

**Mid-Delta Arts Association
presents**



**O. Henry's
The Gift of the Magi**

**Dramatized by
Anne Coulter Martens**

and

**The Christmas Stranger
By Charles Emery**

December 7 & 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

December 9, 2007

2:00 p.m.

*The Gift of the Magi presented by special arrangement
with The Dramatic Publishing Company.
The Christmas Stranger presented by special arrangement
with Samuel French, Inc.*

HERE'S TO YOU!

Congratulations on your 30th anniversary! Yes, it is *your* anniversary.

For 30 years, Mid-Delta Arts Association has labored to bring live theater cast with local talent to Indianola and the surrounding area. Few towns of our size can boast the rich history of MDAA with its broad wealth of talent, loyal Patron membership, and enthusiastic audiences. We are unique!

If you are sitting in the audience at this moment, reading this prior to a performance or perhaps at intermission, consider this: 95 plays, musicals and revues, and 40 guest performances. By conservative estimate, 65,000 theatergoers have occupied the seats in our theater. That's more than five and a half times the population of Indianola, and those numbers don't include this season's performances.

How many MDAA productions have you seen? The shows are listed on pages 10 and 11. Maybe you've also performed on our stage or worked behind the scenes on the production crew. Some of you are the children of those who first took the MDAA stage, and, yes, there are now third generation supporters of our efforts. Some of our staunchest patrons and performers have moved away or are now deceased, but they have left a rich legacy for you to continue. **You are the champion of the arts in our small town.**



Indianola Chamber of Commerce
662-887-4454

MDAA Patron Membership 2007-2008

Golden

Community Bank
Delta Western
Guaranty Bank & Trust Co.
Planters Bank & Trust Co.
Sledge Cable Co.

Friends

Delta Southern Bank
Woods & Lynn Eastland
Indianola Rotary Club
M/M Bill McPherson
State Farm/Andy Daniels

Benefactors

Coleman Eye Center
Elegant Touch
Walton & Laura Gresham
Indianola Insurance Agency
Scott & Emily Shafer
Frank & Marsha Tindall

Sponsors

M/M John Rodgers Brashier
M/M Rodgers Brashier
John & Mary Ruth Brindley
Pat & Kathy Chism
Budweiser/Lisa Cowart
The Crown Restaurant
The Enterprise-Tocsin
Les & Adelaide Fletcher
Bill & Ann Gresham
Tom & Louise Gresham
Allen & Julia Hill
M/M Norris Hill
Buster & Joyce Holloway
Jimmy & Joanne Lear
Magic Mart Pharmacy/
Guy & Rivers Phillips
Steve & Ramona Mauseth

Mike & April Montesi
Georgia Ann McPherson
M/M Henry Paris
M/M George Purcell
Carolyn Ann Stauffer
James & Anne Robertson
John & Barry McWilliams

