

Mid-Delta Arts Association
presents

A Children's Christmas Production

including

*The Trouble with the
Christmas Presents*

by Mary P. Hamlin

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



and

A Special Children's Chorus

December 4, 5, 6 and 7 at 7 p.m.

December 6 and 7 at 2 p.m.

LETTER FROM THE MDAA PRESIDENT

Welcome to another MDAA production. On behalf of the Mid-Delta Arts Association Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of the arts.

MDAA has had a fantastic nineteen years and we sincerely hope that you feel that the theater has added to the life of our community. Every effort has been made to present exciting, entertaining, and even daring productions.

Mid-Delta Arts Association has endeavored to showcase and encourage the talents of all ages. We welcome participation in all areas of staging and urge you to volunteer your time and skills in the many phases of preparation for a show.

The board however, merely administers the talents and gifts of its patrons. It is thanks to you, the patrons, that we are able to have a theater. Thank you for your generosity and loyalty. May we enjoy a long future together at MDAA.

Nancy McElmurray, President
Mid-Delta Arts Association



INDIANOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Indianola Chamber of Commerce is proud to salute the Mid-Delta Arts Association and their tradition of excellence in bringing live theater to the Mississippi Delta.

Indianola Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 151
Indianola, MS 38751
601-887-4454

A Special Thanks to Our 1997/98 Mid Delta Arts Association Patrons

Live theater can only exist in Indianola through the generous support of our many patrons. We hope you feel proud of your participation in the activities and growth of the MDAA, which has a profound effect on the cultural climate of our area.

We are excited about celebrating our 20th anniversary next season. If all goes according to our plans, we will have a new stage, new ceiling in the theater and new heating and cooling systems for the theater, stage and dressing area. This could never have been possible without the wonderful support of so many people. "New Stage '98" will become a reality thanks to the generous giving of our patrons. We are deeply appreciative of your support.

We thank the following contributors to our 1997-98 season. Please take the time to look over the list of members of our MDAA "family". If your name does not appear, won't you consider joining? We are a non-profit organization and thus your contribution is tax-deductible. Play a supporting role! All memberships received by the printing deadline for this program have been included. Others will be found in future playbills.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Single Patron	(1 ticket per performance)	\$40
Double Patron	(2 tickets per performance)	\$80
Sponsor	(4 tickets per performance)	\$200
Benefactor	(6 tickets per performance)	\$300
Friend of the Arts	(8 tickets per performance)	\$500
Golden Plus	(12 tickets per performance)	\$1000

GOLDEN PLUS

Community Bank	Sledge Cable Co.
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THE TROUBLE WITH THE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

by MARY P. HAMLIN

DIRECTED BY

BEVERLY FORD
MARY WILSON

CAST

FRED CARTER
JULIA CARTER

CHRIS POPE
LEIGH ANN CARLEY

THE PRESENTS

CALENDAR KILBY ALLEN
PINCUSHION ANNE BARRETT POLK
DOLL LAURA BINGHAM
NECKTIE JOHN ALLEN
CLOCK ALAN NICHOLS
BOOKENDS WHITNEY ROBERSON
BETH RICHARDS
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS SARA BENFER

Produced by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

CHILDREN'S CHORUS

MARIAN MAUSETH
 LISA HEDGES
 BLAIRE SPENCER
 LACY WARE
 JANE CLAIRE ADAMS
 JANE ALLEN MCGREGOR
 JOSH BENFER
 ELIZABETH ADAMS
 MORGAN MCDOWELL
 CATHERINE MAUSETH
 HAYS BERRY

LAURA POLK
 LINDSEY LOTT
 PHILLIP BERRY
 JESSIE EWAN
 JOHN HEDGES
 LAUREN WARE
 JESSICA DAVIS
 SARAH ROBERTS
 EMILY SKELTON
 BRANDON LOTT
 STEVEN MAUSETH

DIRECTOR

Emily Shafer

ACCOMPANIST

Susan Lee

CHORUS SPECIAL THANKS

DOUBLE QUICK RAMONA MAUSETH MARSHA WOOTEN

• SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE PARENTS FOR TRUSTING US WITH YOUR CHILDREN AND FOR CHAUFFEURING THEM TO AND FROM PRACTICE . . . TO BETTY BARRETT ROGERS FOR COORDINATING THE CAST PARTY FOR THE CHORUS AND CAST AND TO EMILY SHAFER AND SUSAN LEE FOR BRINGING US ALL THE BEAUTIFUL VOICES AND SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS!

