

The Barn Players Present...

# Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night For Singing

Music by **Richard Rodgers**

Lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**

Music Arrangements by  
**Fred Wells**

Conceived by  
**Walter Bobbie**

May 11-14, 2023

The Black Box Theatre at The Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center, Overland Park, KS

Featuring: **Whitney Armstrong, Lindsay Day, Tressa Lee,  
Matthew Robison, and Elijah Shafer**

Directed by **Bob Stewart**

Musical Direction by **Michelle Allen McIntire**

Stage Manager  
**DK Evenson**

Choreographer  
**Nancy Kruse**

Assistant Choreographer  
**Tyler Harper**

Costume Designer  
**Patricia Berning**

Technical Director  
**Bill Wright**

Lighting Designer  
**Zach Dulny**

Sound Designer  
**Sean Leistico**

## **Orchestra:**

**Michelle Allen McIntire**, Conductor

Reeds - **Kaytee Dietrich**

Percussion - **Jennifer Wagner**

Cello - **Justin Cowart**

Piano - **Todd Wiley**

Harp - **Deborah Wells Clark**

Piano (May 12) - **Yona Schroeder**

Bass - **Ethan Mulverson**

Drums - **Isiah Sterling**

Special Thanks to JCCC Theatre Department

*Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night For Singing*

Is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals, Inc.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited

# Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night For Singing

## ACT 1

Carousel Waltz (from Carousel)/ So Far (from Allegro)/ It's a Grand Night For Singing.....	
(from State Fair film) .....	Company
The Surrey with the Fringe on the Top (from Oklahoma!).....	Matthew
Stepsisters' Lament (from Cinderella).....	Tressa, Lindsay
We Kiss in a Shadow (from The King and I).....	Elijah
Hello, Young Lovers (from The King and I).....	Company
A Wonderful Guy (from South Pacific).....	Whitney
I Cain't Say No (from Oklahoma!).....	Lindsay
Maria (from The Sound of Music).....	Matthew
Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful? (from Cinderella).....	Tressa
Honey Bun (from South Pacific).....	Elijah, Company
The Gentleman Is a Dope (from Allegro).....	Whitney
Don't Marry Me (from Flower Drum Song).....	Elijah, Matthew, Tressa, Lindsay
I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair (from South Pacific).....	Whitney, Tressa, Lindsay
If I Loved You (from Carousel).....	Lindsay
Shall We Dance? (from The King and I) .....	Tressa, Matthew
That's the Way It Happens (from Me and Juliet) .....	Whitney, Matthew
All at Once You Love Her (from Pipe Dream).....	Elijah, Matthew
Some Enchanted Evening (from South Pacific).....	Company

THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

## ACT 2

Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin' (from Oklahoma!).....	Elijah
Wish Them Well (from Allegro).....	Company
The Man I Used To Be (from Pipe Dream) (Dance arrangements by Wally Harper.).....	
.....	Lindsay, Whitney, Matthew
It Might As Well Be Spring (from State Fair).....	Tressa
Kansas City (from Oklahoma!).....	Company
When the Children Are Asleep (from Carousel).....	Company
I Know It Can Happen Again (from Allegro) .....	Company
My Little Girl (excerpt from Soliloquy, from Carousel).....	Company
It's Me (from Me and Juliet) (Dance arrangements by Wally Harper.).....	Whitney, Matthew, Elijah
Love, Look Away (from Flower Drum Song).....	Matthew
When You're Driving Through the Moonlight (from Cinderella).....	Lindsay, Elijah, Whitney, Matthew
A Lovely Night (from Cinderella).....	Lindsay, Elijah, Whitney, Matthew
Something Wonderful (from The King and I).....	Tressa
This Nearly Was Mine (from South Pacific) .....	Elijah
Impossible (from Cinderella).....	Company
I Have Dreamed (from The King and I).....	Company



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# ARTS

Additional rehearsal facilities provided by **Prairie Baptist Church**, 75<sup>th</sup> and Roe.

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WRITTEN BY

**ZORA HOWARD**

DIRECTED BY

**ILE HAGGINS**

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# RICHARD RODGERS



Richard Rodgers' contribution to the musical theatre of his day was extraordinary, and his influence on the musical theatre of today and tomorrow is legendary. His career spanned more than six decades, his hits ranging from the silver screens of Hollywood to the bright lights of Broadway, London and beyond. He was the recipient of countless awards, including Pulitzers, Tonys, Oscars, Grammys and Emmys. He wrote more than 900 published songs and 40 Broadway musicals.

