90th SEASON



WILMINGTON **DRAMA** LEAGUE

THE PLAYTHAT GOES













DREAMGIRLS

FREAKY FRIDAY

2022/2023

President's Letter

The Wilmington Drama league is very excited to introduce its 90th season! 90 seasons! My, that's a long run. Think about that. Back in 1933, Let 'Em Eat Cake (Gershwin) was the new show on Broadway. Roman Scandals (United Artists) was number one at the box office and Stormy Weather (Ethel Waters) was the big hit on the radio. The Wizard of Oz was still 6 years away! This was one of the worst years of the depression, the year of The New Deal! (you know, from Annie?). Back then a loaf of bread cost 7 cents and a gallon of gas only 10 cents. Is that really \$2 for a 20 gallon tank! Even with all this, it was important enough to theatre lovers to start the Wilmington Drama League. Since then we have gone from presenting mainly dramas and comedies to mostly musicals. Times have changed and WDL has weathered depressions, storms and pandemics and will continue to do so with the support of our patrons. For that we thank you all and invite you to see what's coming this season.

After spending so much time away things are shaping up for a fabulous 90th season. We open the season with *The Play That Goes Wrong*, an Olivier Award-winning comedy and a hilarious mash-up of Monty Python and Sherlock Holmes. This is sure to be a riot! The season continues with a Sondheim classic, *Sunday in the Park with George*, an award winning musical (A Pulitzer Prize, two Tonys, several Drama Desk Awards and the Olivier Award for Outstanding Musical) that brings a famous painting to exuberant life. Following that, anyone looking for a crazy time is sure to enjoy the 2002 Drama Desk Award Winner for Outstanding Musical, *The Wild Party*. Performed in our Black Box setting, this is an Andrew Lippa (*The Addams Family, The Little Princess*) musical that invites its audience to an outrageous party during the roaring '20s. Next, ushering in the Christmas season is a *Wizard of Oz* like you've never seen before! Sure to delight and enjoy with family and friends. Starting off the new year in January, *The Scottsboro Boys*, a musical with a record 12 Tony nominations, is a thoughtful and engaging examination of a difficult part of our nation's history.

Boeing Boeing is a devastatingly funny farce about a pilot desperately trying to juggle three different women at once. Our second Black Box production of the season is *Arcadia*, considered by many to be the finest play by one of our country's finest playwrights (Tom Stoppard). *Arcadia* is an award winning and a fascinating study of how the past is interpreted by the present. In early spring we have the winner of 6 Tony Awards, *Dreamgirls*, an infectious musical story of the stars of Motown as they break gender and racial boundaries in the 60's. This is a show not to be missed! Closing out the season we have a tuneful comedic romp about the ultimate teen/parent role reversal, based on the popular movie, *Freaky Friday*.

In addition to the great shows coming this season, we continue to make improvements around the facility. WDL was recently awarded a Delaware Community Reinvestment Grant which will help us make some much needed upgrades in the facility. Some of the improvements to look forward to are new seating, improved sound and lights, and possibly even some other more obvious improvements. The board and I would like to thank all the patrons and volunteers who have supported us through these 90 years. Here's to another 90! Come check us out. You won't be disappointed.

Tony Del Negro

Board President

| September 2022 | | | | | | | | | October 2022 | | | | | | | November 2022 | | | | | | |
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| ı | | | Jun | e 20 |)23 | | | | | | | | | | | AY IN THE THE WILD PARTY | | | | | | |
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| | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | | SCOTTSBORO BOYS | | | | One-Act Festival | | | | |
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| | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | BOEING BOEING | | | | | | ARCADIA | | | | DREAMGIRLS | | | | |
| | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Ш | MAP 10 - 19 2023 | | | | | | | MAR 30 - | | | APR 28 - | | | | |
| | Ticket Prices: Adult: \$20 Senior/Student: \$17 Child: \$12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | IIC | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$12 | | F | FREAKY FRIDAY | | | | |
| | Thuays, Jacutadys & Opin Sundays & 2pin | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22 | | | | | | | | |
| | Black Box audiences may be seated on the stage. * these performances of Wizard of Oz are Matinees (2PM) | | | | | | | | | | | | | 23_ | | | | | | | | |

[#] One Acts & WDL Black Box shows are General Admission: \$15/\$12/\$10



SEPTEMBER 9 - 18, 2022

by:

HENRY LEWIS, JONATHAN SAYER & HENRY SHIELDS

director:

KRISTYN WALKO

The Play That Goes Wrong is by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service.



OCTOBER 14 - 23, 2022

music & lyrics:

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

book:

JAMES LAPINE

director: SAMUEL LEE LEWIS
music director: KELLY KLINE

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine
Orchestrations: Michael Starobin Originally Produced on Broadway by
The Shubert Organization and Emanuel Azenberg
By arrangement with Playwrights Horizon, Inc. New York City

Sunday in the Park with George is by special arrangement with Musical Theatre International



NOVEMBER 3 - 6, 2022

book, music, & lyrics: ANDREW LIPPA

WDL BLACK BOX

director/choreographer: PATRICK MURRAY

music director: MEGHAN HICKEY

Based on the Poem by Joseph Moncure March Partially Developed and Received Readings at The O'Neill Theater Center during the 1997 National Music Theatre Conference Originally Produced in New York City

The Wild Party is by special arrangement with Musical Theatre International

The Chrysalis Players Proudly Present:



DECEMBER 9 - 28, 2022

by FRANK BAUM

music & lyrics: HAROLD ARLEN & E. Y. HARBURG

background music: HERBERT STOTHART

dance and vocal arrangements: PETER HOWARD orchestration: LARRY WILCOX

director: CHRISTY LEWIS music director: LAURA HANNAGAN choreographer: ASHLEY SCHERER

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by Warner Bros.

The Wizard of Oz is by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.



Book/Lyrics: EVE MERRIAM Music: HELEN MILLER

director: DARRYL THOMPSON music director: CAMERON STRINGHAM

JAN 27 - FEB 5, 2023

The Street Dreams is by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.



FEBRUARY 10 - 11, 2023

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.



MARCH 10 - 19, 2023

MARC CAMOLETTI

translated by

BEVERLEY CROSS & FRANCIS EVANS

director:

GENE DZIELAK



MAR 30 - APR 2, 2023

TOM STOPPARD

director: **JENNA COLE**

> WDL BLACK ROX

Arcadia is by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals



APR 28 - MAY 7, 2023

book & lyrics: TOM EYEN music: HENRY KRIEGER original Broadway production directed & choreographed by

MICHAEL BENNETT

orchestrations: HAROLD WHEELER director: ALLIYAH THORPE

music director: ANTHONY VITALO

choreographer: EPHESIA MOODY

Produced on Broadway by Michael Bennett, Robert Avian, Geffen Records and The Shubert Organization

The Chrysalis Players Proudly Present: DISNEP A NEW MUSICAL

JUNE 9 - 18, 2023

book: BRIDGET CARPENTER music: TOM KITT/lyrics: BRIAN YORKEY

> director: CHRIS TURNER music director: JANE HARACZ

based on the novel Freaky Friday by MARY RODGERS and the Disney films

Freaky Friday is by special arrangement with Musical Theatre International.