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Summer Stage 1998 (program)

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from Peggy and Gary

Marvin Hamlisch's landmark musical A CHORUS LINE features every theater goer's favorite show-stopper, "One." Tonight we present "One" as a tribute to our students, who have undergone many hours of learning. The number begins in the early stages of rehearsal, features important moments in the rehearsal process, and concludes with an "opening night" performance. We hope to provide a small sample of the work involved in putting on a show!

For the staff, these three weeks have moved quickly. Actors have learned how to run power tools, singers have learned basic dance steps, dancers have learned improvisational acting techniques, and backstage technicians have learned how to belt out a show tune. We have tried to show these students the responsibilities involved in being a member of a theatre company. We hope they have learned the rewards of being associated with such a group.

Now that the performance is finally here, we hope that you will enjoy watching these young people as they express their creative talents. This performance is only an extension of the learning explored in master classes, field trips, workshops, and hands-on activities. Please enjoy this show as a first step in an on-going process of artistic development through which each student must go.

Thank you for coming and enjoy the show.



the SummerStage program

Fifteen years ago, the Arkansas Legislature appropriated funding for academic enrichment for the gifted in summer. The AEGIS programs that have since been developed have allowed thousands of Arkansas high school and junior high students to participate in a wide range of activities that they might not normally encounter during a regular school year. Program topics include Indian artifacts, foreign language, computers, and our personal favorite--performing arts.

In the last three weeks, these 49 students have seen live performances of THE NERD, a dinner theatre comedy; JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT and CATS, classic Broadway musicals. They have worked and interacted with professional artists, directors, performers, and teachers. They have explored their own primary areas of expertise, as well as areas in which they may be less knowledgeable. But more importantly, they have converged from all over this state to form the company you will see tonight.

If you have a child in this program, or if you like what you see tonight, please take a moment soon to inform your congressman. Without their continued support, programs like this could not exist.

Author's Note

As she turns old and gray, a grandmother's spirit becomes hard and bitter. She has lost people that she loves, and tends to turn others from her life. Her only companion is her beloved grandson, Jeff. After he helps her realize what she has become, she decides to remember the memories of the past, if not for herself, then for him. It is a real life situation that is caused by FAMILY PICTURES.

Margery Hunt

Director's Note

When I received my letter of acceptance to SummerStage, I was overjoyed and curious about what the 3 weeks would hold. I was selected to combine all of the elements of theatre and direct an original one-act play. My patience, persistence, & leadership skills have been tested daily by my actors. The only thing that kept me going was their drive and willingness to do what they do best. When I leave this place, I'll take memories of the final performance, and the 3 weeks of hard work and dedication it took in order to get there. Some say the director's job is the most difficult. That very well may be, but I'll never forget what enjoyment and learning these 3 weeks have brought me. Thank you SummerStage.

Travis Luther Lowe

Author's Note

A picture can stir up such emotion. Happiness, sadness, sorrow, joy. It's a wonderful thing because it captures a moment in time, allowing you to remember what was happening, as well as the way you were feeling at that very moment. However, as a teenager, family pictures many times family pictures evoke embarrassment. The "Photo Album" you are about to see is about memories (both good and bad) and embarrassment (both reasonable and unreasonable). It is about two teenagers and their perceptions of situations, family, and friends.

Rachel Daugherty

Director's Note

Heaven help me! I had no idea what I was getting into when I accepted SummerStage's offer to direct. I figured, "Hey, directing isn't so hard. You just tell all the actors what to do!" SURPRISE! I soon learned that directing is much harder than it sounds. There are so many factors that go into producing a play that I had never thought of before. Of all the things I learned however, the most important was that for a play to work, and work well, everyone must give their best. I was lucky enough to work with a group of people who knew how to do nothing else but give their all, all the time. The past three weeks have been some of the most challenging of my life, but also some of the best. The memories that I'm taking with me I will cherish forever.

Jennifer Horton

SummerStage '98 Performance Program

Jellicle Songs for Jellicle Cats from "Cats"

*words by T. S. Elliot, music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Feelin' Irish

*Dance Feature

Photo Album

*an original one-act play by Rachel Daugherty, directed by Jennifer Horton

Ascot Gavotte from "My Fair Lady"

*words by Alan Jay Lerner, music by Frederick Loewe

Aquarius from "Hair"

*lyrics & music by Galt MacDermot, James Rado, & Gerome Ragni

Intermission

Belle from "Beauty and the Beast"

*lyrics by Howard Ashman, music by Alan Menken

Gotta Be This or That from "Forever Plaid"

