





President's Letter

I remember in 1998 stepping onto the stage at the Wilmington Drama League for the first time. I was performing a small role in the show *Cheaper by the Dozen*, and even as a teenager I understood that The Wilmington Drama League was an important and unique place in the community. I would not have been able to foresee the journey that I have been on over the next 25 years, but I am truly thrilled to have arrived in the position to lead the board of the Wilmington Drama League into its 91st season.

We are starting off the 91st season with *Chess*, a Cold War musical about two grandmasters at the peak of their careers and their struggle against each other for superiority on the board and in the love of a woman. *Chess* features music by Benny Anderson and Bjorn Ulvaeus of Abba fame and a book by Tim Rice. If you have not experienced this show before, don't miss your opportunity to see it in September on our stage.

Steven King's *Misery* will turn up the tension in October. Based on King's 1987 novel it is a story of obsession, isolation, and survival. It will feature powerhouse performances in the lead roles of Annie Wilkes and Paul Sheldon. I would reserve a great seat early for this production. November gives the Wilmington Drama League the opportunity to present the Pulitzer Prize winning play *J.B.* written by Archibald MacLeish. This modern retelling of the biblical figure Job will be the first of our two Black Box productions this season. One of my favorite stories growing up was *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl. I am delighted that The Wilmington Drama League will present *Willy Wonka* this Holiday season. It is sure to astound every member of your family.

The 91st season rolls into 2024 with an incredible musical in January. 9 to 5 The Musical will absolutely be a crowd pleaser. Based on the film from 1980, 9 to 5 features music and lyrics by the incomparable Dolly Parton. March will roar in with our production of Kinky Boots. Charlie Price inherits a shoe factory from his father and forms an unlikely partnership with cabaret performer and drag queen, Lola to create a line of high-heeled boots. The music and lyrics for Kinky Boots are written by 1980's icon Cyndi Lauper with a book by Harvey Fierstein.

Our second Black box production of the season will be in April when we present *The Psychic A Murder Mystery of Sorts* by Sam Bobrick. This play was awarded the 2011 Edgar Award by the Mystery writers of America and is a comedic and clever mystery you won't want to miss. The Wilmington Drama League is truly thrilled that May will welcome a production of *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*. It will be an amazing spectacle as it tells the story of 12-year-old Percy Jackson who discovers he is a demigod and seeks out Zeus' missing lightning bolt.

Finally in June the Wilmington Drama League will present *Bonnie and Clyde*. This musical tells the story of the Depression Era outlaws and lovers Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker whose crime spree brought them folk hero status. Featuring the music of Frank Wildhorn, this non-traditional score combines elements of blues, gospel, and rockabilly.

It is my great pleasure to invite all of you to see each production this season at The Wilmington Drama League. We exist to bring quality entertainment to our community, but we are also here to provide everyone with a chance to join us in participating in the magic of theater. We won't succeed without the hard work of our many volunteers across every aspect of our season. Please consider this your invitation to get involved if you have ever wanted to be a part of what we create.

Thank you, patrons, volunteers, and friends for all of your generous support over the years, and I look forward to and incredible 91st season!

Gene Dzielak

| Sontombor 2022 | | | | | | October 2023 | | | | | November 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
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| Ticket Prices: Adult: \$25 Senior/Student: \$20 Child: \$15 Fridays/Saturdays @ 8pm Sundays @ 2pm BONNIE & CLYDE June 14 - 23, 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

^{*} these performances of Willy Wonka are Matinees (2PM)

[#] General Admission: One Acts (\$15) & WDL Black Box (\$20/\$17/\$12)

