

# DLO e-stage

Volume 1, Issue 8

August 2009

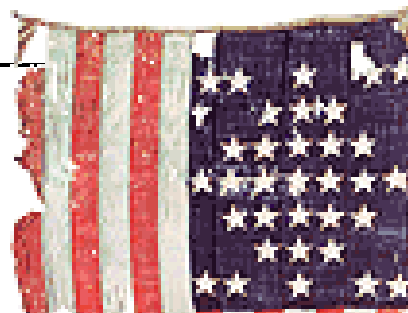
## AUDITIONS!

Sunday, August 16, 2 p.m.

Monday, August 17, 6:30 p.m.

DLO's Center Stage  
at the Village Mall

Click for info: [Civil War Auditions](#)



## Notes From the Director

By Angie Mansfield

# THE CIVIL WAR

When called upon to describe DLO's upcoming musical, The Civil War, I found myself searching unsuccessfully to find just the right words to honestly paint the picture of what The Civil War is all about. Some of my answers include:

"It's a completely different kind of musical than DLO has done before..."

and/or

"Have you seen Ken Burns' PBS The Civil War documentary? It's kind of like that but in musical/concert-ish form... It's kind of a

'docu-musical-cert'...' (an absurd attempt at naming this type of show.)

and/or

"There's no real story/plot/beginning, middle and end to follow, more like 'snapshots/snippets/vignettes' of people affected by the war..."

and usually

"...oh, but the music is beautiful..."

and

"...oh, no, it's definitely full of emotion and drama..."

Not exactly perfect words or a clear descriptive picture, I know. I eventually found myself cringing when somebody asked me to give a description until I found a website calling the musical, "The Civil War: Our Story in Song". Boom. Perfect.

That is what The Civil War is... stories. Stories to create a glimpse of our history from not only those who fought on the battlefield but, also, those who fought the effects of this turbulent era at home, in the hospital, on a soapbox, in the White House, and on the auction block. Yes, stories... honest, tragic, uplifting, haunting, heartbreaking and hopeful stories from an age of change so important it continues to shape and effect our nation still to this day. Stories told through heartbreaking letters, fiery speeches, and candid memoirs. Stories told through songs ranging from glorious anthems and uplifting hymns to folk ballads, and simple melodies. Yes, The Civil War is a compilation of stories...stories that need to be heard--must be heard--in order to better understand who we are and what we come from as individuals as well as a nation of diversity.

I no longer cringe or fumble with words when someone asks me to describe The Civil War. I look them straight in the eye and answer confidently, "That's easy ...stories... honest, tragic, uplifting, haunting, heartbreaking and hopeful stories."



**Danville Light Opera 2009-2010**  
***Our 55<sup>th</sup> Season! A Season of Hope!***



**October 24 & 25, 2009**

**DHS Auditorium**

Angie Mansfield, Director ♦ Belinda Smith, Music Director ♦ Gary Lickfett, Producer

For audition information, please click on the link on the first page of this issue of DLO e-Stage, visit our website at [www.danvillelightopera.com](http://www.danvillelightopera.com) or call our box office number 431-1660.

**Civil War Trivia Tidbit:** Why did the South seem to have the better officers when the war began? Possibly because seven of the eight military schools in the country in 1860 were located in the South, and graduates typically stayed loyal to the area where they were trained. For example, of the 1900 who attended Virginia Military Academy, over 1750 served the Confederacy.



**February 12, 13 & 14, 2010**

**The Bremer Theater at Danville Area Community College**

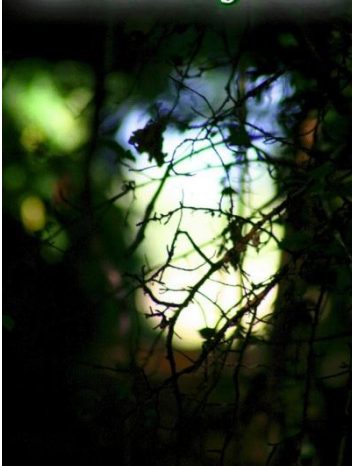
Jeanne Dunn, Director ♦ Karen Grove, Music Director

Jessica Brackmann, Choreographer ♦ Susie & Mark Willard, Producers

**THE SPITFIRE GRILL** (musical) was inspired by the 1996 film of the same name. The film was set in Gilead, Maine, but for the stage, Gilead was relocated to northern Wisconsin. The gorgeous score to the film was composed by James Horner. (You may recognize some of his other film work: *Titanic*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *Field of Dreams*, *Braveheart*, *Glory*, and more.) It is as beautiful and haunting as the story it enhances, and themes from this soundtrack are woven into the stage musical score.

Still seeking a **stage manager** (small cast, no major set moving), a **costumer** (this will be an *easy* show to costume – most stuff right out of people's closets), and **prop person** (acquisition and management). If you have questions or are interested in helping, please contact Jeanne Dunn by email at [jeanze@comcast.net](mailto:jeanze@comcast.net).

*The Secret Garden*



**April 23, 24 & 25, 2010**

**The Bremer Theater at Danville Area Community College**

Greg Williams, Director ♦ Belinda Smith, Music Director

Jesse Pierce, Choreographer ♦ Suzy Smalley, Producer

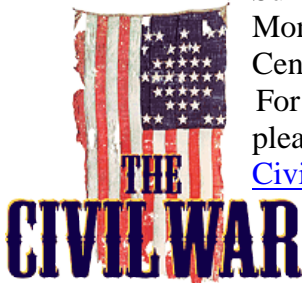
Long before it became a musical, **THE SECRET GARDEN**, written by Frances Hodgson Burnett, was first serialized beginning in autumn 1910, in *The American Magazine*. The book was first published in its entirety in 1911. Its working title was *Mistress Mary*, in reference to the English nursery rhyme *Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary*. It is now one of Burnett's most popular novels, and is considered to be a classic of children's literature.

Still in search of a **stage manager** (a medium-sized cast with frequent but fluid set changes) and a **costumer** (most will be rented, so measurements and coordination are required, but not necessarily sewing). If you have questions or are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Greg Williams by email at [mindthegap2@comcast.net](mailto:mindthegap2@comcast.net).

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*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!*

**AUDITIONS**



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Center Stage @ Village Mall  
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**Artistic Repertory Theatre  
in Hoopston presents:**

**STATE FAIR**

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August 9 at 2 p.m.

All tickets \$8, reserved seating only.  
McFerren Park Civic Center, Hoopston  
Order early for best seating.  
Box office: 217-283-6553

Submissions for **DLO e-Stage** *Let Us Entertain You!* may be emailed to [danvillelightopera@hotmail.com](mailto: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  
Mailing address:  
Danville Light Opera  
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Danville, IL 61834-0264

**On the Internet**

Website..... [www.danvillelightopera.com](http://www.danvillelightopera.com)  
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**What would you like to see in future issues of DLO e-Stage?**

Please email your comments, suggestions and questions to [danvillelightopera@hotmail.com](mailto:danvillelightopera@hotmail.com), and put **e-Stage** in the subject line.