*lyrics & music by Sunny Skylar

Everybody Dance

*dance feature

Family Pictures

*an original one-act by Margery Hunt, directed by Travis Lowe

One from "A Chorus Line"

*lyrics by Edward Kleban, music by Marvin Hamlisch



SummerStage Staff

Peggy Cromwell -- Program Director
Lisa Manchester -- Coordinator
Gary Wilson -- Artistic/Vocal Director
Ann Muse -- Acting Coach
Polly Pierce -- Choreographer

Jason Manchester & Rick Cromwell -- Men's Counselors

Chad Lindvall -- Technical Director
Sherry Thompson -- Costume Designer
Maunie Lou Alkire -- Asst. Costumer
Carol Byrd -- Publicist/Writing
Martha Conrad -- Art/Women's Counselor

Student Biographies

Michael Armstrong (Acting) will be a junior at North Little Rock High School next year. He has played in THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF SANTA CLAUS (Young Santa), THE LONG WAY HOME (Mick), SWEENEY TODD (Chorus), THE PASSION PLAY (Jesus), THE WIZ (Monkey), THE IMPOSSIBLE YEARS (Andy), CRAZY FOR YOU (CHORUS), and THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER (Ollie Herdmen). He is a member of the Drama Team, Beta Club, and Key Club.

Brittiany Bingham (Dance) will be a sophomore at Morrilton High School. She has played in THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Mary) and THE WIZARD OF OZ (chorus). She has taken four years of band, where she plays the flute, is a member of the Drill team, Beta Club, and the Choir. She also teaches sign language to a children's church group. Brittiany plans a career as either an actress or dancer.

Emily Burton (Design/Technical) will be a junior at Southside High School in Ft. Smith next year. Emily's credits include THE PAJAMA GAME (Poopsie), THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER (Maxine), BOYS NEXT DOOR (Chorus), THE TEMPEST (Spirit). She has also worked backstage on MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT and SHAKESPEARE PAGE TO STAGE. She is a National Honor Society member and has won awards and trophies for the Southside Forensic Squad. She was also named as most superior 9th grade art student last year and best intro for a Spanish video. Emily plans to major in drama/technical theatre and become a stage manager or set designer.

Jean Chanda (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Harrison High School. She has played in ALL AMERICAN (chorus) and SOUTH PACIFIC (French Girl). She was 3rd chair in 1996 NW Arkansas All-Region choir and is a member of FHA. Jean has been awarded a scholarship to North Arkansas College. Jean plans to pursue a career in singing.

Sarah Chesney (Acting) will be a junior at Cotter High School. She has played in ROMEO & JULIET (Juliet), AND THEN THERE WAS ONE (Dr. Prince), and THE CANTERBURY TALES (various roles). She is a member of the Beta Club, FHA, and FBLA. She plans to major in theatre in college.

Rachel Daugherty (Writing) will be a sophomore at Little Rock Central. She has played in ALICE IN WONDERLAND (Red Queen). She is a member of the honor roll, yearbook staff, newspaper staff, National Junior Honor Society, Beta Club, the Quiz Bowl team, and Mock Trial team.

Jasmine Davis (Acting) will be a junior at West Memphis High School. Her credits include SADAKS IN A THOUSAND CRANES (various roles), I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY (various roles), THE NUTCRACKER (1st Candy Cane), OUR MISS BROOKS (Miss Finch), and THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER (Chorus). Jasmine plays tenor saxophone in the band, is a member of the Beta Club, and was selected for Campus Spotlight. She plans to go to college and pursue a career in either the performing arts or law.

Patrick Dillon (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Central

Arkansas Christian school next year. He has worked in tech in THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK. He has been a member of All-Region chorus for 2 years and has served as editor of his school's literary journal.

Sean Dillon (Vocal Music) will be a senior at Central Arkansas Christian school. He is a member of the Chorus, the ACDA High school Men's Honor Choir, Southern Magic, the All-Region Choir for 5 years, and the All-State Men's Choir. Sean participates in the Drama Club, Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, and the National Honor Society.

Micah Elder (Acting) will be a sophomore at Jonesboro High School. Her credits include ALICE IN WONDERLAND (Alice), GOOD KINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES (Elizabeth). She has also directed ROMEO AND JULIET. She was 9th chair in All-Region Choir and 2nd chair in All-Region Band. Micah is a member of the Student Council, Tri-M Music Club, and is historian for Alpha Beta.

Mary Floyd (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Glen Rose High School in Benton next year. She has performed in TOM SAWYER (Becky Thatcher) and THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (Mrs. Frank). She is on the All-A honor Roll, treasurer of the Spanish Club, and captain of the junior high quiz bowl team. Mary placed as 1st chair in the Southwest All-Region Choir.

