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musical theatre

## CONTINUES

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April 26-28, 2019



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March 16-17, 2019



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Take your friends to see *john & jen* at the Lorraine Theater in Hoopeston next week! Feb. 22 & 23, 7 pm (show only, no meal).

A large promotional poster for the musical 'john & jen'. The background is a solid blue color with the words 'john & jen' written in a white, handwritten-style font, repeated multiple times. In the center, there is a white-framed doorway. Inside the doorway, three people are standing: a young boy on the left, a young girl in the middle, and a young man on the right. The 'do musical theatre presents' logo is at the top left. At the bottom, there is a purple oval logo for 'Royal Donut' and text about the show's dates, location, and sponsors.

do musical theatre presents

# john & jen

February 14-16, 6:30pm  
February 17, 2019, 1:30pm

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Music Directed by Chrissy Sparks

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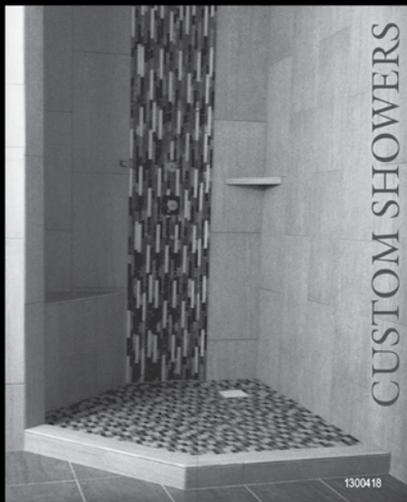
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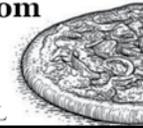
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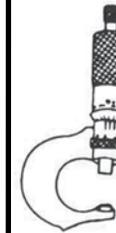


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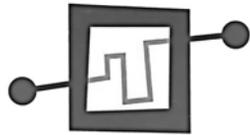
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# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It started like this...random internet surfing, finding an article on the musicals most worthy of production that were woefully underproduced. Finding *john & jen* on that list, and then finding a recording of the entire production on YouTube, and falling in love.

And then bidding my time and fueling my obsession for six years, waiting for the right season. In the interim, I reached out to several "Jens" and several "Johns," helping them each fall in love with the show. I read everything I could find about the show. I had an email exchange with Andrew Lipka, the creator of the show. And a Broadway revival happened.

And here we are, in a season that needs a small winter show because All of the People are in *Beauty and the Beast*.

As our Jen we have Mallory Middendorf, whom I contacted years ago and has been waiting with me for a chance to bring Jen to life. At auditions we found Charlie Johnson as our John, a newcomer to the DLO stage, but by no means new to theater. Together they bring us characters that are heartfelt, invested, and real.

The show starts with John and Jen, brother and sister, doing their best to survive a dysfunctional family environment. By Act 2, Jen has married and divorced and is trying to raise her son, John, while still dealing with the fallout from her childhood and her failed marriage.

That is merely the frame we build the story around, a story of the complexities of relationships between brothers and sisters and parents and children, set against the background of a changing America between 1950 and 1990. *john & jen* is a musical about connections, commitments and the healing of the human heart.

I can't recommend the show any more than this: I laugh at every rehearsal, and I cry at every rehearsal. I believe that you too will see yourself somewhere in a moment in this show, and it will touch your heart.

~Paul Strain, Director

## john & jen

Songs by  
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Book by  
TOM GREENWALD

Book by

**TOM GREENWALD & ANDREW LIPKA**

Originally Produced By Goodspeed Opera House Michael P. Price, Exec. Producer  
Originally Produced in New York City by The Lamb's Theatre Company, Ltd.

Carolyn Rossi Copeland, Producing Director

*john & jen* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by

MTI. www.MTIshows.com

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Danville Symphony Orchestra and DLO Musical Theatre  
March 16-17, 2019  
Dick Van Dyke Auditorium at Danville High School  
Tickets available at [www.danvillesymphony.org](http://www.danvillesymphony.org)

## NEXT TO NORMAL

DLO Musical Theatre  
April 26-28, 2019  
More information at [www.dlomusicaltheatre.com](http://www.dlomusicaltheatre.com)

## STEEL MAGNOLIAS

Darkhorse Theatre Company  
March 9-10, 2019  
Sleepy Creek Vineyard

## WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION

Red Mask Players  
April 5-14, 2019  
Kathryn Randolph Theater  
[www.redmaskplayers.com](http://www.redmaskplayers.com)

## GODSPELL

Beef House Dinner Theatre  
April 12-14, 2019  
[www.beefhouserolls.com](http://www.beefhouserolls.com)

## LORD NELSON MASS by Franz Joseph Hadyn

Vermilion Festival Chorus  
May 12, 2019, 3:00 pm  
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# THE CAST

Jen.....Mallory Middendorf  
John.....Charlie Johnson

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....Paul Strain  
Music Director.....Chrissy Sparks  
Stage Manager/Co-Producer.....Lisa Richter  
Co-Producer.....Vergia Turner  
Light Designer.....Paul Strain  
Light Tech.....Paul Strain  
Sound.....Paul Strain  
Set.....Gary Lickfett  
Show Photographer.....Kara Fletcher  
Program Cover/Poster Design.....Paul Strain,  
.....Charlie Johnson  
Program Design.....Jenny Taylor  
Program Printing.....Kelly Printing