Patrons

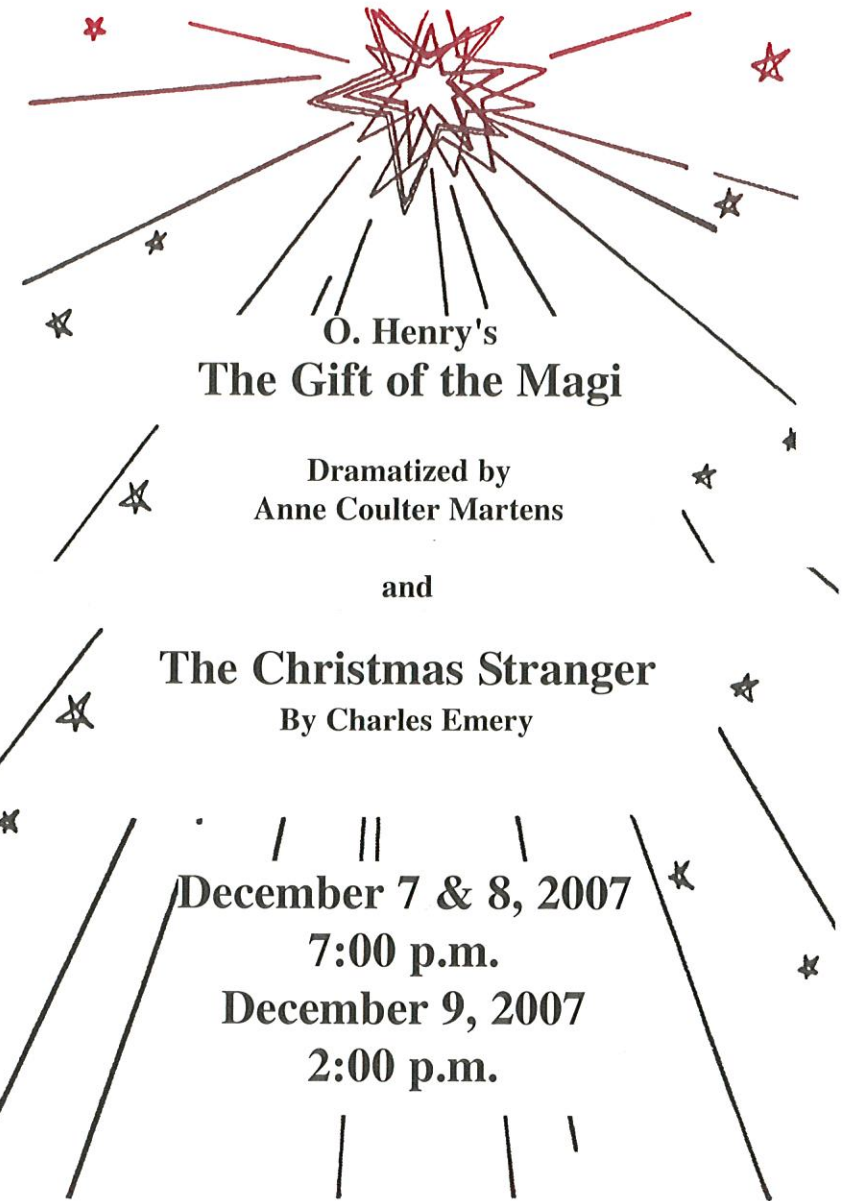
Doug & Pat Adams
Betty A. Aden
David B. & Susan Allen
M/M W.S. Allen
Mrs. Mary Anne Allen
Mike & Susan Anderson
Mrs. Hugh M. Arant
Linda H. Arant
Turner & Sybil Arant
Mrs. Elizabeth Atchley
Weldon & Debbie Aultman
M/M David Baird
Ernie & Lynn Baker
D.K. Baria
Joe & Levenia Barnes
M/M Charles W. Barrett
M/M R.N. Barrett
Lucille Baughman
Dean & Ann Belk
Mrs. Bill Bert
Jack & Marsha Bishop
Dr. & Mrs. Larry C. Boyd
Audrey Breeding
Miss Virginia Brickell
Larry & Carol Brown
Sarah E. Bullard
M/M Jimmy Clayton
Frank & Sandra Crosthwait
Charles & Linda Davis
Oma Steele Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Q. Davis

Patrons (continued)

Drs. Eddie & Jana Donahoe
Mrs. Delores Dorrugh
Mrs. Edwinna Edwards
M/M Duane Ellis
Sam & Joan Ely
Mrs. Eleanor Failing
David & Beth Fisher
Mrs. Lucy Fisher
Terry Haltom
Mrs. Jack Harper
Frank & Traci Haven
Jerry & Amy Hawkins
Hiram & Barbara Hill
Mrs. Joyce B. Hull
Bill & Georgia Humbarger
M/M James Hutcherson
David & Helen Jenkins
M/M Jack Jenkins
M/M Seymour Johnson
Sherilyn Jones
Barbara Kendricks
Bill & Lanny Kennedy
Leslee J. Linn
Hulbert Lipe
Ileana H. Logan
Lawrence & Irene Long
Mrs. Edna Kirk Robertson
Opal Lovett
Mrs. W. L. Lowe
Rupert & Beth Lyon
John & Leet Maggio
Robert E. May & Sharon Armstrong
M/M A.B. McCarty, Sr.
Drew & Dianne McDowell
Mrs. Mary Kathryn McDowell
Mary Louise McGregor
Anne McKee
Mrs. Ann Milburn
Betty A. Moak
Sandra Moore
Rex & Dale Morgan
M/M Jerry Nobile
Richard & Laurie Noble