Kristina Foley (Technical/Design) will be a sophomore at Leslie Public School. She has performed in CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (Lucy), AMY GOES ARMY (female lead), GYPSY ROBE, and a number of Christmas productions. She plays flute in band, and is a member of the Key Club and Honor Roll. Kristina would like to attend a liberal arts college and travel.

Leah Frase (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Mount St. Mary next year. She has played in LUANN HAMPTON LAVERTY OBERLANDER (Charlene), BUTTERFLY BUFFET (Hyena), THE GREATEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER (Alice), PIED PIPER OF HAMLIN (Chorus), and ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (Chorus). She placed 7th chair in the All-Region Choir and serves as vice-president of the Concer Belles choir. Leah plans to pursue a career as a songwriter/singer and someday to perform on Broadway.

J. Cliff Ganus (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Harding Academy in Searcy. He has performed in WATCH ON THE RHINE (Bodo), MUSIC MAN, ANTIGONE, CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN, A MAN CALLED PETER, MIRACLE WORKER. He is a member of the Drama Club and would like to pursue at career on Broadway.

Joni Griffith (Dance) will be a sophomore at Horatio High School next year. She served as cheerleader captain last year and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the track team, and the honor roll. She has taken tap, jazz, ballet for eight years. Her future plans include a major in dance and theater in college.

Megan Haney (Acting) will be a sophomore at Mountain Home High School. She has been in JUST LIKE US (narrator) and participated in Arts Encounter '97. She is vice-president of FBLA. Her other activities include softball and drama. She also serves as a peer mediator and contributes to the literary magazine. Megan plans to pursue a career on Broadway. Melissa Haney (Acting) will be sophomore at Mountain Home

High School. Her credits include A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Titania) and Odyssey of the Mind. She participates in Student Council and the newspaper staff. She was a member of the All-Region Band and participated in Arts Encounter. Melissa plans to major in journalism in college and would like to be a photojournalist.

Jennifer Horton (Directing) will be a sophomore at Searcy High School. Her credits include ROMEO AND JULIET (Romeo) and WHAT IS ETERNITY? (Jack). She received highest marks at solo and ensemble festival and is a member of the Arkansas Honor Roll. She is a member of French Club, Drama Club, and the Quiz Bowl team. Jennifer plans to study journalism.

Margery Hunt (Writing) will be a sophomore at Rison High School next year. She is a majorette and attended Mission Mars and Man Modeling. She is a member of the Beta Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, Math Club, and on the High Honor Roll. She received an Excellent rating on trumpet at Solo and Ensemble festival. Margee would like to attend Georgetown after graduation and become a pathologist.

Jessica Jacks (Vocal Music) will be a junior at Magnolia High School. She has been a majorette for 3 years and is on the Campus Cub newspaper staff. She is a member of the French Club, a 4.0 honor roll student, and plans to go to France as an exchange student next year. She has played saxophone for 4 years and has taken dance lessons for 9 years. Jessica also placed 3rd chair, 1st band at All-Region. She would like to go into either acting or modeling someday.

Kendra Kirklín (Acting) will be a sophomore at Jonesboro High School next year. She has played in BRITTANY (Chorus) and several church pageants and the church chorus. She is a member of the tennis, track and volleyball teams, Spanish club, FHA, RAD, Choir, and the Merit Roll. She has won several awards for her artwork. Kendra plans to pursue a career in acting, modeling, or advertising.

Katherine Kurz (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at White Hall next year. Her credits include WIZARD OF OZ (Dorothy) and CHOIR HAPPENING '98 "Everything's coming up Broadway." She is a member of the Beta Club, FHA, All-Region Choir for two years, and an AEGIS SLIP Japanese participant. Her future plans include a career in the music business.

Jennifer Lawler (Art/Tech) will be a senior at Blevins High School. She is a member of the FBLA, Art Club, FFA, and Quiz Bowl team. She has won several awards for her artwork. Jennifer plans to major in an art-related field in college.

Rachael LeBlanc (Acting) will be a senior at Smackover High School. She has played in MURDER BY MEMBERSHIP ONLY (May Cobb), WIZARD OF OZ (Guard), AS YOU LIKE IT (Rosalind), ROMEO AND JULIET (Juliet), and IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR SAM (Veronica). She placed 1st chair, 2nd band at All-Region and is president of the Anchor Club and the Quill and Scroll. Rachael plans to major in acting or pre-med.

