we travel through our life's journey we collect moments, memories, and objects. For Edward Bloom, these things come to life on our stage tonight. The back wall of our set is a literal fishing net that has been metaphorically dragged through his lifetime. Many of us wonder sometimes what we carry in our nets in terms of joy, sorrow, mistakes and accomplishment. Whatever those things may be, shouldn't we each take a lesson from Edward and live our life as the hero of our story.

~David Woodrow

"Big Fish"

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Annie Jr.

DLO Musical Theatre Youth Production

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www.dlomusicaltheatre.com

Through The Years

Vermilion Festival Chorus

St. James United Methodist Church
May 10, 2:00 pm

A Tribute to the Stars

Fischer Theater Benefit

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May 16

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The Cast

Will.....Noah Acree, Andrew Davidson
Edward.....Brett Andrews, Robert Scott
Sandra.....Rachel Bein, Nancy Henderson
Josephine.....Wen Bu

ENSEMBLE

Dr. Bennett/General Patterson.....Brad Pollert
Mermaid.....Courtney Hart
Witch.....Barb Whaling
Karl, the Giant.....Jerry Strain
Amos.....Paul Strain
Jenny Hill.....Deborah Hale
Don Price.....Jacy Puckett
Zacky Price.....Carter Mallady
Fisherman.....Russell Zillman
Red Fang.....Craig Krukewitt
Little Lambs.....Alexis Simmons & Emmalee Hoskins

Ashleigh Acree

Ethan Barnes

Teri Cassem

Porter Hale

Brittany McDaniels

Nate Pollert

Brittany Powell

Brookelyn Powell

Nathan Powell

Izzy Reed

Delanie Robinson

Brooklyn Spicer

Katie Weston

USO Dancers.....Lauren Davis, Allie Dawson
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Scenes & Musical Numbers

ACT I

"Prologue".....Orchestra
"Be the Hero".....Edward & Ensemble
"I Know What You Want".....Witch & Edward
"Stranger".....Will
"Two Men in My Life".....Sandra
"Ashton's Favorite Son".....Jenny & Ensemble
"Out There On the Road".....Karl, Edward & Jenny
"Little Lamb From Alabama ".....Sandra & Little Lambs
"Time Stops".....Edward & Sandra
"Closer to Her".....Amos, Edward, Circus
"Daffodils".....Edward & Sandra

ACT II

"Red, White, and True".....Edward, Sandra, Ensemble
"Fight the Dragons".....Edward & Will
"Showdown".....Edward, Will & Ensemble
"I Don't Need A Roof".....Sandra
"Start Over".....Edward, Don, Zacky, Amos, Karl
"What's Next".....Edward, Will
"How It Ends".....Edward



FALL

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Anyone interested in directing one of these great shows please contact DLO to find out more! We can't wait to bring these stories to life for you.

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Piano.....	Kevin Latoz
Reeds.....	Christy Lohrberg
Reeds.....	Randy Ashton
Violin.....	Andrea Rossi
Viola.....	Thamar Zillman
Trumpet.....	Mark Lindvahl
French Horn.....	Tom Harrigan
Bass.....	Derek DeNeal
Percussion.....	Brandon Holst

The Production Team

Directors.....	David & Jennifer Woodrow
Choreographers....	Merrit Spicer, Kathleen Spain-Swiersz
Producer.....	Lon Henderson
Stage Manager.....	Jerry Cassem
Technical Director.....	Jenny Taylor
Stage Crew.....	Mark Willard, Breely Arford, Tammy Jones-Miller, Karissa Jones-Miller
Set Design.....	David Woodrow, Gary Lickfett
Set Construction.....	Gary Lickfett Dan Strader, Joe Lerner
Costume Design.....	Teri Cassem
Light Design.....	Tom Fricke, Dakota Huff Leslie Boedicker, Josh Compton
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Ron McDaniel, Paul Strain, Jenny Taylor, Gretchen Yordy

Andrew Lippa (Music and Lyrics)