# ORCHESTRA

Piano.....Chrissy Sparks  
Keyboard.....Chris Huffman

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*by Franz Joseph Haydn*

May 2, 2018

3:00 pm

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# SCENES

## ACT 1

Scene 1 - 1952

Scene 2 - Christmas 1957

Scene 3 - 1960

Scene 4 - 1962

Scene 5 - 1964

Scene 6 - 1964 - 1968

Scene 7 - 1970

**15-minute Intermission**

## ACT 2

Scene 1 - 1972

Scene 2 - 1979

Scene 3 - 1981

Scene 4 - 1984

Scene 5 - 1986 - 1990

Scene 6, 7, 8 - 1990

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NEXT TO NORMAL

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We apologize for any names omitted from this list.  
Please see the Thank You list in the foyer.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Heather Miyagi

**Vice President:** Paul Strain    **2nd Vice President:** Jodi Prosser-Muller

**Treasurer:** Sidnee Gordon    **Secretary:** Jamey Coutant

**Asst. Treasurer:** Andrew Peters

**Members:** Nancy Blue, Nancy Keener, Gary Lickfett,  
Ron McDaniel, Lisa Richter

**Office Manager:** Vergia Turner

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# CAST



**Charlie Johnson (John)** is 18 years old and is currently in his second semester of undergrad at Danville Area Community College. He is struggling to finalize a decision on a major, but he has currently decided on Psychology and plans to transfer to the U of I to finish his Bachelor's degree! Charlie has been on the stage for only a couple of years, starting in Madrigals his sophomore year of high school, before joining jazz choir, ILMEA all-state district choir, and then making his musical theatre debut in Danville High School's *All Shook Up*. He spent the past summer as producer for DLO and TTCD's collaborative *High School Musical*. He would like to thank his grandparents for never missing a single show of his; his close friends for fun, laughs, and love; Mallory and the production staff for an amazing

experience; Mr. Thomas for pushing him to participate in the joy that is musical theater, and his mother for being his endless source of confidence and discipline. He is elated to get the privilege of being a part of *john & jen*, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

**Mallory Middendorf (Jen)** Mallory has been listening to the *john & jen* soundtrack for about 4 years now. This beautiful show touched her heart long ago and she is so thankful that Paul chose her to help him bring it to life. Her most memorable theater experiences thus far include playing Percy in *The Spitfire Grill* and co-directing the children's show, *Once on this Island* a few years ago. Mallory would like to thank her wonderful husband, Kurt, for the countless hours of running lines, listening to her sing and most importantly, taking care of their two beautiful children Rowan, 5 and AJ, 11 months, while she rehearses. He always encourages her to continue doing what she loves. She hopes everyone can take something away from this beautiful musical, just as she has.



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## PRODUCTION TEAM

**Lisa Richter (Stage Manager/Co-Producer)** - Throughout her life, Lisa has been involved in a multitude of plays in many different capacities throughout the community. After growing up participating in theater, she attended ISU and obtained a Bachelor's degree in Theater. Lisa spends her days teaching Drama at Edison Middle School in Champaign, where she is currently directing *Freaky Friday the Musical*. She would like to thank her biggest fan, Paul, for bringing this beautiful production to life and for giving her the opportunity to take this amazing journey with him.

**Chrissy Sparks (Music Director)** Chrissy is a Music Teacher at Mark Denman Elementary in Danville. Former productions she has been involved with include DLO's *Little Mermaid* and The Beef House Christmas Show. She has also played on cruises in a dueling piano act. Weekends often find Chrissy playing and singing with local bands in the area. In addition, she frequently performs solo for many events including for nursing homes, luncheons, parties, weddings and funerals and on Sundays at The Baptist Church in Muncie, IL.

**Paul Strain (Director)** Paul has been active in the performing arts for over 30 years as a performer, director, instructor, clinician, technical guy, occasional judge and constant fan. He is thrilled to finally be able to bring this amazing musical to the area! As always, thanks to the kids for putting up with missed / late / generic dinners while Dad goes to play Director, and particular thanks to Lisa for taking care of the details, being a sounding board, and keeping me from making stupid mistakes. Without you this wouldn't be possible.

**Vergia Turner (Co-Producer)** This is Vergia's first involvement with a show. Vergia works as DLO's Office Manager and works in the box office. She would like to thank Paul for giving her this opportunity to work as a co-producer with Lisa. She hopes everyone enjoys the show.



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## DLO WANTS YOU...

### TO DIRECT!

#### Greeting, All!

Keep an eye out for show trailers on the DLO Facebook page and website. New this year is an additional performance weekend for *John & Jen* in Hoopston at the newly renovated Lorraine theatre. Following *John & Jen* is the collaborative extravaganza that is DLO/DSO's *Beauty and the Beast* in March. Also in rehearsal is the sensation *Next to Normal*, scheduled for late April.

In the midst of all this, it is not too early to be thinking about this summer's youth lineup and next season—we are recruiting, again, now and perpetually!!!

#### Directors:

We are still looking for directors for the 2019-20 season. We are accepting submissions to direct *Mamma Mia!* in the spring (2020). The sooner we hear from you, the better—this is a huge show, and advance planning is critically important.

We are also currently selecting directors and shows for this summer's youth program (2019). If you are interested in directing, please let us know, send in a proposal, or come to a board meeting and pitch your show.



Interested, but not sure where to start? Please get in touch with me, or any other board member, and we will gladly help you!

~Heather Miyagi, Board President  
[heather.miyagi@dломusicaltheatre.com](mailto:heather.miyagi@dломusicaltheatre.com)

### BOARD MEMBERS:

It is almost that time of year again, and we are looking for candidate board members in advance of the next round of elections (April). We are a 12-member working board—board members are expected/required to be involved in all aspects of staging the season and running the theatre company. In addition to the usual officers (secretary, treasurer, vice-president), some examples of board activities are: box office, marketing/publicity, concessions, fundraising, grant writing, volunteer recruitment, properties and facilities management.

Please let us know if you might be interested in any of these opportunities—we are always excited to welcome new members of the DLO family!