Jack Lofton (Acting) will be a junior at Hughes High School next year. His credits include TOM SAWYER (Muff), PINOCCHIO (Dr. Owl), JUNGLE BOOK (Tabaqui), HAMLET (Horatio), and ROMEO AND JULIET (Montague). He is a member of the Student Council, Beta Club, Quiz Bowl, and

vice president of his class. He is also a member of the basketball and tennis teams.

Travis Lowe (Directing) will be a sophomore at Northside High School in Ft. Smith next year. He has played in I NEED A VACATION (Surfer) and been a soloist in a church Christmas production. He is vice president of the Student Council and NHS Student Council Representative. He has participated in several speech tournaments, directed, produced, and acted as Master of Ceremonies for the talent show. He is on the honor roll and attended Arts Encounter. Travis would like a career in politics in the future.

Cathy Lowry (Vocal Music) attends Fayetteville High School. She has played in CINDERELLA (Chorus) and is a member of the Tempos Show Choir. She is in the Gifted and Talented program and on the Honor Roll. She is also a member of the All-Region Chorus. Cathy plans to attend college and become a singer/actor.

Haley Mattox (Dance) will be a sophomore at Central High School in Little Rock. Her credits include ANNIE (Duffy), OLIVER (Pickpocket) and THE NUTCRACKER (Toy Soldier). She is a vice president of the National Junior Honor Society, a member of the A & B Honor Roll, Drama Club, Chorus, Quiz Bowl, and the All Region Choir. She has participated in Past-times in the Parks, Eco-Explorers, and SLIP into Foreign Language. Haley plans to major in psychology in college.

Amber McCreight (Technical) will be a senior at Black Rock High School next year. Her credits include SANTA AND THE SNOWMOBILE (Reindeer), LOUISE AND THELMA (Thelma), VOICES FROM HIGH SCHOOL (Ella and Alice), OLD LADIES JUST WANNA HAVE FUN (Thelma), ADVENTURES OF GO-GO GIRL-EPIISODE 9 (Mavis), PHANTOM (Chorus), and KISS OR MAKE-UP (Eloise). She serves as FHA secretary, and is a member of the choir, drama club, and library club. Amber plans to study either musical theatre or psychology.

Angie McCullough (Acting) will be a sophomore at Mountain Home High School. She has played in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Nick Bottom) and was assistant direct for her Odyssey of the Mind group. She is a member of the band, Yearbook staff, Newspaper staff, and the band. She received the Advance English Award, and was a member of the State Champ team for National History Day. She would like to major in English or Journalism in college.

Josh Miller (Vocal Music) will be a senior at Bentonville High School. His credits include WIZARD OF OZ (Tin Man), DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (extra), and CINDERELLA (Herald). He is a member of the All-Region and All-State Choirs and the A Cappella Choir (New York tour). He participated in the Chamber Choir Madrigal Feast and Grand Champion at Musicfest '98 in Orlando. He plans to work in musical theatre.

Leah Mills (Vocal Music) will be a senior at Bentonville High School. She has played in HOW TO EAT LIKE A CHILD (Leah), CINDERELLA (Cook), 100 YEARS OF BROADWAY (Soloist), THE BEAT GOES ON (soloist/choreographer), and several church youth musicals. She has participated in the Madrigal Feast for 2 years as part of the royal court and the town crier. She is a member of the Chamber Choir, A Cappella Choir, and outstanding junior of the ACappella Choir in '98. Leah hopes to gain a degree in musical theatre.

Dean Murry (Technical) will be a senior at Forrest City High School. His performances include H.M.S. PINAFORE (Captain), and DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (Peter). He received a number 1 rating at solo/ensemble festival on trombone and also attended ASMS. Dean plans to pursue a degree in engineering.

Kristina Partrick (Acting) will be a junior at Southside High School in Ft. Smith. She has performed in PAJAMA GAME (Sandra, Chorus), THE TEMPEST (sprit/nymph), THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT (chorus), and CHICAGO (Roxie). She is a member of the National Thespian Society, Drama Club, Drama & Forensics Squad, the National honor Society, Mixed Chorus, and All-Region Choir. Kristina plans to continue her work in the theater while pursuing a career in medicine.

Stephanie Pierce (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Pulaski Academy next year. Her credits include La Boheme (street urchin), CRAZY FOR YOU (Patricia Fodor), OKLAHOMA (crew), and HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING (Chorus). She also acted in a commerial for Arkansas Vocational Schools. Her activities include Mixed Chorus and Advanced Band. She was 11th chair, 1st band in All-Region. She plans to become an entertainer.

Tara Quinn (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Fayetteville High School. She is a member of the All-Region Choir, the Woodland Tempos Show Choir and the Gifted & Talented program. She is also a member of the Honor Roll. Tara hopes to attend BYU after high school.