Richard Rodgers (1902-1979) and Lorenz Hart (1895-1943) wrote their first shows together when both were still students attending Columbia University. Their breakthrough came with the score for a 1925 charity show, *The Garrick Gaieties*, which introduced the classic valentine to their hometown, "Manhattan."

Over the next five years they wrote 15 musical comedies for Broadway and London's West End before relocating to Hollywood in 1930, where they contributed songs and wrote the scores for several movie musicals, most notably *Love Me Tonight*, starring Maurice Chevalier.

In 1935 they returned to New York to write the score for Billy Rose's circus musical *Jumbo*, launching a golden era that included *On Your Toes*, *Babes In Arms*, *I'd Rather Be Right*, *I Married An Angel*, *The Boys From Syracuse*, *Too Many Girls*, *Higher And Higher*, *Pal Joey* and *By Jupiter*. In 1943 the partnership disbanded temporarily when Rodgers collaborated with Oscar Hammerstein II on *Oklahoma!*, but it resumed with a revision of their 1927 hit *A Connecticut Yankee*, which opened on November 17, 1943 – less than a week before Lorenz Hart's death.

For the next two decades Richard Rodgers collaborated exclusively with Oscar Hammerstein II on such musicals as *Carousel*, *Allegro*, *South Pacific*, *The King And I*, *Pipe Dream* and *The Sound of Music*. Collectively, their musicals have garnered dozens of awards, including Pulitzer Prizes, Tonys, Oscars, Emmys, Grammys, and Drama Desk, Drama Critics' Circle, Outer Critics' Circle, Laurence Olivier, and Evening Standard Awards.

*To leap or not to leap,  
that is the question.*



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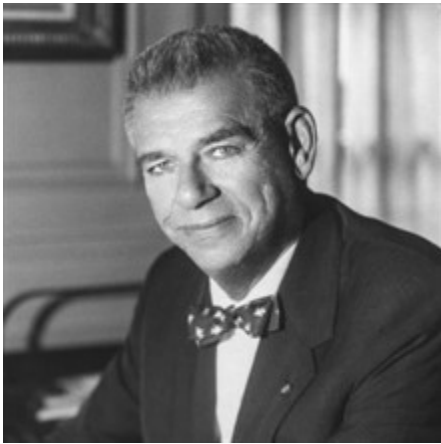
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After Hammerstein's death in 1960, Rodgers continued to write for the musical stage, including *No Strings*, and collaborations with Martin Charnin, Stephen Sondheim and Sheldon Harnick. His fortieth, and final, Broadway musical, *I Remember Mama*, opened on Broadway less than eight months before his death on December 30, 1979.

The Richard Rodgers Theatre on Broadway was renamed in his honor, and Rodgers and Hart were each commemorated on a US postage stamp at the end of the last century.

## OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II



Oscar Hammerstein II was born on July 12, 1895 in New York City. His father, William, was a theatre manager and for many years director of Hammerstein's Victoria, the most popular vaudeville theatre of its day. His uncle, Arthur Hammerstein, was a successful Broadway producer and his grandfather, Oscar Hammerstein, a famous opera impresario.

Hammerstein started writing lyrics for the Columbia University Varsity shows while studying law. His earliest works included musical comedies written with a Columbia undergraduate seven years his junior named Richard Rodgers. (The 1920 varsity show, *Fly With Me*, was composed by Rodgers with lyrics by both Hammerstein and a fellow classmate of his named Lorenz Hart.) Withdrawing from Columbia Law School after his second year to pursue a career in theatre, Hammerstein took a job with his uncle as an assistant stage manager.

In 1919 Hammerstein's first play, *The Light*, was produced by his Uncle Arthur; it lasted four performances. Undaunted, he continued to write both lyrics and librettos, principally with Otto Harbach as his collaborating author. His first success, with Harbach, Vincent Youmans and Herbert Stothart, was *Wildflower* in 1923. Hammerstein found his niche with some of the greatest composers of his day, breathing new life into the moribund artform of operetta with such classics as *Rose-Marie* (music by Rudolf Friml), *The Desert Song* (Sigmund Romberg), *The*

*New Moon* (Romberg), and *Song of the Flame* (George Gershwin). With Jerome Kern, Hammerstein wrote eight musicals, including *Sweet Adeline*, *Music in the Air* and their masterwork, *Show Boat*. His last musical before embarking on an exclusive partnership with Richard Rodgers was *Carmen Jones*, the highly-acclaimed 1943 all-black revision of Georges Bizet's tragic opera *Carmen*.