In addition to the Tony-nominated music and lyrics for the Broadway musical The Addams Family, Andrew wrote the music and lyrics for the Broadway musical, BIG FISH, the words and music to the original theatrical oratorio I AM HARVEY MILK that received its world premiere in San Francisco in June, 2013 with the San Francisco Gay Mens' Chorus, starring Laura Benanti and Mr. Lippa as Harvey Milk. He also wrote the music for the Broadway production of Aaron Sorkin's play The Farnsworth Invention. Other musicals include the Drama Desk award winning musical The Wild Party (book/music/lyrics), A Little Princess (music), jon & jen (music/co-wrote book), Asphalt Beach (music/lyrics) and You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown (additional music/lyrics and arrangements). Mr. Lippa was music director for Kristin Chenoweth's sold-out shows at the Metropolitan Opera House, Carnegie Hall and others. Accolades include a Tony and Grammy nomination, the Gilman/Gonzalez-Falla Theater Foundation Award, ASCAP's Richard Rodgers/New Horizons Award, The Drama Desk and The Outer Critics Circle Award. Andrew Lippa serves on the council of The Dramatists Guild and is a graduate of The University of Michigan School of Music.
www.andrewlippa.com

John August (Book)

John received a 2004 BAFTA nomination for his screenplay for Big Fish. His other credits include Go, Titan A.E., Charlie's Angels, Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle, Corpse Bride, The Nines and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, for which he received a 2006 Grammy nomination for lyrics. His most recent film is the Oscar-nominated Frankenweenie, for which he wrote the screenplay and lyrics. He is a graduate of Drake University and USC's School of Cinematic Arts. On Twitter and Instagram @johnaugust.



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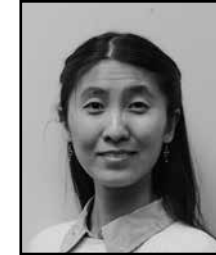
**Ashleigh Acree
(Ensemble)** is an 8th
grader at North Ridge
Middle School where
she is active in Red
Coats, theater, track,
and Builder's Club. She
is also a cheerleader
and gymnast. She has
participated in shows
with DLO, UPD and
Red Mask. Ashleigh
is looking forward to
continuing her activities
at Danville High School
next year.



**Rachel Bein
(Young Sandra)**
is returning for the
second time to DLO.
You may have seen
her in numerous Beef
House Dinner Theatre
productions. Rachel is
thrilled to be a part of
this magical production
and wants to thank all
who have inspired her
love for singing and joy
of performing.



**Noah Acree
(Young Will)** is a 6th
grader at NRMS, where
he participates in Red
Coats and Theater. Past
productions include
DLO's *Oliver!* and *Once
on this Island, Jr.*, Dill
in Red Mask's *To Kill a
Mockingbird* and Bilbo
Baggins in *The Hobbit*.
Noah dedicates these
performances to his
family and all who have
directed him. Enjoy the
show!



**Wen Bu
(Josephine)** is a law
school lab manager
by day and singer/
actress by night. She
was Agatha in *Guys
& Dolls*. A resident of
Champaign, she's also
appeared in *Wintertime*,
4000 Miles, and *Chess*
at the Station Theatre in
Urbana. She is excited
to be performing in her
second DLO show this
season.



**Brett Andrews
(Young Edward)** is
a graduate of Milligan
College with a degree
in musical performance.
This is Brett's third
performance with
DLO. His prior
performances include
the part of Legles in
Les Misérables, and
Nathan Detroit in *Guys
& Dolls*. He is currently
single.



**Teri Cassem
(Ensemble)** "You're
not supposed to believe
it...you're supposed to
believe in it." -Daniel
Wallace. It has been a
true pleasure to be part
of a team that believes
in this story. Teri hopes
everyone enjoys the
tale. Cast, here's to
believing until it's done!



Paul Strain (Amos Calloway) has been active in the performing arts for over 30 years as a performer, instructor, clinician, technical guy, occasional judge and constant fan. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to combine the love of performing, being with his kids, and building cool things in one amazing show!



Katie Weston (Ensemble) Some of the other musicals Katie has been in are *Annie Jr.* and DLO's *Once on this Island Jr. Big Fish* is an absolutely amazing story with equally amazing music! Katie has had a blast doing this musical, and she hopes you have a blast watching it!



