

 **PAPÁS** PRESENTS

.....
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

Oklahoma!

.....
JULY 23 - 25
&
JULY 28 - AUG 1
.....

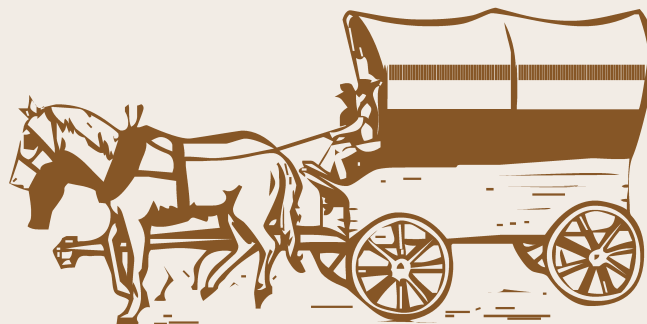
THREE SISTERS PARK
MOONSHINE STAGE
CHILLICOTHE, IL
.....

DIRECTED BY
BRYAN BLANKS
&
DEBRA KAISER
.....





Music by Richard Rodgers
Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Original Choreography by Agnes de Mille
Based on the Play
Green Grow the Lilacs by Lynn Riggs





PROGRAM NOTE

A gun fire sound effect will be used 5 times in this production. The gun used is a fake prop stage gun but does make a very loud noise. The gun will first be used after *Poor Judd is Daid* and again during the fight in the ballet. The gun will also be used during the Act 2 opener- *The Farmer and the Cowman*.

DIRECTORS' NOTES

Bryan and Dedra worked many years to bring their vision of the PAPAS summer institute to fruition. It was their dream to do an intense summer experience in which experts, in a variety of areas, would help the students dig deeper into the process. With that said, it is very rare that youth programs tackle classic musicals. Many audiences and participants, especially the younger generations, see warhorse musicals as “tired” or no longer relevant. However, with the right touch and efforts put forward, the timeless quality of these classic musicals can be brought to life. Oklahoma is an extremely relevant musical in 2021. In the 1950’s, this musical bravely tackled issues such as mental illness, female empowerment, societal roles, and class structure. Over the years, these themes often get lost and watered down. With this in mind, Dedra and Bryan, along with their institute staff and crew, have worked hard to bring the heart of this musical to life in a fun yet honest manner. As we transport back to 1904 out at Three Sisters Park, we hope you find that this American standard still speaks to us today. Finally, Bryan and Dedra would like to thank the parents/guardians of the students who participated in our Summer Institute. Thank you for your continued support of your child's involvement in the arts. Art has the power to change lives.

ACT 1

Scene 1: Farmhouse

- *Oh, What a Beautiful Morning*
- *Surrey with the Fringe on Top*

Scene 2: Train Station

- *Kansas City*

Scene 3: Farmhouse

- *I Cain't Say No*
- *Ensemble Entrance*
- *Surrey with the Fringe on Top (Reprise)*
- *Many a New Day*
- *It's a Scandal! It's an Outrage!*
- *People Will Say We're in Love*

Scene 4: The Smokehouse

- *Pore Jud is Daid (Fake Gun fire used twice after the song)*
- *Lonely Room*

Scene 5: Farmhouse

- *Out of My Dreams*
- *Ballet (Fake Gun Fire Used Twice before Jud and Curly's Fight)*

ACT 2

Scene 1: Skidmore's Ranch

- *The Farmer and the Cowman (Fake Gun fire used once during the song)*

Scene 2: Back of Skidmore's Ranch

- *All Er Nuthin*

Scene 3: A Different Part of Skidmore's Ranch

- *People Will Say We're in Love Reprise*

Scene 4: Persian Goodbye/Oklahoma Hello

Scene 5: Wedding

- *Oklahoma*
- *Finale Ultimo*



Visit our website to Lasso the CAST BIOS!

