

SEPTEMBER 2023



In The Wings

The Official Newsletter of DLO Musical Theatre



Why I Chose "A Christmas Story"

by Jerry Strain, Director

Christmas has always been a passion of mine. Keeping the innocence and spirit alive is something that's important to me. After the success of DLO's Musical production of "Elf, the Musical", I knew I wanted to direct another Christmas themed show for my next endeavor.

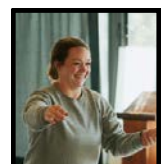
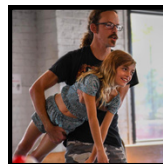
A Christmas Story was an obvious choice. We've all watched the movie during its all-day run on Christmas at some point over the years. Most of us can recall a favorite Christmas we had as a child, when we got that one extra-special gift. That memory is why I decided to direct this show.

My vision for the show came almost exactly from the movie and the time period in which it is placed. It is important to me that the costumes and props be as authentic to the time period as possible. The same goes for the set and the iconic Parker house that we plan to build on the stage. I want the audience to be transported back in time, to experience their own memories, when we bring the musical version (which is wonderful) to the stage.



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A CHRISTMAS STORY

The Musical!

CAST LIST



PERFORMANCES
NOVEMBER 17-19
AT DANVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL

RALPHIE: SILAS VAN CAMP
JEAN SHEPHERD: PAUL STRAIN
THE OLD MAN: JORDAN RICHEY
MOTHER: BAILEY THOMPSON
RANDY: MARSHALL GOOCH
SCHWARTZ: BODIE RAY
FLICK: MASON WHITE
SCUT FARKUS: JACKSON WHITE
GROVER DILL: ERIN COX
ESTHER JANE: PAITYN ADAMS
MARY BETH: HALLIE ELSTON
MISS SHIELDS: JEANNETTE CULLUM
DEPARTMENT STORE SANTA: JUSTIN LITTLE
SCHWARTZ'S MOM (OFF-STAGE VOICE): JEANNE DUNN

CHILDREN ENSEMBLE
ALAYNA LITTLE, LIZZIE
PITHOUD, OLIVIA ENOS,
OLIVIA CRAVENS, LENORA
BARRETT, DAHLIA ADAIR

ADULT ENSEMBLE
BROOKE KUCHEFSKI, BELLA
NORTON, ADDIE EARLES,
JORDYN BROOKS, ANNA
BACON, DELANEY WRIGHT,
JUSTIN LITTLE



UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS



September 28, 2023 ~ 6:00 p.m.

This month's coffeehouse performances will inspire you! No admission charge, but we do pass the hat. All proceeds help with costs of show production and facility upkeep.



Details

Join us for a haunting tour of downtown Danville including your favorite classic horror movie characters.

Recommended for adults & teens

\$20 per person 6-10pm

- Each tour is limited to 10 people. Please read sign up carefully. We will not be able to accommodate unaccounted persons.

- Concessions will be available for purchase.

do GETS 50% OFF!
SUBSCRIBE

THIS EVENT SOLD OUT LAST YEAR... THIS YEAR IT IS BIGGER, BETTER, AND SCARIER! DON'T WAIT TO BUY YOUR TICKETS!

ALL THE LINKS!

Our Website, Our Social Media, Events, and How You Can Help



[WEBSITE/TIX](#)



[INSTAGRAM](#)



[FACEBOOK](#)



[TIKTOK](#)



[LINKEDIN](#)



[COFFEEHOUSE](#)



[CHRISTMAS STORY](#)



[HOW TO SUPPORT](#)

DLO Musical Theatre's Very Busy Summer

The next generation of musical theatre stars shine in our children and teen productions!



"The experience of Lion King Jr has made me grow in many different ways. A few years ago, I was afraid to dance, sing, and act in front of a few people. DLO has helped me overcome my fear. I look forward to having more fun experiences in shows with DLO. I have made friends and learned a lot of life lessons."

-- I. Howard, 11, Cast



"The choice of Anything Goes was to offer our local teens an opportunity to experience and build different skill sets. We were excited to challenge them in both the classic stylings of Cole Porter's music as well as tap dancing. They brought so much heart and happiness to this show and we were all so proud of what they were able to accomplish."

-- Jordan Richey,
Director
Kady Richey,
Choreographer

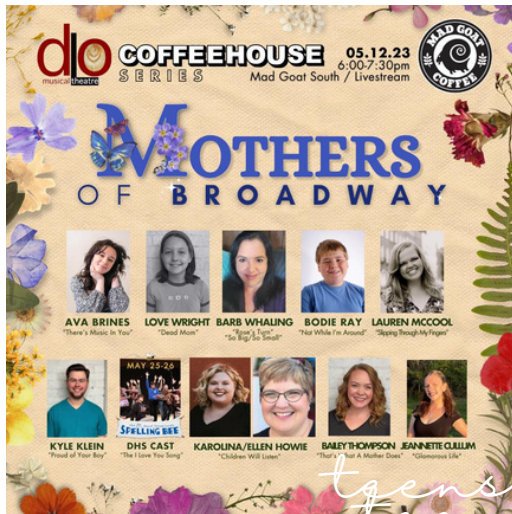


DLO Musical Theatre's Very Busy Summer (continued)

Partnering with Mad Goat, DLO starts a new tradition of monthly coffee house performances!