Barb Whaling (Witch) is glad to be back to the DLO stage. She is a graduate from Columbia College and is the managing broker/owner of Realty Werks. Love to Jason, Riley and Mikayla.



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David Woodrow (Director) David, with his talented wife Jennifer, has been directing quality theatre in the Illiana area since 1997, including 9 shows for DLO. He serves as artistic director for The Beef House Dinner Theatre, directs the award-winning concert series, From Page to Stage and works with the show choirs and theatre company at North Ridge Middle School. BIG thanks to Team Woodrow.



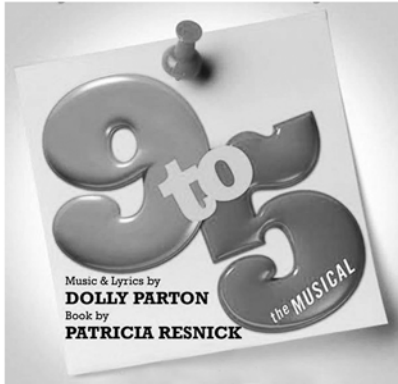
Jennifer Woodrow (Director) Jennifer is happy to be back at DLO. She is a familiar face at the Beef House Dinner Theatre and at North Ridge Middle School where she loves helping make the music happen.
#teamwoodrow



Russell Zillman (Fisherman) is sixteen years old and a sophomore at Danville High School. He began acting with director David Woodrow in eighth grade and has been collaborating ever since. You can next see Russell this summer in Beef House Dinner Theatre's *9 to 5: The Musical*.

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**Andrew Davidson
(Will)** This is Andrew Davidson's second DLO production. He would like to dedicate this to the memory of his two grandfathers who have inspired him through their own stories. Thank you for this opportunity.



**Deborah Hale
(Jenny Hill)** This is Deborah's third performance with DLO, but this one is extra special because she is sharing the stage with her son, Porter. She would like to thank her husband Jordan, who supports her in all her journeys making all her larger than life stories come true!



**Porter Hale
(Ensemble)** This is Porter's first DLO production. He is so excited to be in Big Fish this year. Big thanks to Debbie (his mom) for pushing him to go to the auditions.



**Courtney Hart
(Mermaid)** is in her 2nd DLO show and is very excited to be a part of such a great fun show! She would like to thank everyone who has ever supported her in her musical career.



**Lon Henderson
(Producer)** This is Lon's first turn as a Show Producer, although he has been involved in many behind the scene aspects. He was affectionately known as "ticketron Lon" for many years. He served several terms as President of DLO and oversaw some of the organization's most successful seasons.



**Nancy Henderson
(Sandra)** Nancy was last seen on the DLO stage as The Witch in *Into the Woods*. She is a Past President of DLO and currently serves on the Red Mask Board. Other favorite roles include Mother in *Ragtime*, Anna in *The King & I*, Sister Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Nurse Ratched in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and Kate in *All My Sons*.



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**Robert Scott
(Edward) While**

excited to be working with a super talented cast and crew, Bob is even more excited to perform onstage with his granddaughter Emmalee for the first time. Break a leg, sweetie! Look for Bob next in the summer Beef House production of *9 to 5: The Musical*, playing the role of Mr. Hart.



**Alexis Simmons
(Alabama Lamb)** is a senior at Danville High School. She has been performing since the age of nine in a variety of ways: Red Mask plays, DLO Children's shows, school musicals, band, show choir, Madrigals, color guard, Page to Stage, and the Beef House Dinner Theatre's Christmas Shows.



**Kathleen Spain-Swiersz
(Choreographer)** Kathleen has been involved with DLO since 1974, officially marking her as the "veteran" of this group! She has been involved in nearly every aspect of theatre, including performing, producing, directing drama and music, choreographing, playing in orchestras and more. Much thanks to cast, crew, and her family for all theatrical opportunities!



**Brooklyn Spicer
(Ensemble)** Brooklyn is currently attending DACC with the plans of transferring to Illinois state university and majoring in special education. Brooklyn recently completed a Disney internship in Orlando Florida. She is excited to be back in Danville with DLO and is excited about her summer with Beef House Dinner Theater. Enjoy the show tonight!!!!