www.PerformPeoria.com

CAST

Curly: Keaton Weber

Laurey: Keliah Schertz

Aunt Eller: Kayla Harvey and Olivia Sims

Ado Annie: Selah Schertz and Eve Yoder

Will Parker: Colman Kennedy and Joe Meier

Jud: Ethan Foti and Caden Mills

Ali Hakim: Ethan Foti and Zach Foti

Carnes: Gardner Brown

Gertie Cumins: Sophia Barzallo and Ella Yocum

Ike Skidmore: Jacob White

Slim: Brayden Blunier

Fred: Kyle Mulhern

Cord Elam: Brandon Russell

Mike: Aiden Foreman

Joe: Hunter Hawkins

Ballet Twins: Olivia Al-Kayyaly,
Mariam Couri, AnaBel Dawson

Out of My Dream Soloists:

Ailsa Lionberger

Kiera Mitchell

Abigail Rusk

Lily Wegner



July 23, 25, 29, 31

Will Parker: Colman Kennedy

Ado Annie: Eve Yoder

Aunt Eller: Kayla Harvey

Ali Hakim: Zach Foti

Jud: Ethan Foti

Twin: Mariam Couri

July 24, 28, 30, Aug. 1

Will Parker: Joe Meier

Ado Annie: Selah Schertz

Aunt Eller: Olivia Sims

Ali Hakim: Ethan Foti

Jud: Caden Mills

Twin: AnaBel Dawson

July 28, 29, 30, 31

Gertie Cumins: Ella Yocum

July 23, 24, 25 and Aug. 1

Gertie Cumins: Sophia Barzallo

Ensemble

Daniela Barzallo

Carlton Bell

Ryanne Blasek

Becca Blunier

Cate Boley

Nolan Brannon

CaMaya Cotton

Kennedy Custer

Jack Davis

Brylie Detra

Adriana Duran

Daniel Duran

Emma Finney

Mia Franciskovich

Molly Friberg

Ruby Hall

Margot McNutt

Brecken Meiners

Maeve Mitchell

Rey Reynolds

Lindsey Ropp

Sarah Sheckler

Payton Short

Emma Taylor

Olivia Vicary

Quinn Weber

Josh White

Kate Wiegardt

Jaelyn Zoss

Cowboy & Cowgirl Camp Kids

Frankie Boley

Henry Boley

James Boley

Morgan Boone

Noah Bush

Kendall Cowser

Jonah Ducharme

Easton Gingras

Ellie Harr

Emilia Harr

Adara Kaiser

Henry Mills

Penelope Nowlan

Sophia Nowlan

Sammy Pankey

Riley Peck

Connor Schimmel

Ava Taylor



PRODUCTION STAFF

Directors: Bryan Blanks and Dedra Kaiser

Music Director: Andrea Molina

Stage Manager: Erin Pantages

Choreographer: Dedra Kaiser

Set Construction Chair: Josh Sheckler

Costume Chair: Adrienne Yoder

Prop Chair: Julie Duran, Annette Lionberger

Set Design: Chip Joyce, Jen Sheckler, Bryan Blanks

Set Decoration: Jen Sheckler

Sound/Lights: Ryan Wyss of Wyss Productions

Sound Assistant: Mathias Spitzer

Stage Crew: Aidan Kennedy, DeRosa Crawford, Daeton McDonald, Jack Oakford, Claire Yoder

Costume Crew: Janice Harvey, Laurie Hawley, Diane Orr, Wendy Paddock, Marilyn Vieley, Claire Yoder, Eve Yoder

Grounds Crew Chair: Rachel Mitchell

Set Construction Team: Jen Sheckler, Josh and Adrienne Yoder, Todd and Cami Brannon, Julie and Orlando Duran, Jami Hall, Megan Davis, Charlie Boley, Aaron Weber, Nicole Foreman, Annette Lionberger, Greg and Leslie Foti, Marcy Wiegardt, Alivia Taylor