Leslie Robinson (Dance) will be a sophomore at Arkadelphia High School. She has played in ANNIE (Annie) and has taken 9 years of dance. She placed 10th chair, 1st band in All-Region and is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, Student Council, and the Gifted and Talented program. She participated in Arts Encounter and Past Times in the Park. Leslie plans to major in business management and minor in dance. She would like to become a dance teacher.

Jessica Sardashti (Acting) will be a sophomore at Russellville High School next year. Her credits include BRIGADOON (Chorus), OLIVER (Chorus), VELVETEEN RABBIT (Bad Bunny), MACBETH (Attendant), and PORTALS (Deborah/Ellen). She is a member of the Theatre Group, Art Club, and the first division band at Solo/Ensemble festival. She participated in Arts Encounter and church dramas. Jessica would like to major in theater in college and make independent films.

Sandra Scroggins (Dance) will be a sophomore at Alma High School. She has performed in ALICE IN WONDERLAND (Caterpillar), BYE-BYE, BIRDIE (Penelope Anne/Chorus), SHANE (Marion), and LITTLE MATCH GIRL (dance corp). She is a member of the drama club, art club, Paw Prints NewStaff, and Honor Roll. She is also a two time state writing contest winner. Sandra plans to earn a degree in dance therapy and theater.

Paige Sparks (Acting) will be a senior at Bentonville High School next year. She has been in HOW TO EAT LIKE A CHILD (Paige), AMADEUS (Venticelli #2), LONG WAY HOME (Mickey), CINDERELLA, HARVEY (Nurse Kelly), BIRTH OF SOME COMMERCIALS, and 100 YEARS OF BROADWAY.

She carries a grade point average above 4.0 is president of the Key Club and the A Cappella Choir. Paige plans to attend college and study either acting, animal behavior, or equestrian science.

Lance Strickland (Vocal Music) will be a junior at Drew Central High School in Monticello next year. His credits include MAY THE FARCE BE WITH YOU (Albatross) and SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN. He is a member of the Choir and the Drama Club. He is a 4 time member of All-Region choir, 5th chair All-State Men's Chorus, and has been a member of various American Choral Directors Association convention choirs. Lance plans to pursue a doctorate in Operatic Performance at Julliard.

Anita Tang (Acting) will be a sophomore at Siloam Springs High School. She has performed in STAR DREAMER (Star) and CASE OF THE FRUSTRATED CORPS (Maid). She has also written and directed several pieces including PEACE, DIE HARD WITH A SMILE, and a music video. She is a member of the drama club and the Gifted and Talented program. She has participated in Odyssey of the Mind for 2 years. Anita hopes to become an actress, director, and producer.

Erica Taylor (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Greenbrier High School. Her credits include WE NEED GOD IN AMERICA AGAIN and CIRCLE OF FRIENDS. She is a member of the All-Region Choir and recieved highest marks at Solo/Ensemble festival. She has received the director's award in choir and is a member of the honor roll. She is a member of the yearbook staff and has been in choir for 3 years and the basketball team for 2 years. Erica plans to study either law or business & marketing and pursue a career with acting.

Brian Thompson (Technical) will be a junior at Cabot High School. His credits include MUSIC MAN (chorus), OKLAHOMA (chorus), A FEW GOOD MEN (Julius Randolph), GREASE (Vince Fontaine), BLUE PLATE SPECIAL (Radio Announcer); he also worked on the stagecrew of GUYS AND DOLLS. His activities include Forensics and Debate Club, Key Club, and French Club. Brian would like to attend the University of Mississippi and obtain a degree in either business or communications.

James Williams (Acting) will be a junior at Fayetteville High School. He has played in THE WIZARD OF OZ (Wizard). He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, A Cappella Choir and the All-Region Choir. He placed 2nd in a classical piano competition. James hopes to attend law school.

Jaime Wooldridge (Vocal) will be a junior at Hughes High School. Her performances include TOM SAWYER (chorus), PINNOCHIO (chorus), and several church Christmas plays. She is a member of the Beta Club, Yearbook staff, Honor societies, vice president of the Student Council, and cheerleading squad. She is also in the Gifted and Talented program. Jaime plans to be a pediatrician.

Ryan Yarrington (Vocal Music) will be a sophomore at Central Arkansas Christian in Little Rock. He has performed in CELEBRATE THE VISION and CELEBRATE LIFE. He is a member of FBLA, NJHS, French Club, and a 2 year member of All-Region Choir. Ryan is also a Life Scout in Boy Scouts. He plans to attend Hendrix College after he graduates.

Special Thanks

The staff and students of Summerstage wish to thank the following for their contributions to the program.

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