During the years that Hammerstein was redefining the terms of operetta, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart were challenging the accepted norms of musical comedy with shows that set new standards for wit, sophistication and innovation. The Rodgers & Hammerstein partnership began with *Oklahoma!* (1943). Like Hammerstein's *Show Boat* and Rodgers & Hart's *Pal Joey*, the first Rodgers & Hammerstein musical was a groundbreaking milestone, blending musical comedy and operetta into a whole new genre - the musical play. *Oklahoma!* was also the start of the most successful partnership in Broadway history and was followed by *Carousel*, *Allegro*, *South Pacific*, *The King And I*, *Me And Juliet*, *Pipe Dream*, *Flower Drum Song* and *The Sound of Music*. Rodgers & Hammerstein wrote one musical specifically for the big screen - *State Fair* - and one for television - *Cinderella*. Collectively, their musicals have garnered dozens of awards including: Pulitzer Prizes; Tonys, Oscars, Emmys, and Grammys; and Drama Desk, Drama Critics' Circle, Outer Critics' Circle, Laurence Olivier, and Evening Standard Awards.

As producers, Rodgers & Hammerstein presented plays, musicals and revivals, including John van Druten's *I Remember Mama*, Anita Loos' *Happy Birthday*, Irving Berlin's blockbuster *Annie Get Your Gun*, the national tour of *Show Boat* (1947-49) and six of their own stage musicals (from the Pulitzer-winning *South Pacific* in 1949 to the Tony-winning *The Sound of Music* ten years later). They also produced the motion picture version of *Oklahoma!* and founded their own music publishing firm, Williamson Music (basing the name on the fact that both of their fathers were named William.)

Oscar Hammerstein II was a member of the board of directors of many professional organizations, including the Dramatists Guild and the Screen Writers' Guild. He received many personal honors and awards including five honorary degrees, two Pulitzer Prizes, two Academy Awards and five Tony Awards.

His last musical was *The Sound of Music*, written with Richard Rodgers in 1959; his last song was "Edelweiss," written for that musical during its Boston tryout. Oscar Hammerstein II died at his farm in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, on the morning of August 23, 1960.



In 1995 Hammerstein's centennial was celebrated worldwide with commemorative recordings, books, concerts and an award-winning PBS special, *Some Enchanted Evening*. The ultimate tribute came the following season, when Oscar Hammerstein II had three musicals playing on Broadway simultaneously: *Show Boat* (1995 Tony Award winner, Best Musical Revival); *The King and I* (1996 Tony Award winner, Best Musical Revival); and *State Fair* (1996 Tony Award nominee for Best Score.)

"The Careful Dreamer," a Time Magazine cover story on Oscar Hammerstein II, was published on October 20, 1947. A biography, *Getting to Know Him* by Hugh Fordin, was first published by Random House in 1977. A revised edition of Hammerstein's *Lyrics*, edited by his son William Hammerstein and containing an introductory essay by the lyricist, plus a preface by his protege Stephen Sondheim, was published by Hal Leonard Publishing in 1985.

The Complete Lyrics of Oscar Hammerstein II was published by Alfred A. Knopf in 2008.

## THE BARN PLAYERS BARN KIDS SUMMER PRODUCTION

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PRODUCTION OF

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AND THE  
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Jr.

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LYRICS BY Howard Ashman & Tim Rice  
BOOK BY Linda Woolverton

July 28-30  
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# THE CAST



**Whitney Armstrong** thinks it's grand being back at the Barn. Whitney thinks it's grand that you're here, too. Whitney knows it's grand to be supported by so many grand people, especially her very grand family. Whitney would like to take this opportunity to wish her mother and sister the grandest Mother's Day, and she wishes you a grand night of listening (unless you want to sing along)!