Cowboy & Cowgirl Camp Coordinators: Selah Schertz, Molly Friberg

Program: Anne Kennedy

Box Office Manager: Jimmy Ulrich

Cast Bios: Heather Paddock

Publicity/Okla-Hoedown Committee: Darcy McQuellon, Brain Michael, Jami Hall, Bryan Blanks, Lauren Blasek, Jen Sheckler, and Sarah Oakford

On-Site Nurse and First-Aid: Julie Duran, Melissa Finney

Production Photographer: Stacy Ropp

Production Videographer: Adam Sitton

ORCHESTRA

Flute: Cindy Silver
Clarinet: Mark Filip
Oboe/Bassoon: Colton Wilder
Horn: Christine Vandre
Trumpet: Sarah Long, Heather Maughan
Trombone: Luke Devore
Guitar/Pedal Steel Guitar: Tim Harr
Bass: Walter Lewis
Percussion: Peggy Bonner
Synth: Austin Shaw
Conductor/Piano: Andrea Molina

ORCHESTRA SPONSORS

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Shelley Couri	Rachel Mitchell	Adrienne and Josh Yoder
Cindy Custer	& Family	Evelyn Zoss

Thank you to the following students who sold donuts to raise funds for our orchestra! The top three sellers are designated with a *.

Keaton and Quinn Weber*	Eve Yoder
Aiden Foreman*	Abigail Rusk
Lindsey Ropp*	Adriana & Daniel Duran
Olivia Vicary	Kate Wiegardt
Jack Davis	Becca Blunier
Grace Mathews	Nolan Brannon

WANTED

DIRECTOR BRYAN BLANKS



Bryan is the Assistant Director for PAPAS. By day, Bryan teaches theatre at Pleasant Valley Intermediate School, where he also serves as the director of their Drama program titled, "Actin' Up." Bryan has been directing, choreographing, and performing in the Peoria area for over 16 years. This year will mark his 14th year being the Theater Program Director at St. Vincent de Paul School. Bryan also serves as a board member for the GMB Arts In Education Spring Celebration and is a committee chair for the Big Picture Arts Initiative. Oklahoma holds a special place in Bryan's heart as it is the musical that always seems to find its way back into his life. Furthermore, Bryan would like to dedicate this production to four women, the first being his mentor, the late Carol Wake, to which he dedicates every production he does, on and off-stage. The next three are women who recently passed within weeks of each other. Bryan will forever be grateful for their support in many of his artistic endeavors. He would also like to recognize their contributions to the Peoria Theatre arts community in general. Paula Sapinski, Marty Burgeson, and Julann Condit, thanks for always cheering us on! One of the beautiful components of doing a musical at Three Sisters is that the audience gets to watch the show under the stars. With that said, I have no doubt in my mind the aforementioned women truly have the best seat in the park. Enjoy the show!

APPROACH WITH CAUTION!

WANTED

DIRECTOR DEDRA KAISER



Dedra Kaiser has been a professional freelance choreographer since 1991 working in all styles of dance. Dedra is also a Vocal Music teacher with a degree in Vocal Music Education and owns and operates Peoria Area Performing Arts Studio which offers show choirs, acting classes, A capella choirs, and a Summer Music Theater Institute. Some favorite past roles include Donna (Mamma Mia), Francesca (The Bridges of Madison County), Maria (Sound of Music), Daisy (Side Show), Witch (Into the Woods), and Songs for a New World. As a director, Dedra loves collaborating with other artists and creating a vision as a team. Dedra lives in Morton with her husband, Ben, and four beautiful daughters. www.performpeoria.com

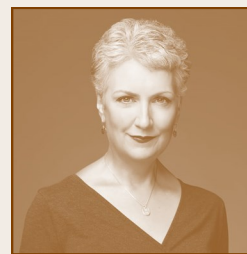
A Note from Dedra:

I have always loved Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Oklahoma." Growing up, we had a VHS copy and I would watch the dance numbers over and over. It was one of my first exposures to musical theater, and I was obsessed. Last summer, when performing "Les Miserables" at Three Sisters, I knew that the Moonshine Stage would be the perfect venue for "Oklahoma." The themes that deal with the roles of women in society and issues of social class are very relevant today. The appeal of bringing to life a classic musical with youth and exploring these themes was very exciting. The beauty of this R & H score has been a treat to rediscover. Bryan and I were also excited to bring on Andrea Molina to the production, who has such breadth of knowledge, to inspire our singers to sing with a live orchestra. I hope you enjoy this beautiful musical as much as I have enjoyed working with these extremely talented students. I am so proud of their work to bring this classic story with energetic dancing and beautiful music to life!

ARMED AND DANGEROUS!

WANTED

MUSIC DIRECTOR ANDREA MOLINA



As a pianist and collaborative artist, Andrea Molina has been an official accompanist for the International Double Reed Society's convention, the NATS Intern Workshop, and the Nashville Symphony Chorus. She has also served as the principal pianist for the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra, Abilene Opera, Opera Quad Cities, the Peoria Ballet, and the Peoria Symphony where she has appeared as a guest soloist. She has been a guest lecturer at the MENC international conference in Costa Rica and continues to give master classes and recitals throughout Europe and North and Central America. Andrea has recorded on the Centaur and New World labels. Currently, she is the principal pianist for the Heartland Festival Orchestra and recently served as guest principal for the Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra.

As a conductor and music director, Andrea Molina has led opera productions and outreach/educational initiatives for Opera New England and Opera Illinois. She served as the conductor and musical director for the Muddy River Opera Company's production of *Madama Butterfly*, which featured internationally acclaimed dramatic soprano Michèle Crider and as the Chorusmaster for the Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre production that was broadcast on Iowa Public Television. Andrea has served on the faculties of the Schlern Music Festival and the Orfeo Music Festival, both in the Italian Alps, where she conducted the festival orchestras and taught collaborative playing. Andrea has enjoyed music directing four years at Corn Stock Theatre with productions of *The Secret Garden*, *Sugar*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Fun Home*, and *Ragtime*. In 2020 she made her Peoria Players Theatre debut with *Kinky Boots*, which won Best of Peoria 2020 in the Musical Theater category.

Currently, Andrea is making "Art that Heals" with her new startup company, Where the River Flows Productions, which explores novel ways of healing the mind and body through storytelling, people making art together, and creating of recordings of acoustic instruments tuned to a harmonic system that promotes healing effects.

CASH REWARD!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Peoria Ballet, PDC, Chris Cassidy, Brain Michael, Darcy McQuellon,
Angie Dorough, Community Children's Theatre,
Corn Stock Theatre, Peoria Players Theatre, Ron Bachman,
Pleasant Valley School District, St. Vincent dePaul School, Theresa Black,
Kristen Whitaker, Edie Wood, Tracy Forck, Anne McNutt, Annette and
John Lionberger, Sarah Boley,
Alex Larson- Fight Choreography,
Abby Palmisano- Institute Instructor,
Mary Ellen Ulrich- Institute Volunteer,
Dick and Janet Watkins- Institute Volunteer,
Lori Baker- Institute Volunteer.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made this possible.



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We know we belong to the land,



and the land we belong to is grand!



UPCOMING PAPAS SHOWS

James and Giant Peach Jr.

Directed by Bryan Blanks

(The same class that brought you Shrek Jr. last year)

- Ages 6-9 and Ages 9-15
- Class starts after Labor day.
- Production will be in April 2022



Summer Institute Musical 2022 T.B.A.

Directed by Bryan Blanks

- Production in June at Peoria Players Theatre
- Auditions will be early and we will work periodically on production numbers so that students will have a break in May.



Summer Institute Musical 2022 T.B.A.

Directed by Dedra Kaiser & Jimmy Ulrich and Music Directed by Andrea Molina

- Choreographed by Dedra Kaiser
- Production in Late July/Early August at Three Sisters Park