**Merrit Spicer
(Choreographer)** is excited to choreograph *Big Fish*. She owns Roselawn Dance in Danville and has taught dance for 28 years, choreographs for the Beef House Dinner Theatre, local pageants and award winning show choirs in Danville area. Merrit was named Top Teacher with Star Systems Talent competition 2 years in a row, and credits her success to her family for eating frozen pizza while she does what she truly loves, and that is DANCE!



**Jerry Strain
(Karl the Giant)** has performed in several shows with DLO and Red Mask. Having the chance to puppeteer, perform, sing, and help design and build Karl the Giant is a dream come true!



SUMMER 2015

DLO Musical Theatre's Summer Youth Musical

Auditions: May 3 & May 4, 7:00 pm, Center Stage

The audition process will include solo singing (please have a song with sheet music prepared.) Auditions are open to all youth who will be entering 3rd grade next school year and older. More information at dlomusicaltheatre.com



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**Emmalee Hoskins
(Alabama Lamb)**

Emmalee's last appearance with DLO was as the Mayor in *The Return of Halley's Comet*. She has also performed in several Red Mask productions and is completing her third year with the NRMS Theater Company. Emmalee has enjoyed her participation in the award winning NRMS Redcoats Show Choir.



**Craig Krukewitt
(Red Fang)**

Craig just completed the run of *Floyd Collins* at the Station Theater in Urbana, bringing to life one of his favorite roles ever. He has also appeared in two recent Beef House Dinner Theatre Productions and DLO's *Les Misérables*.



Carter Mallady (Zacky)

is obviously an eighth grader at North Ridge Middle School. (You can tell by the way he acts.) This is also one of the many productions he has been in. (You can once again tell by the way he acts.) Get it? He is excited to finally get to wear a tutu on stage a gives a shout-out to his special cause. Save the whales!



**Brittany McDaniels
(Ensemble)**

This is Brittany's 4th show with DLO. She would like to thank her husband and family for their support and hopes that the audience enjoy the show. Break a leg cast !!!



**Brad Pollert
(Dr. Bennett)**

is appearing in his 12th DLO production. He is especially pleased to be appearing on stage with his grandson, Nathaniel. Brad and his wife Linda own and operate Service Termite & Pest Control and Holey Moley Mole Control. This weekend also marks their 28th wedding anniversary.



**Nate Pollert
(Ensemble)** This is Nate's very first DLO show and he is thrilled to be a part of it with his grandfather, Brad Pollert. He is involved in *Hairspray Jr.* at North Ridge, also directed by the Woodrows. He plans to do many more DLO shows in the future.

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Brittany Powell (Ensemble) This is the second DLO musical Brittany is appearing on stage, instead of being backstage helping produce, as she has done for several youth musicals. She enjoys being with her kids on stage. Big shout out to her husband, Paul, for tolerating their three kids' and her's, love for theater!



Jacy Puckett (Don Price) is in his 2nd DLO show. He is a senior at DHS is a part of many extracurricular activities including madrigals, delegation, and the DHS tennis team.



Brookelyn Powell (Ensemble) This is Brookelyn's 7th DLO performance. She loves to sing, dance, and be on stage. Brookelyn's favorite role has been Peony in *Chasing Charming*. She is a 7th grader and is homeschooled. Brookelyn also likes to read, travel, and spend time with her cousins and friends.



Izzy Reed (Ensemble) is a 3rd grade student who loves acting, singing, dancing, and playing soccer, and has a new found love of hula hoop dance. She has appeared in Red Mask's *Alice in Wonderland* and 4 CASA Royal Balls as a tumbling pirate and hula hooping genie. She loves to laugh and thanks Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow for this first opportunity in a DLO Production.



Nathan Powell (Ensemble) This is 9 year old Nathan's fourth appearance with DLO. His favorite show to be in was *Oliver!*, when he got to play an orphan. Nathan likes to play video games with his friends and to travel with his family. He's a third grader and homeschooled.



Delanie Robinson (Ensemble) Delanie is a 5th grader at North East Elementary School. She loves to sing and play the piano. This is her first show with DLO and she has enjoyed every second of it. Hope you love the show!