**Lindsay Day** is making her Barn Players debut and is thrilled to be working once again with her Director husband, Bob. She was last seen in TIP's production of *Seussical* (Mayzie LaBird) and The J's production of *Surviving Hitler* (Mama). Lindsay has been in the KC area for close to 7 years and has enjoyed working with this theater community at Theatre in the Park, The J, Leawood, and now The Barn. She and her husband will be producing their first theater production together (*Chess: The Musical*) in October of 2023!



**Tressa Lee** is delighted to be in her second show with The Barn Players! Most recently, she was seen in OCTA's production of *RENT*. It's always been a dream of hers to sing R&H — special thanks to her mother who introduced her to their classic songs as a young child.

# THE CAST



**Matthew Robison** is excited for his first show at The Barn! A graduate of Kansas State in Musical Theatre, he has recently been in MTKC Pro's productions of *White Christmas* and *The Prom*. Some favorite credits include: *Bonnie & Clyde*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *Urinetown*. He would like to thank God, his Mom, Bob and Lindsay, the cast, Gary Green, Jerry Jay Cranford, his step-bros, and most importantly his sister, Emily, for introducing him to the magic that is, theatre.



**Elijah Shafer** is Kansas City born and raised, currently residing in Gladstone. Elijah has been active in theater for over a decade, portraying roles such as Frederic and the Major General in *Pirates of Penzance*, Jimmy Ray in *Bright Star*, Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* and upcoming: Joey in *Sister Act*. When not performing or teaching voice, he splits his free time between fencing, painting, and writing.

# PRODUCTION STAFF



**Bob Stewart (Director/Set Designer)** is making his Barn Players directorial debut. He was last seen at the Barn as Frederick in *Noises Off*. Bob began directing in Sacramento and has directed throughout California including *My Fair Lady* for Oakland Lyric Opera Company, *Three Guys Naked From the Waist Down* at the Tiffany Theater in Hollywood and *Footloose* for Stepping Stone Players where he met his wife Lindsay Day, who is playing Lindsay in this production! Some local shows he directed include *Godspell* for TTIP, *Lost in Yonkers* at the J, *Defying Gravity* for the MET and *No Sex Please, We're British* at OCTA.



**Michelle Allen McIntire (Music Director)** is thrilled to be returning to The Barn to music direct this wonderful show! Her most recent show was The Barn Player's production of Sondheim's *Putting It Together*. Other (fairly) recent Barn credits include *Company*, the pandemic-interrupted *If/Then*, and *Mamma Mia!* When not rehearsing with friends at The Barn, Michelle runs a voice and piano studio in Parkville. I am indebted to and deeply grateful for my loving and very patient family. Thank you to Bob for taking a chance on me and for all of your support, way over and above. What fun this show is! I've had a complete blast.



**D.K. Evenson (Stage Manager)** returns to The Barn having stage managed *Rumors* in 2017. Favorite backstage endeavors include: stage management *The Crucible* (The Barn), *Poor Relations* (OCTA), *Noises Off!* (The Barn), *The King and I* (TTIP); lighting design *Rabbit Hole* (OCTA); set design *Barefoot in the Park* (Wyandotte Players); properties design *The Dinner Party* (OCTA). An advocate for the performing arts, D.K. is a past member of the Boards of Directors for Olathe Civic Theatre Association, Wyandotte Players, and Potluck Productions, where he focused on the business aspect of

the arts. For mom.

# ORCHESTRA



**Kaytee Dietrich, Woodwinds**

**Jennifer Wagoner, Percussion**



**Deborah Wells Clark, Harp**



**Ethan Mulverson, Bass**



**Yona Schroeder, Piano**



COMING IN AUGUST  
FROM THE BARN PLAYERS



# Little Women

MUSIC BY **Jason Howland**

LYRICS BY **Mindi Dickstein**

BOOK BY **Allan Knee**

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY **LOUISA MAY ALCOTT**

DIRECTED BY **Cara Hampton**

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY **Betsy Bledsoe**

**August 11-20**

WEEK 1: FRI, SAT & MON @ 7:30PM / SUN @ 2PM

WEEK 2: THU, FRI & SAT @ 7:30PM / SUN @ 2PM



THE BLACK BOX THEATRE  
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ARTS & HERITAGE CENTER  
8788 Metcalf Ave. Overland Park, KS

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SENIORS (65+) - \$20  
STUDENTS (WITH ID) - \$18  
GROUPS (10+) - \$18

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