[~]Black Box audiences may be seated on the stage~



CHESS

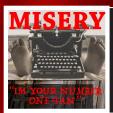
book: RICHARD NELSON/lyrics: TIM RICE music: BJÖRN ULVAEUS & BENNY ANDERSSON

director: KRISTYN WALKO

music director: LIZ HAZLETT

By special arrangement with Concord Theatricals

SEPTEMBER 15 - 24, 2023



MISERY

by **WILLIAM GOLDMAN**, based on the novel by **STEPHEN KING**

director: JOE PUKATSCH

OCTOBER 20 - 29, 2023

By special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service

WDL

BLACK BOX



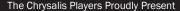
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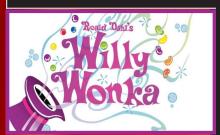
by: ARCHIBALD MACLEISH

director: CAROL VAN ZOEREN

NOVEMBER 9 - 12, 2023

By special arrangement with Concord Theatricals





DECEMBER 8 - 28, 2022

Roald Dahl's WILLY WONKA

Based on the book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

music & Ivrics: LESLIE BRICUSSE & ANTHONY NEWLEY

Adapted for the Stage by

LESLIE BRICUSSE & TIMOTHY ALLEN McDonald

director: **JEFFREY SANTORO**music director: **JUNE RIETDORF**

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



9 to 5, The musical

music & lyrics: DOLLY PARTON/book: PATRICIA RESNICK

Based on the 20th Century Fox Picture Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009

director: GARY KIRCHHOF music director: DENISE ROSE

JAN 26 - FEB 4, 2024

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI www mitshous com-



Named for our wonderful long-time volunteer,

Ruby Stanley,

it features original works by local playwrights and culminates in a festival at which audience members vote for their favorite play.

FEBRUARY 9 - 10, 2024



KINKY BOOTS

music & lyrics: CYNDI LAUPER

book: HARVEY FIERSTEIN

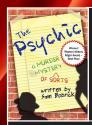
director: PATRICK MURRAY

Based on the Miramax motion picture of the same name, written by Geoff Deane and Tim Firth.

MARCH 8 - 17, 2024

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



THE PSYCHIC

WDL BLACK BOX

by: SAM BOBRICK

director: KEN MAMMARELLA

APRIL 11 - 14, 2024

By special arrangement with Concord Theatricals





THE LIGHTNING THIEF, THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

Adapted from the book The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan music & lyrics: ROB ROKICKI book: JOE TRACZ

director: DARRYL THOMPSON

MAY 10 - 19, 2024

By special arrangement with Concord Theatricals



BONNIE & CLYDE, THE MUSICAL

music: FRANK WILDHORN /lyrics: DON BLACK/book: IVAN MENCHELL

director: LIZ HAZLETT

JUNE 14 - 23, 2024

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, www.mtishows.com

Flex Ticket Packages

Exciting Eight Package: Includes **EIGHT (8)** tickets for use in any combination to enjoy both Main Stage and WDL Black Box productions.

<u>Fantastic Four Package</u>: Includes FOUR (4) tickets for use in any combination to enjoy both Main Stage and WDL Black Box productions.

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Act Now To Take Advantage of Early Bird Pricing!

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| Early Bird Prices (PURCHASED BY 8/31) | 8-Ticket 4-Ticket | • | | \$ 84 \$ 45 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| _ | | \$25 Senio \$20 Senio | or/Student: \$ | 17 Chil | d: \$12 | | | | |
| 1. Choose your flex ticket package: 2. Choose all that apply: I am an Early Bird (by 8/31) Please reserve the same seats I had previously. (Seat/row # if known) 3. Choose how many packages of each type you are purchasing: AdultSenior/StudentChild | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. PLEASE CHOOSE: Show | | # Tickets | Date (s) | | | | | | |
| ☐ Chess ☐ Misery ☐ J.B. ☐ Willy Wonka ☐ 9 to 5, the Musical | | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Ruby Stanley One-Act Fes☐ Kinky Boots☐ The Psychic | stival | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ The Lightning Thief ☐ Bonnie & Clyde | | | | | | | | | |

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You may also reserve your seats by calling our automated ticketing line and leaving a message at 302-764-1172 or by visiting wilmingtondramaleague.org



Non-Profit Organization

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Wilmington, Delaware

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Delaware Division of the

The Division promotes Delaware arts events on

www.DelawareScene.com.



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