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musical theatre

CONTINUES

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February 14-17, 2019

Our 2018-2019
Season Shows

April 26-28, 2019



January 18-19, 2019

Our Special
Events

March 16-17, 2019



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Jan. 18 - Teen Event
Jan. 19 - Kid's Event
Jan. 19 - Adult Dinner/Ball

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AND ENSEMBLE

Nov. 30, 6-9 pm, Dec. 1, 9-12, 2-4 pm
Dec. 2, 2-6 pm, Callbacks - Dec. 3

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lead roles have been cast:

Belle - Cindy Peck
Beast - Cameron Sheets
Gaston - Johnny Howard
Lumière - David Zych
Mrs. Potts - Belinda Smith
Cogsworth - Andrew Peters

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SEASON AND OUR SPECIAL EVENTS AT
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JENNIFER HESS

MUSIC DIRECTED BY
DAVE SCHROEDER

dlo musical theatre

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NOV. 17 - 7:30PM
NOV. 18 - 2:00PM

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Meet Me in St. Louis holds a lot of special memories for my family. Her grandmother took my mother to see the movie in the theater when she was a young girl, and it was the first DLO musical my mother took me to see. The movie version is part of our Christmas tradition. Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" (captured by her future husband, Vincente Minnelli) is easily one of the most beautiful moments on film.

My love of the movie, visits to Forest Park in St. Louis (site of the World's Fair) and my natural curiosity led me to discover that the show is based on a book of the same name by Sally Benson, inspired by her own family's stories of 1903. (Tootie was based on herself.) In real life, the Benson family sadly made the dreaded move to New York. Even sadder, the grand Victorian house Benson's family grew up in (5135 Kensington Ave.) was dilapidated and torn down in 1994, and Ms. Benson has yet to be awarded a star on St. Louis' Walk of Fame. Happily, the Smith family story lives on, with its "wish fulfillment" ending. In 1989 the movie was transformed into a Broadway show, the final version of which we happily present to you tonight.

The world of 1903 is so very different from the world of 2018, though not necessarily simpler; imagine waiting for a long-distance phone call on a family's one landline phone and the cost involved! My cast, particularly the younger ones who have grown up in our modern era, vastly enjoyed this timeless show. On behalf of the cast and crew (which includes my mother as producer!), thank you for taking part in my family's holiday tradition.

~Jennifer Hess, Director

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

Songs by
Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane

Book by
Hugh Wheeler

Based on "The Kensington Stories" by Sally Benson and the MGM motion picture "Meet Me In St. Louis" Songs by Martin & Blane published by EMI Feist Catalog, Inc. Produced for the Broadway stage by Brickhill-Burke Productions, Christopher Seabrooke and EPI Products™

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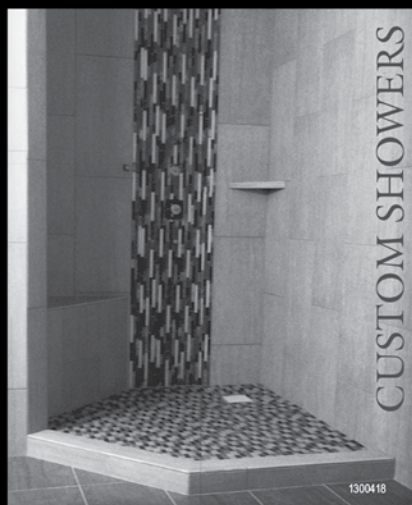
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Jan. 18-19, 2019
Harrison Park Club House
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DLO Musical Theatre
February 14-17, 2019
Dinner Theatre
More information at www.dlomusicaltheatre.com

THE BEAUTY OF THE SEASON

Vermilion Festival Chorus
Nov. 25, 2018, 3:00 pm
St. James UMC

DOC ASHTON & THE ROOT CANALS

Nov. 25, 2018, 6:30 pm
St. James UMC

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Danville Municipal Band
Dec. 1, 7:00 pm
St. James UMC

LITTLE WOMEN

Darkhorse Theater Company
Nov. 30-1, 2018 Danville Boat Club
Dec. 14-15 Sleepy Creek Vineyard

SIDEWALK PROPHETS

Great Big Family Christmas
Dec. 6th, 7:00pm
DHS Dick Van Dyke Auditorium

THE NUTCRACKER

Danville Symphony Orchestra
Dec. 2, 2018, 3:00 pm
DHS Dick Van Dyke Auditorium

BENEFIT CONCERT for Fair Hope Children's Ministry

Danville Barbershop Chorus
Dec. 8, 2018, 3:00 pm
St. James UMC

DHS MADRIGALS

Dec. 4-6, 2018
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THE CAST

Mrs. Smith.....Beckey Burgoyne
Mr. Smith.....Rick Welchans
Grandpa.....Tom Bianco
Esther Smith.....Katie Weston
Rose Smith.....Emily Whitman
John Truitt.....Laramie Zeigler
Lon Smith.....Lee Bridgman
Agnes Smith.....Polly Norton
Tootie Smith.....Amber-Christine Reed
Katie.....Kelli Carlton
Lucille Ballard.....Jadyn Hess
Mr. Neeley/Trolley Conductor.....Colin Hess

