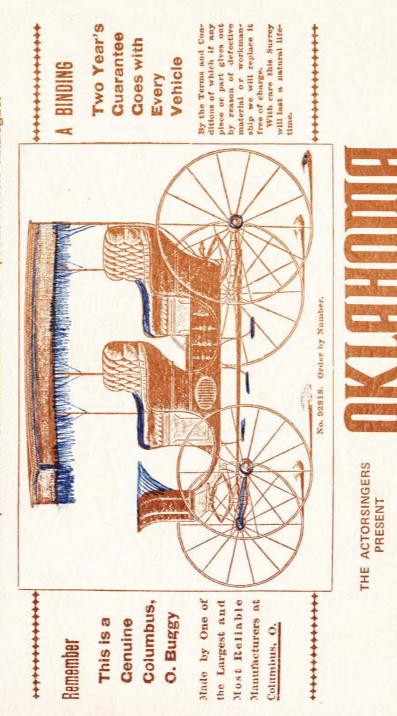


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	Assisted by Joan Frey
MUSIC DIRECTOR	
CHOREOGRAPHER	Assisted by Kay Goranson
ORCHESTRAL CO-ORDINATOR	
STAGEMANAGER	Jill Gluge
ASSISTANT STAGEMANAGER	Warran Tomasian
STAGE CREW	
	Daniel Pelletier
LIGHTING	
SOUND	
SET DESIGN	
SET CONSTRUCTION	REAL MORNERS AND A REAL AND A REA
	Harry Strickland, Warren Tomasian
COSTINAES	Dorothy Fontaine, Assisted by Marjorie
	Thompson, Claire Anderson, Terry Turner,
	Penny Tamulonis, Raelene Harris, Myra Florio,
	Irene D. Batch, Pat Archambeault, Lorraine
	Laroche, Diane Lavoie, May Kingman, Arlene Annis
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	Liljeberg, Ferma Perulo, Al Miller,
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THE ACTORSINGERS

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Welcome you to

OKLAHOMA

THE PLAY

Set in the Midwestern Indian country, at the turn of the century, the musical presents two sets of lovers. It's a yarn that features a villainous character, Jud, (which opened musical comedy to a new aspect), who comes between a cowhand known as Curly and a pretty girl called Laurey. A love triangle between Ado Annie, an Oriental pedlar, and a cowhand named Will provides sticky humorous situations. With an unusual auction, enchanting ballet, and a sad murder, there is, in all the romance, tensions, laughter and drama, the melodic tunes which create OKLAHOMA!

RODGERS and HAMMERSTEIN

Oklahoma was a direct result of Rodgers and Hammerstein becoming a team. Rodgers had been approached by The Theatre Guild of New York, which was suffering a succession of theatrical failures that was bringing their famous producing organization to death, about creating a musical based on Novelist Lynn Riggs' "Green Grow the Lilacs," but Lorenz Hart, Rodgers' partner at the time, felt sure that this particular novel didn't have the makings of a musical. The Theatre Guild's next play simply had to be a success. Rodgers new partner was Hammerstein.

Hammerstein had secretly wanted to convert "Green Grow the Lilacs" into a musical. He had approached Jerome Kern, who turned his request down with the reason that the novel didn't have the makings of a musical. Then Hammerstein found out that The Theatre Guild was negotiating with Rodgers and Hart; Rodgers remembered Hammerstein and Hammerstein remembered Rodgers at the same time. Rodgers paid Hammerstein a visit to his farm in Pennsylvania in 1941, and a "marriage" was performed -- a marriage of words and music.

THE DIRECTORS

John Liljeberg

Oklahoma is the fourth show that John has directed for Actorsingers. The other shows were "Mame", "Oliver" and "Hello Dolly". He recently appeared as Wild Bill Hitchcock in the Theatre Guild's spring production of "Deadwood Dick". John wrote and produced St. Joseph's first variety show, and will be involved with their second show. He also started a "Student Theatre" group for high school students this year.

MUSIC Donna Conway Donna is a graduate of Lowell State's School of Music. This is the first time she has worked with the Actorsingers. She has directed music for two of The Greater Lowell Theatre Company's productions, "Man of LaMancha" and "Oliver". Donna taught Music Education at Fall River before she moved to New Hampshire. She now plans to attend Lowell State's graduate school of music.