The brainchild of Bailey Thompson, DLO Musical Theatre now offers monthly, themed coffee house performances at Mad Goat South in Danville, Illinois. Bailey co-directs with Kenzie Kizer. This venue is a wonderful chance for people to experience local talent, and for local talent to have a casual opportunity to perform. Admission is always free, but there is a donation jar and the hat is passed through the audience. All donations help DLO fund main stage performances and with the upkeep and renovations at Back Stage - our rehearsal hall, production floor, costume and prop rooms and so much more. We hope you will join us for a Mad Goat coffee and treat, and to relax to some quality entertainment!

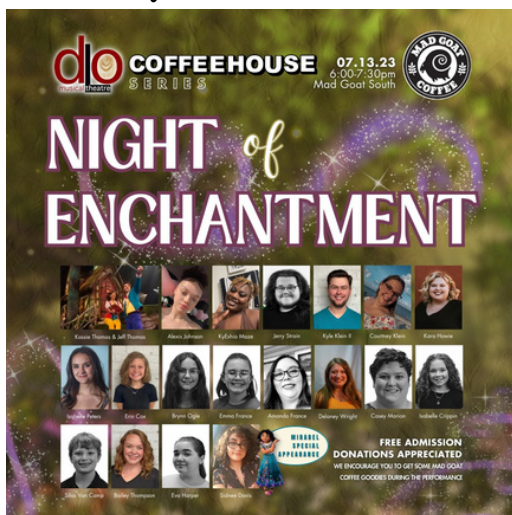
May 2023



June 2023



July 2023



August 2023

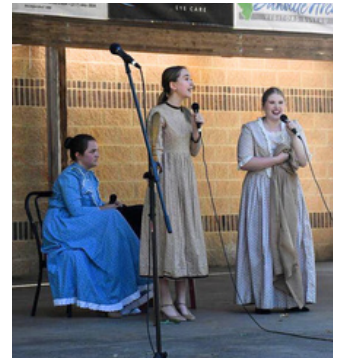


In partnership with Kara Howie & the Big, Blonde & Beautiful Podcast

DLO Musical Theatre out in the Community

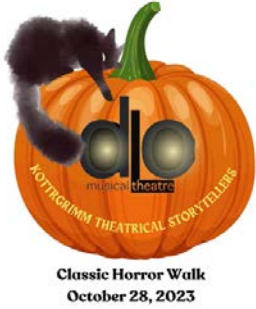
Arts in the Park at Lincoln Park, Danville – June 2023

Organized/Director by Mackenzie Kizer, Karolina Howie, and Kady Richey



The Labor Day Parade in Danville – September 2023





We A-Gore You!

Workshop to Teach Make-up Skills for Zombies for Our Classic Movie Horror Walk and Other Interested Humans

In September, we had a spooktacular time at the DLO and Kotttr Grimm Theatrical Storytellers' Zombie Makeup Workshop! Thank you to Ryan Fleming and Teri Sturdyvin for instructing, and Suzzen Rose and Breely Arford for decorating and gathering supplies!



Yoga for Actors

Yoga Instructor and DLO Board Member Merrit Spicer Expands the Skillset of Performers with her Yoga for Actors Class at DLO's Backstage.

This class is specifically designed for actors and actresses. It includes relaxation techniques, breath work and stretching to keep you stress free and stage ready. It is for all bodies and all levels from beginner and up.

After the session, Merrit said, "Yoga for actors was just what they needed. We worked on flexibility, strength and balance. All important for keeping healthy and stage ready. They left feeling relaxed , rejuvenated, reset and ready for their next performance."



Who's Behind the Curtain?

The 2023-2024 DLO Musical Theatre Board of Directors

President: Paul Strain
Vice President: Jeanne Dunn
Treasurer: Andrew Peters
Secretary: Jamey Coutant

Members: Natalya Bourn, Nancy Keener, Mackenzie Kizer, Heather Miyagi, Jodi Prosser-Muller, Jordan Richey, Kady Richey, Suzzen Rose, Merrit Spicer, Lisa Strain, Bailey Thompson, Vergia Turner, and all active past presidents (with one collective vote)

A complete list of past presidents can be found on the DLO Musical Theatre website.

The 2023-2024 Teen Representative to the DLO Board



Recognizing the importance of having a voice on the Board to represent our next generation of performers, the DLO Board created the non-voting position of Teen Representative a few years ago. The Board thanks Polly Norton for her valuable presence as Teen Rep last year, and welcomes our new Teen Rep, Cora Helferich.

Cora was voted as DLO Musical Theatre's new Teen Representative by her peers involved in the 2023 teen production of **Anything Goes**. Cora has been extremely involved in DLO Musical Theatre for as long as she can remember.

"I have been involved in DLO for 10 years doing anything and everything I can to help, including acting in shows, stage crew, set building, and helping DLO move locations," said Cora. She has known for several years that she has wanted to serve as the Teen Representative. "Ever since I found out about the teen board representative, I had wanted to fill that position and have waited years for an opportunity to try. I love everything about DLO, and I think my ideas and communication skills could enhance the board."

The Teen Representative attends board meetings and shares opinions and ideas with the DLO Musical Theatre board of directors in order to effectively serve the teens that play a large role in their productions. "DLO has always been a huge part of my life, and I want that to continue, and to have more opportunities to grow within the community."



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BACKSTAGE: 141 N. Walnut St. Danville