Ensemble.....Brittany Thomas, Aubrey Falconio,
.....Sebastian Skinner, Lorenzo Skinner, Amanda Brown,
.....Emily Everett, Kylie Moubry

Brittany Powell, long-time DLO Musical Theatre performer and parent, passed away on October 5th. Brittany was in many musicals for DLO Musical Theatre, including *Oliver!*, *Big Fish*, and the recent *Sister Act*. She also was a strong advocate for children's theatre and was a steadfast presence behind the scenes during the summer, helping nurture her own and other children onto the stage and eventually into leadership roles with DLO Musical Theatre.



To say that she will be missed is surely an understatement. Her loss leaves a gaping hole in our organization and our community. Her positive attitude, her faith, her friendliness--all will be long remembered by those who knew and loved her, and especially by those of us who knew her as theater family.

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3:00 pm

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

"Overture"	Instrumental
"Meet Me in St. Louis"	Ensemble and Smith Family Octet
"The Boy Next Door"	Esther
"Meet Me in St. Louis" (Reprise)	Tootie, Agnes, Esther, Rose and Grandpa
"Whenever I'm with You"	Smith Family Octet
"You'll Hear a Bell"	Mrs. Smith
"Meet Me in St. Louis" (Reprise)	Smith Family Octet and Ensemble
"A Raving Beauty"	Warren and Rose
"Skip to My Lou"	Lon, Warren, Rose and Ensemble
"Drunk Song"	Tootie
"Under the Bamboo Tree"	Esther, Tootie and Agnes
"Over the Banister"	John
"The Trolley Song"	Esther and Ensemble

15-minute Intermission

Disclaimer: *Meet Me in St Louis* may depict some ethnic, racial and gender prejudices that were once commonplace in American society. Such prejudices were wrong then and are wrong today. While some content in this show does not represent DLO Musical Theatre's view of today's society, this show is being presented as originally created, because to do otherwise would be the same as claiming that these prejudices never existed.

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

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Photo by Dave Scott

In Loving Memory of

PAMELA SHAW-HEATH
1947–2018

DLO past president, board member,
drama director, actress

After relocating to Michigan, Pam continued her thespian activities with Ridgedale Players in Troy and Avon Players in Rochester, acting and directing until her passing. She also remained interested in DLO, often sharing her knowledge and expertise via phone calls and email.

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 2

"Entr'acte".....Instrumental
"Touch of the Irish".....Katie, Rose and Esther
"The Boy Next Door" (Reprise).....John and Esther
"A Day in New York".....Smith Family Octet
"You'll Hear a Bell" (Reprise).....Mrs. Smith
"Wasn't It Fun?".....Mr. and Mrs. Smith
"Christmas Waltz".....Instrumental
"Auld Lang Syne".....Instrumental
"The First Noel".....Ensemble
"You Are for Loving".....John and Esther
"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas".....Esther
"Trolley Song" (Reprise).....Ensemble
"Meet Me in St. Louis" (Reprise).....All

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CAST

Tom Bianco (Grandpa) is pleased for "Grandpa" to be his first acting role with DLO. He has performed in choral groups and an *capella* quartet beginning in High School, and is a member of the Danville Barbershop Chorus, which is his current singing passion. Tom thanks his wife, Linda, who is his support and encouragement, and his triplets, (daughter and sons), who are his cheering section.



Richard "Lee" Bridgman (Lon Smith) is excited to take part in this, his first musical experience. Fairly new to the theater scene, it's been a very interesting journey. Lee is very excited to force himself far outside of his comfort zone in this production of *Meet Me in St. Louis!*

Amanda Brown (Ensemble) is a 14-year-old 8th grader at Bismarck-Henning Junior High School. "I joined this cast late, but have had a lot of fun and met a lot of new people. This is my fifth musical with DLO."



Beckey Burgoyne (Mrs. Smith) is thrilled to return to the DLO stage in the role of Mrs. Smith. Beckey's last appearance for DLO was in *Hello Dolly!* as the grand dame herself, Dolly Levi. Other endeavors include *Ragtime* and *Cinderella* as well as 20 years with the drama/musical team of Danville First Church of the Nazarene. Beckey sends many thanks to husband Rick for all his love and support. And hugs to her real-life kiddos, Brittini, Kent, and Liam. "Enjoy this charming journey to 1904 St. Louis!"

