

Acknowledgments

Dick & Grace Thomas, Grand Forks Glass & Paint,
GF Video Transfer, Don's Stereo, Days Inn,
Sue Hoffarth, Penny Kilbride, Mel Hoistad,
Barbara & Ken Carlson, Farm Credit Services
Empire Arts Center Staff, Kathy Jacobs

Coming soon!

OKLAHOMA!

July 28-29 at 8:00 pm at the Chester Fritz
Reserved Seating-- \$10.00 Main Floor, \$7.00 Mezzanine,
\$5.00 Balcony (stop by the Chester Fritz for tickets)

VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE!
www.grand-forks.k12.nd.us/~spa/

COMING SOON AT:
www.spacompany.com

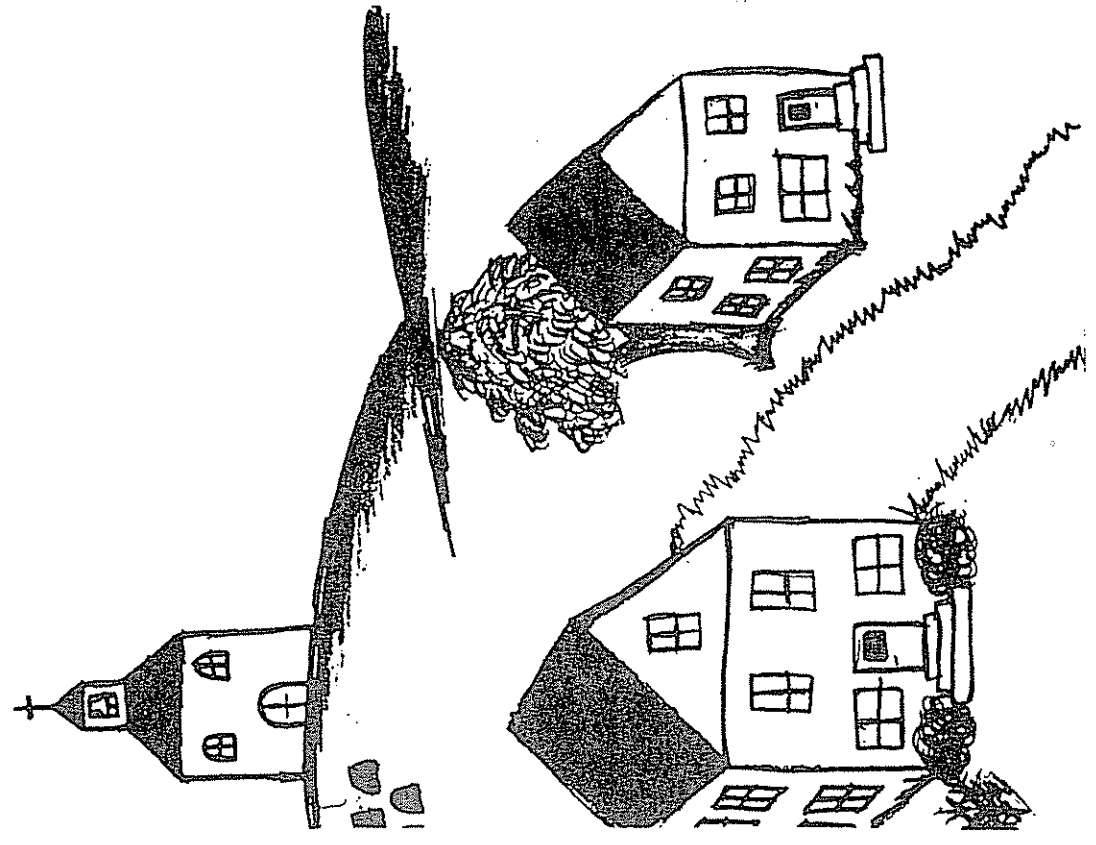
MAILING LIST: If you would like to be on our mailing list for the best seating for productions at Red River or SPA, fill out the form below, tear it out from the program, and drop it in the box in the lobby labeled "Mailing List." No need to fill out if you are already on the list.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

1999 SpA Company Presents: Our Town



Our Town

Numbers following names indicate grade for 1999-2000

Stage Manager..... Karen Klamm 11
 Dr. Gibbs..... Anthony Iwan 10
 Joe Crowell/Si Crowell..... Nick Swingen 8
 Howie Newsome..... Matt Bisenius 8
 Mrs. Gibbs..... Katie Schimmelpfennig 11
 Mrs. Webb..... Rebekah Goering 10
 George Gibbs..... Evin Buckingham 10
 Rebecca Gibbs..... Emily Williams 9
 Wally Webb/Dead Man #2..... Todd Larson 8
 Emily Webb..... Tessa Hansen 11
 Professor Willard/Simon Stimson..... Erin Olson 11
 Mr. Webb..... Tad Ericson 10
 Joe Stoddard/Woman in the Balcony..... Rebecca Olson 7
 Sam Craig/Lady in the box..... Shelly Carlson 10
 Man in Auditorium/Dead Man..... Corey Vodden-Grossman 8
 Dead Woman #1/Baseball Player #1..... Danielle Elbert 11
 Baseball Player #2/Townsperson..... Carol Freestone 9
 Baseball Player #3/Townsperson..... Bobby Freestone 9
 Mrs. Soames/Constable Warren..... Shannon Johnson 10