CHORUS - Part 1

JINGLE BELLS CHORUS
 RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSE REINDEER TRIO & CHORUS
 UP ON THE HOUSTOP CHORUS
 I SAW MOMMY KISSING SANTA CLAUS ENSEMBLE
 JOLLY OLD ST. NICHOLAS CHORUS
 DECK THE HALL CHORUS
 O CHRISTMAS TREE CHORUS
 THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS CHORUS
 WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS CHORUS

CHORUS - Part 2

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL Solo
 SILENT NIGHT CHORUS
 WHAT CHILD IS THIS TRIO
 JOY TO THE WORLD CHORUS
 AWAY IN A MANGER Solo & GUITAR
 HARK! THE HERALD ANGLES SING CHORUS
 O' LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM CHORUS
 WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE Boys CHORUS
 LO, HOW A ROSE E'RE BLOOMING Solo
 O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL CHORUS

PRODUCTION COMMITTEES

PROPS	Dorothy Baker Donnie Baker Linda Steed
Additional Props	Debbie Allen-Indianola Floral Designs Harvey Watson-Wholesale Furniture & Appliance James Jefcoat-Sunflower Food Store
COSTUMES	Marsha Wooten Linda Steed
LIGHTS & SOUND	Sharon Armstrong Robert May
SET	John Ammons Harold Manning John Brindley Billy Williams
HOUSE & USHERS	Beverly Pentecost
PUBLICITY	Marsha Wooten Karen Dickman Adelaide Fletcher
TICKETS	Joyce Hull Beth Lyon
ARCHIVES	Kathryn Purcell Tom Pitts

1997 - 1998

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION



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Jessie P. Lee, 1978-1995

HISTORY OF THE MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION

In 1978 a group of interested citizens of Indianola, met to explore the possibilities of starting a "little theater". Now almost 20 years later that possibility is truly a reality. The initial group was a mix of farmers, lawyers, merchants, housewives, carpenters, a dramatic fried chicken saleslady, and a singing Sears Roebuck manager. What a GROUP!

They banded together, wrote a charter, applied for a grant or two and thus began the Mid-Delta Arts Association. During the early years, the MDAA offered what they called "local" productions. These very popular events featured men, women and children from Indianola and the nearby towns of Inverness, Sunflower and Moorhead. In addition, the MDAA brought in touring productions from various sources. There were operas, ballets, harpsichord recitals, pianist, boys choirs and one man shows. These were all enjoyed by MDAA patrons, but it was soon apparent that the local productions (where they knew the cast members) were the most popular.

MDAA's first big musical "The Sound of Music" was presented in Lockard Elementary School Auditorium. It was June and no air conditioning.....but the crowds came and came and came and the show was sold out for a week. Performers came from all over the area, young and old alike. It was apparent that the talent was here and so was the audience.

After a couple of years, MDAA acquired the old Catholic Church building on the corner of Main and Sunflower. There was much to do to convert the old church to a serviceable theater. There was no money but there was a desire and lots of willing "elbow grease". The building was converted with volunteer labor for about \$5,000.

Productions flourished in this setting for about six years. In 1986, Morris Lewis, Jr. and Farmer H. Hamilton co-chaired a capital campaign that resulted in more than \$150,000 being raised to completely renovate the theater. A lobby area was added, real theater seats were installed, a sound and light booth was included as well as larger dressing areas for the actors. What a great improvement for MDAA!

For more than a decade now, we have enjoyed one successful season after another in this intimate little setting. The fantastic support of patrons throughout the Delta Area has increased steadily and actors from towns all over the Delta have seen action on the MDAA stage.

MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION PRODUCTIONS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1978 Fifty Years of Broadway</p> <p>1979 American Potpourri
The Sound of Music
Arsenic and Old Lace</p> <p>1980 A Tribute to Richard Rodgers
The Odd Couple</p> <p>1981 Man of La Mancha
Ten Little Indians</p> <p>1982 Mid-Delta Radio Hour
South Pacific</p> <p>1983 Our Town
Fiddler on the Roof
Life with Father</p> <p>1984 Meet Me at the MAT
Music Man</p> <p>1985 You're A Good Man
Charlie Brown
Chapter Two</p> <p>1986 SRO and Patio Porch
Harvey
Indianola U.S.A.
Gypsy</p> <p>1987 Stranger With Roses
Broadway-Music
of Our Lifetime
The Mikado</p> <p>1988 You Can't Take It With You
Realizing A Dream
Damn Yankees
Greater Tuna
Crimes of the Heart</p> <p>1989 Mame
The Fantastics
The Diary of Anne Frank
Steele Magnolias</p> | <p>1990 Godspell
I Do, I Do!
Frankenstein
The Glass Menagerie</p> <p>1991 Show Stoppers
Under the Yum Yum Tree
Annie
Vanities</p> <p>1992 The Odd Couple-Revival
Plaza Suite
Oklahoma
Lily, The Felon's Daughter</p> <p>1993 Into the Woods
The Rainmaker
Bye, Bye Birdie
Nonsense
Love Letters</p> <p>1994 Little Shop of Horrors
Lend Me a Tenor
Joseph and the Amazing
Technicolor Dreamcoat
Mid Summer Nights Dream
Christmas Show Stoppers</p> <p>1995 Guys and Dolls
Wait Until Dark
The Dining Room</p> <p>1996 Camelot
Crossing Delancy
The Boyfriend
The Nerd
The Best Christmas Pageant
Ever</p> <p>1997 Hello, Dolly
Taffetas
The Trouble with the
Christmas Presents</p> |
|--|--|

MDAA sponsored outstanding touring 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 Opera baritone), the Jackson Symphony Brass, Son Thomas, the pianos of Jeffrey and Ronald Marlowe, Dr. Paul's harpsichord, Barbershop A Capella and various arts council performers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The MDAA Requests

LATECOMERS

If you are a latecomer, we beg your cooperation with our ushers who, in order to minimize disturbance to our patrons, will place you in the most accessible seats until intermission when you will be able to occupy the seats you have reserved.

CAMERAS AND TAPE RECORDERS are strictly prohibited in the theater - please leave them with an usher.

PAGING DEVICES should also be left with an usher. If you are called, the usher will inform you immediately.

NO CELLULAR PHONES.

NO BABES IN ARMS.

SMOKING is prohibited in the theater.

REFRESHMENTS are available during intermission in the lobby only.

NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE THEATER.

TICKETS

Our patrons get an opportunity to reserve their seats over a 2 to 3 day period prior to selling tickets to the general public. Our publicity is given mainly through our local newspaper, The Enterprise-Tocsin, with some radio and TV coverage. Tickets are available at the Indianola Chamber of Commerce office, and office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The telephone number is 887-4454. If for some reason you are unable to attend the performance you have tickets for, please notify the Chamber of Commerce. This will allow us to use these tickets for someone else. Almost all of our performances are sell outs and returning your tickets will prevent empty seats.

MISSION STATEMENT MID-DELTA ARTS ASSOCIATION

Mid-Delta Arts Association is an active theater dedicated to providing Indianola and the surrounding area with live drama, comedy and musical entertainment at the highest level. Created, nourished, and sustained by the Indianola community and the surrounding Delta area, MDAA is committed to excellence in selecting quality productions in keeping with the expectations of our patrons.

HELP WANTED: We always need new actors, actresses, set designers, stage hands, musicians, directors, ushers, sound and light assistants, costume designers, property masters and curtain pullers. Please give serious consideration to being a part of our next production. You would love this wonderful experience!

SUGGESTIONS: We hope you'll pause to give us your suggestions, for YOU the audience are the most important element of the theater. Without audience there is no theater. Please write the name of your favorite play you'd like us to consider for future seasons or any other suggestions which will help us bring you the most enjoyable theater experience possible. Mail these suggestions to P.O. Box 126, Indianola, MS 38751.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



FEBRUARY:

*“An Evening with
Andrew Lloyd Webber”*

APRIL:

“Moon Over Buffalo”



MDAA YOUTH THEATER CAMP

The Mid Delta Arts Association sponsored the first Youth Theater Camp in July of 1997 with 43 students enrolled. Directed by Marsha Wooten and Ramona Mauseth, the five day camp introduced the basics of theater to the youth in grades two through six.

The aspiring actors learned in a “hands on” style various aspects of the theater. They worked through choreography, musical numbers from “Oliver” and “Annie” and costuming from both shows. They learned stage set work, publicity and theater etiquette.

The camp ended with two sell-out performances of “We’re All Stars”, the theme of the week. The Youth Theater Camp contributed to the MDAA Building Fund and became a Patron for 1997-98.

The MDAA Youth Theater Camp sponsored a workshop in November “Rhythm of the Stars” with over 40 participating. This workshop served as a learning session about rhythm and the youth created their own concert with instruments made from everyday items.

Look for details of the 1998 MDAA sponsored Youth Theater Camp in the near future....