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....Jennifer Hess
Music Director.....Dave Schroeder
Producer.....Kitty Lee
Stage Manager.....Breely Arford
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ORCHESTRA

Piano.....Dave Schroeder
Guitar.....Chris Taylor
Bass.....Brian Klett
Flute.....Laura Bauer
Oboe.....Jennifer Szott
Reeds.....Randal Ashton, Sandy Ivy
Trumpet.....Mark Lindvahl
.....Verlon Richardson, Bill Jean
Trombone.....Tim Knilands, Dave Ivy
Drums.....Josh Compton

CAST

Rick Welchans (Mr. Smith) has been fortunate to have performed with several community theater companies over the years, including DLO, Station Theater and Champaign-Urbana Theater Company. Rick is truly delighted to have been cast as Mr. Smith. This show promises to be a joy for both the cast and audience. Please sit back and enjoy.



Katie Weston (Esther Smith) is thrilled to perform as Esther. Katie is a Senior at Hoopeston High School. She is very involved in show choir and drama. This is Katie's fifth DLO show. Some of Katie's favorite roles she has played are Sister Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Thelma in *The Trip to Bountiful*, and Marian in *The Music Man*. Katie hopes you enjoy your trip to St. Louis!



Emily Whitman (Rose Smith) is so excited to appear as Rose. She has performed in high school show choir and has done a few ensemble performances for DLO in the past, but is super-excited to be able to appear alongside such great performers.



Laramie Ziegler (John Truitt) is extremely thankful to be a part of this show. A Junior at Georgetown Ridge-Farm High School, he's been in several other shows in Danville, Champaign and Chrisman. His favorite roles are Doody in *Grease* for DLO, Ren McCormack in *Footloose*, and Kenickie in *Grease* for CUTC. He would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support and hopes you have fun in St. Louis!



CAST

Kelli Carlton (Katie) has now been in over a dozen musicals in the Danville area, but there is something just so magical about bringing back a classic. She is so excited to bring yet another one of her mother's favorite musicals to life and hopes it is one of your favorites, now, too!



Aubrey Falconio (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on the DHS stage. Aubrey was most recently seen as Bettina Barnes in Darkhorse Theatre Company's production of *Psycho Beach Party*. Aubrey is a registered nurse and wants to thank her friends and family for their unwavering support.



Jadyn Hess (Lucille Ballard) is so excited to be a part of such a fantastic show. She plays Lucille and has been seen before as a muse in *Xanadu Jr.* and as a beggar in *Les Misérables*. She appreciates the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful production.



CAST



Jennifer Hess (Director) returns to direct her second musical for DLO, after 2015's *Shrek the Musical*. Jennifer has been involved in many DLO, Red Mask and DACC Players productions over the years but now mostly spends her free time with Darkhorse Theatre Company, serving as the President of the Vermilion County branch. Jennifer would like

to thank Heather, DLO President, for her unending patience; Sheri Doyle, of Parkland, for her costuming assistance; Breely, for stepping in when needed; her mom, Kitty, for finally joining her backstage; Dave for his talent, humor, and hard work; the cast, for their boundless enthusiasm; and her newly-wed husband, Colin, for everything else. Enjoy the show!

Polly Norton (Agnes Smith) is an eighth grader at Northridge Middle School. This will be her 5th musical, including the DLO productions of *Footloose* and *The Big Bad Musical*. Polly wants to thank her friends and family for supporting her dream. She hopes you enjoy the show.



Amber-Christine Reed (Tootie Smith) is 13 years old and very much enjoys doing musicals. This is her first adult musical, and she is excited to play the role of Tootie. Amber has been in three musicals and two plays. Her favorite role was Molly Middleton in *Show Me What's On*. Her favorite part about acting is that every time she acts as someone else, she takes a part of them with her. Plus, she loves putting on make-up.



CAST



David Schroeder (Music Director) is delighted to music direct *Meet Me in St. Louis* alongside Jen Lee. David has been active in the music community for over 30 years, directing the Vermilion Festival Chorus and the Danville Municipal Band and acting as music director / organist for Trinity Lutheran Church. David also enjoys performing with the Danville Symphony and serving as "House Organist" for the Virginia Theatre in Champaign. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

Brittany Thomas (Ensemble) is a 2013 Eastern Illinois graduate and has been involved in local community theater since 2014. Brittany currently serves on the DLO board and Darkhorse Theatre Company board. She is the proud mother of 2-year-old Sophia Rain.



Bryson Varner (Warren Sheffield) is pleased to be a part of this show and wants to thank everyone for coming out to see our great show. In addition to doing this show, Bryson also enjoyed being a part of many previous DLO shows. He hopes you all enjoy the show and can't wait to meet you in St. Louie!