Mrs. Chester Palasini
M/M Edwin L. Parker, III
Natalie C. Peeler
Joan S. Pennebaker
Beverly Pentecost
Frances W. Pentecost
Mrs. Hazel M. Poe
Miss Mary Polizzi
Rita D. Pratt
Walter & Mary Carolyn Pugh
Barbara B. Randall
M/M Randy Randall
Dorsey & Carolyn Ray
Lois Robertson
Mrs. W. T. Robertson
Denton & Betty Barrett Rogers
Jackie Rogers
Walter & Julia Rose
Steve Rosenthal
William Shaw
Alan & Leanne Silverblatt
Mrs. Emily M. Smith
Christian Stauffer
Jeneanne S. Story
Frank & Joy Tindall
Paul & Bliss Tischer
Mrs. Street Toler, Jr.
Marion & Camille Towery
M/M Cham Trotter
M/M W.C. Trotter
Homer & Betty Turner
Gene & Joyce Van Cleve
Marty & Leonard Vincent
Mrs. Janet Webb
Mrs. Patricia Williams
Larry & Pauline Williams
Billy & Mary Frank Wise
Ken & Carol Wood
Larry & Debbie Woodruff
Rev. Jim & Nancy Woods
Marsha Wooten
Grace Young

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The Gift of the Magi

Directed by
Sharon Armstrong & Robert E. May

Cast **(in order of appearance)**

Della Bliss Tischer
Jim Paul Tischer
Mrs. Boyd Beth Jenkins
Madame Sofronie Marsha Bishop
Felice Eleanor Steele Lawler
Mr. Hartman Jack Bishop
Narrator Robert E. May

Place
A room in a furnished apartment
in New York City

Time
A little while ago. The day before Christmas.

The Christmas Stranger

Directed by
Sharon Armstrong & Robert E. May

Cast **(in order of appearance)**

Ruth Bliss Tischer
Madonna Eleanor Steele Lawler
Lydia Beth Jenkins
The Stranger Paul Tischer

Place
Living room of a home somewhere
in New England.

Time
The afternoon of Christmas Day.

Crew

Set Robert E. May
Sharon Armstrong
Lights Sharon Armstrong
Costumes Marty Vincent & Cast
Props Nancy Woods
Marty Vincent
Accompanist Linda Arant

Special Thanks

The Enterprise-Tocsin
The Crown
Delta Pride
Paul's Jewelry
Martin's Pharmacy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION

President - Kathryn Purcell
Vice President - Robert E. May
Secretary - Marsha Wooten
Treasurer - Weldon Aultman

Board Members

Linda Arant	Traci Haven	Tony Roughton
Sharon Armstrong	Ramona Mauseth	Emily Shafer
Debbie Aultman	Ramon McGehee	Marty Vincent
Andy Daniels		Nancy Woods

ADVISORY BOARD

Duncan Baird, Ernie Baker, Dean Belk, John Brindley, Marie Dailey (deceased), Karen Dieckman, Adelaide Fletcher, Tom Gresham, Joyce Hull, Paul Jaudon, Jessie P. Lee (deceased) Harold Manning, Randy Randall, Evelyn Roughton, Leanne Silverblatt, Semonne Strawbridge, Carolyn Ann Stauffer, Frank Tindall, Jr., Robert Sledge, Adele Williams, Jim Woods

HISTORY OF MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION

In the summer of 1978 a group of talented individuals put together a musical production called *Fifty Years of Broadway*, and in October 1978, Mid-Delta Arts Association was chartered. MDAA then offered productions featuring individuals from Indianola and the surrounding area. MDAA also brought in touring companies including The Jackson Ballet, The Jackson Symphony, John Maxwell's *Oh, Mr. Faulkner*, *Do You Write?*, and blues artist Son Thomas.

MDAA's first big musical, *The Sound of Music*, was presented in Lockard Elementary School Auditorium for a full week of performances. Patron Membership grew with each theater season.

MDAA acquired the old Catholic Church building and converted it to a theater with volunteer labor for about \$5000. Productions flourished in this setting for the next five seasons. A Capital Improvement Campaign raised \$150,000 to completely renovate the theater, add a large lobby, install theater seating, enlarge the stage, and create a sound and light booth.

Several years ago MDAA built a new stage with added wing space, backstage improvements, and new curtains as well as work areas. For 30 seasons, the tremendous support of MDAA Patrons has allowed expansion and improvement of our facilities and has made it possible for ambitious projects to come to fruition. We anticipate a bright future as we strive to bring you quality productions and encourage the performing arts in our area.