PRODUCTION CREW

Director..... Leif Olson
 Assistant Director/Tech..... Tom Gillen
 Assistant Director/ Costumes/Make-up..... Kim Sobolik
 Costumes..... Kathy Tretter, Kim Konerza, Amanda Bass,
 Brenna Johnson
 Make-up..... Kaleena Sidelinger, Kathy Gaetz, Allison LaDuke
 Melissa Eylands
 Video..... Jessica Vidden
 Spotlights..... Kyle Johnson,
 Nikolaus Groenewold
 Stage Hand..... Matt Kram
 Sound..... Daniel Dufot
 Cover Design..... Karen Klamm
 Program..... Allison M. Hutchings

SPA DONATIONS 1/1/99 to 7/9/99

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions to the 1999 season. If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact: Dean Opp at 746-2407 ext. 200 or Brad Sherwood at 746-2407 ext. 143.

PRODUCERS CLUB (\$2500 and above)

DIRECTORS CLUB (\$1000-\$2499)

The G.F. Park District's Ulland Grants Program (7), Anonymous (3), Leslie & Patricia Howard (2), The Greater Grand Forks Sertoma Club (2), Sanny Ryan and The Ryan Family Foundation (3), U.S. Bank (2)

STAR CLUB (\$500-\$999)

Dr. John O. Nord D.D.S. (4), Shirley Bostrom (7), Opp Construction/Patio World (Greg & Susan) (7)

TROUPERS CLUB (\$200-\$499)

Dr. Jerry & Annette Smyser (8), H. Douglas Fosse--The Equitable (2), Popplers Music Store (3), Burger King (5), Harold & Ione Gustafson (3), Mr. & Mrs. Ken Sherwood (1), Karen & John Foster (5), Tom & Helen Opp (9), Dr. Roger & Janet Schauer (1), Coffee Company (5), Columbia Mall (4), Swingen Construction (2), Community National Bank (6), Behl's Photography (3), American Federal Bank (7), Ole & Pachó's Mexican Village (1), Roger M. Amundson, D.D.S. (1), Scott's Music Stores Inc. (6), American Family Ins./Brian Larson-Agent (1)

Company Club (Up to \$199)

Thursday Music Club (1), Craig & Cherisse Smyser (1), Everett & Karen Knudsvig (2), Dean & Ruth Midboe (1), Sears (3), Mr. Clint Harstad (2), Greenberg Realty (3), Amundson Family Funeral Home (5), Northern Plumbing Supply (4), Trophy House, Inc. (5), GFG Foodservice, Inc. (5), Rydell Chevrolet GMC, Inc. (4), Laura Jane Paulson (1), Opticare (4), Scheels All Sports (6), McFarlane Sheet Metal (3), Caulfield Studio Inc. (5)

The number in parentheses indicates the number of years the sponsor has donated to SPA.

Additional Sponsors for SPA

The Chester Fritz Auditorium, WDAZ-TV,
 K-Lite/KCNN, Grand Forks Public Schools

How do Your Donations Help?

The Summer Performing Arts Company is a program designed to have something for everyone. Every year the number of students enrolled in SPA has increased, and the size of the program grows to fit these numbers. Continual growth has many benefits, but it also brings many more expenses. That's why donations are such a key element of the SPA program.

Donations are used for many aspects of SPA. A scholarship fund has been established in order to help families with financial needs. We want to make sure that no student is ever turned away due to financial concerns. Donations also provide opportunities for students to work with guest performers. This year we welcomed Sue Anderson and Dean and Cyndee Brown, who offered their creative dramatic assistance to the students.

SPA is an educational program that channels the energy of students into positive creativity and teamwork. These aspects, with a greater appreciation for the arts, help shape students into more active members of the Grand Forks community. At the same time, SPA provides entertainment to the area every summer.

**Remember, any donation will help!
Be a part of the SPA magic!**

Director's Notes

Our Town has been an exciting experience this summer for me because I've been away from SPA for a couple of years, and for SPA because it marks our debut at the Empire Arts Center. Performing in a new space always presents interesting obstacles, but I like to think that we as a cast met each one with the proper amount of thought and creativity. Through all of the obstacles, I think we still had fun getting to the point where you see us tonight. We tried to be as creative as Mr. Thornton Wilder would allow us. Please enjoy the show, and note that there will not be any gunshots during the performance. I would also like to thank the parents and friends who lent us props and the trucks to transport them from Red River to the Empire. Thank You.