MDAA PRODUCTIONS 1978 TO PRESENT

1978-79	Fifty Years of Broadway MDAA Chartered American Potpourri The Sound of Music	1989-1990	Steel Magnolias Godspell I Do, I Do! Frankenstein
1979-80	Arsenic and Old Lace Tribute to Richard Rodgers	1990-91	The Glass Menagerie Show Stoppers Under the Yum Yum Tree Annie
1980-81	The Odd Couple Man of La Mancha	1991-92	Vanities The Odd Couple (Revival) Plaza Suite Oklahoma!
1981-82	Ten Little Indians Mid-Delta Radio Hour South Pacific	1992-93	Lily, The Felon's Daughter Into the Woods The Rainmaker Bye Bye, Birdie
1982-83	Our Town Fiddler on the Roof	1993-94	Nunsense Love Letters Little Shop of Horrors Lend Me a Tenor Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
1983-84	Life With Father Meet Me at the M.A.T. Music Man	1994-95	Midsummer Night's Dream A Christmas Show Stopper Guys and Dolls Wait Until Dark
1984-85	You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown Chapter Two Oliver!	1995-96	The Dining Room Camelot Crossing Delancy The Boyfriend
1985-86	SRO and Patio Porch Harvey Gypsy	1996-97	The Nerd The Best Christmas Pageant Ever Hello, Dolly
1986-87	Stranger With Roses Broadway-Music of Our Lifetime The Mikado		
1987-88	You Can't Take It With You Realizing A Dream Damn Yankees		
1988-89	Greater Tuna Crimes of the Heart Mame The Fantastic The Diary of Anne Frank		

MDAA PRODUCTIONS 1978 TO THE PRESENT (cont.)

1997-98	The Taffetas The Trouble With The Christmas Presents An Evening With Andrew Lloyd Webber Moon Over Buffalo	2002-03	One Nation Under God You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown Don't Dress for Dinner
1998-99	20 Year Gala Celebration The Sound of Music 12 Angry Men Arsenic and Old Lace	2003-04	The Best Christmas Pageant Ever The Generations
1999-00	Miss Firecracker Contest Kiss Me, Kate Forever Plaid	2004-05	No, No, A Million Times No Carousel The Odd Couple (Female Version)
2000-01	A Century of Song The Good Doctor The Wizard of Oz	2005-06	Concert Series The King and I Barefoot in the Park
2001-02	Anything Goes My Fair Lady	2006-07	A Tuna Christmas Broadway Then and Now The Mousetrap

MDAA has sponsored outstanding productions such as *La Boheme*, The Jackson Ballet, Nancy Sellin (New York actress), The Brigham Young Choir, *The Nutcracker*, Ethel Mohammed's Art, The Tucson Boys' Chorus, "Oh, Mr. Faulkner, Do You Write?," Rob Maher (Metropolitan baritone), The Jackson Symphony Brass, Son Thomas, the pianos of Jeffrey and Ronald Marlowe, Anthony Galie - hypnotist, Dr. Paul's harpsichord, Barbershop A Capella, The University of Mississippi Concert Singers, The Mississippi State Jazz Ensemble, Mad Dog and Englishman, Eden Brent, The Magnolia Chorus, An Evening of Jazz, *John Stennis: A Gentleman from Mississippi*, and *A Tribute to Lewis Grizzard*. In addition, MDAA has entertained its supporters with a Gala featuring The Glenn Miller Orchestra (2003) and The Patrons' Ball (2005). In February of 2008, Mid-Delta Arts Association's patrons will receive an invitation to the "30th Birthday Bash" celebrating the accomplishments of MDAA and honoring all of those who have offered moral and financial support.

It's never too late to become a member.

MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION PATRONAGE

Anyone can become an MDAA patron. Previous season patrons receive a brochure in late summer outlining the productions for the next season. The brochure includes a form for joining MDAA and lists the membership categories. MDAA also sends brochures to prospective patrons who may be new to the community.

Participation in MDAA productions is not limited to patrons. If you are interested in being an active participant, you may do so without becoming a patron. Auditions are announced in Indianola's weekly newspaper, *The Enterprise Tocsin*, as well as in other regional newspapers.

Those who are interested should contact the Chamber of Commerce (662-887-4454) or any board member for more information. MDAA welcomes newcomers to our stage.

TICKETS

Our patrons get an opportunity to reserve their seats over a 2 to 3 day period before tickets go on sale to the public. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

GENERAL INFORMATION

LATECOMERS will be seated by an usher at an appropriate time in the production. We ask your cooperation in fairness to the performers as well as other audience members.

CAMERAS and other **RECORDING DEVICES** are **strictly prohibited during the performances.**

CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS must be **turned off or left with an usher.**

SMALL CHILDREN must have their own ticket and occupy their own seat. **No babies in arms, please.**

SMOKING is prohibited in the theater.

REFRESHMENTS are usually served in the lobby if there is an intermission. **Please, no food or drinks beyond the lobby.**