Leif Olson

A SPA Tradition

Following tonight's curtain call, there will be a final musical number. The rest of the students in the Summer Performing Arts Company will join the cast to perform "I Sing the Body Electric." This symbolic song ties the entire program together. It has different meanings to different students, but a common theme can be found in the literal text. The students are celebrating not only the arts, but their growth in the arts yet to come. They will go on to create their own tomorrows as they continue in music and theatre. The song also symbolizes the passing of a class. This is the last summer program in which the class of 1998 will be able to participate. This "passing of the tradition" is represented by the two soloists selected to sing. Matt Luney, a senior, will sing the first verse then turn the spotlight over to seventh-grader Maren Tunseth.

"And in time we will all be stars."

David Adams	.....Vocal Staff
Sue Anderson	.....Guest Drama Workshop Instructor
Shelley Bares	.....Vocal Staff
Gail Bass	.....Broadway Babes Costumes
Joel Beyer	.....Director-Music Man/Vocal Staff, Ragtime Revue
Angie Black	.....Choreographer- Oklahomal / Dance Class Instructor
Mike Blake	.....Jazz Class Instructor
Dean and Cyndee Brown	.....Guest Drama Workshop Instructor
Connie Coleman	.....Vocal Staff
Liz Eggers	.....Dimmer Theatre Music Director/Troubadours Music Asst.
Kris EYlands	.....Jazz Class Instructor
Kathy Fiedler	.....Broadway Babes Music Director, Vocal Staff
Megan Fiskum	.....Asst. To Opera Class, Music Man Movement
Chris Fosse	.....Elementary Staff
Leanne French	.....Visual Arts
Pam Galegher	.....Oklahomal Costume Assistant
Carol Getszler	.....Dimmer Theatre Director
Tom Gillen	.....Tech/Director Our Town, Drama Staff
Garrett Gruwell	.....Elementary Staff
Paul Heinecke	.....UND Tech
Jenny Hennes	.....Elementary Staff/Box Office
Dave Henrickson	.....Vocal Staff
Marie Hotvedt	.....Costume Assistant
Allison M. Hutchings	.....Administrative Assistant
Cory Johnson	.....Technical Director/ Class Instructor
Todd Johnson	.....Technical Assistant
Carolyn Koehn	.....Costume Assistant
Judith Koneza	.....Volunteer Coordinator
Kim Koneza	.....Costume Assistant, Office Assistant
Misti Koop	.....Technical Assistant
Loren Leipold	.....Oklahomal Technical Assistant
Megan Melin	.....Elementary Staff, Public Relations
Jonathan Nero	.....Co-Director -Music Man
Leif Olson	.....Director-Our Town
Dean Opp	.....Administrative Director
Sarah Perry	.....Dance Staff
A.J. Peterson	.....Dinner Theatre Music Assistant
Tom Porath	.....Class Instructor
Amy Rogers	.....Voice Instructor
Andrea Rogers	.....Public Relations
Eric and Becky Saari	.....Movement,Directors-Broadway Babes
Kim Schauer	.....Public Relations, Movement-Dinner Theatre
Stephanie Scherrer	.....Costume Assistant-Music Man
Jeff Seabloom	.....Instrumental Music Assistant, Class Instructor
Mike Shea	.....Elementary Staff
Brad Sherwood	.....Program Development
Connie Sherwood	.....Director- Oklahomal
Gail Sherwood	.....Office Assistant
Kim Sobolik	.....Director- Our Town/Drama Staff
Mary Splichal	.....Base Elementary Staff
Andrew Stenehjem	.....Steel Drums Assistant Instructor
Loree Stenehjem	.....Volunteer Coordinator
Kathy Treiter	.....Costume Director
Joe Vacek	.....Photography
Julie Vollrath	.....Public Relations
Dr. Mike Weber	.....Music Director-Oklahomal / Men's Ens./Troubadours
Allison Weisser	.....Music Assistant- Oklahomal
Maria Williams	.....Class Instructor
Tom Winger	.....Elementary Staff
Tom Young	.....Vocal Staff/ Vocal Arts Ensemble, Photography

Please...No Flash Pictures or Recording During Performance!

Synopsis

In the first act the author genially outlines the history of the town, which is Grover's Corners, N.H., and something of the character of the Gibbs and Webb families, substantial homes containing substantial folks. You arrive at breakfast time and are carried through one entire day in the lives of these good people.

The second act concerns the love affair between young George Gibbs and little Emily Webb, and thus culminates in a moving wedding scene, which contains all those elements of poignant sorrow and abundant happiness that make for solemnity and impressiveness.

In the third act we are led to the cemetery on the hill, where many of the townspeople we have come to know so well are patiently and smilingly awaiting not "judgment" but greater understanding. Into their midst is led the bride, a little timid at first, a little wishful to go back to life, to live again with her memories. But she is shown how impossible, how futile it is to return. The past cannot be re-lived. Living people, humans, occupied with their petty occupations and small thoughts, know little of true joy or happiness. Truth is to be found only in the future.

A five minute intermission will follow Act 1 and a ten minute intermission will follow Act 2.