PIANIST

David plays the piano, organ and guitar. Only 31, he has had 25 years of playing experience. For seven years he was organist for Christ The King Lutheran Church. Dave was recently accompanist for the Actorsingers Children's show "Winnie The Pooh". He also played for the Theatre Guild's TRY children's show "Sleeping Beauty". Dave has been the rehearsal pianist for other Actorsinger shows.

DRAMATICS



CHOREOGRAPHER

Laura Winslow

David A. Gidge

Laura first appeared with Actorsingers as a dancer in "Oliver". In "Kismet" she was a featured dancer, one of the Three Princesses of Ababu. Laura recently choreographed the Actorsingers children's show, "Winnie The Pooh". Laura studied under E. Virginia Williams at the Boston School of Ballet. She also danced in The Nutcracker with the Boston Ballet Company. Laura has recently done benefit performances for the elderly at a local nursing home.

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THE CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

AUNT ELLER Fran Peterson
CURLY Frank Harvey
LAUREY Michelle Cote
IKE SKIDMORE Bob Frey
WILL PARKER Frank Graham
JUD FRY Warren Liberty
ADO ANNIE CARNES Diane Lavoie
ALI HAKIM Al Bedard
GERTIE CUMMINGS Carol Croatti
ANDREW CARNES Timothy P. Myette
SLIM Myron Kandra



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Bob Frey Ann Murray Jim Murphy Cheryl Powers **Dick Fontaine** Charles Ivanow Carlene Walters Gisele La France Collette Oldham Jim Frost George Szok Dennis Carta Eliese Atkins Royce Johnson Lorraine Graham Lenny Le Clerc Francis Brunelle Cathy Andruskevich

DANCERS

Patricia Allard Connie Hayward Steve Ducharme **Royce Johnson**

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> Joined in November, 1955 First Production: "Bohemian Girl" January 31, 1956 Albin Tamulonis, Arlene Annis, Harold Annis, Jo Millett, Marcelle Houle

> > Joined in January, 1957 Appeared in "Everyman" March 20, 1957 Margaret Tamulonis

Joined in February, 1957 Appeared in "Iolanthe" June 3, 1957 Betty Callahan, Fran Peterson



Top row: Al Tamulonis, Betty Callahan, Marcelle Houle, Bud Annis. Bottom row: Fran Peterson, Margaret Tamulonis, Arlene Annis. Not Shown: Jo Millett.

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT . . .

THE LEADS

FRANK HARVEY

CURLY

FRANK HARVEY -- Frank is a veteran Actorsinger and has had leading roles in many of our productions. He first appeared as the lead, Captain Big Jim Warrington, in "Little Mary Sunshine." Frank has had leads in "South Pacific," "Kiss Me Kate," "Showboat," and "The Student Prince." His most recent appearances with Actorsingers was as Fagin in "Oliver," and Senator Cleghorn in "Finians' Rainbow."

MICHELLE COTE

LAUREY

MICHELLE COTE -- Michelle, as Miss Manchester, 1973, is not a stranger to the stage, but this is her first appearance with Actorsingers. A voice major at Emmanuel College in Boston, she will be attending the Julliard School of Music in the fall. She appeared with the Boston Summer Opera Theatre in "Dido Aneas." Michelle is the President of the New Hampshire Opera Theatre. They produce "The Old Maid and the Thief" May 24th.

THIRTY YEARS OF OKLAHOMA

The New York Times - April 1, 1943, by Lewis Nichols

Wonderful is the nearest adjective, for this excursion of the Guild combines a fresh and infectious gayety, a charm of manner, beautiful acting, singing and dancing, and a score by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, which doesn't do any harm either, since it is their first and one of Rodgers' best.

The New York Times – February 15, 1953

The tenth anniversary of the Broadway opening of Oklahoma will be celebrated on March 31 in Washington, where the Theatre Guild's touring company of the phenomenal musical will be playing at that time. The event also will commemorate another significant occasion: The tenth year of the collaborative partnership of Oscar Hammerstein 2nd and Richard Rodgers, whose inspiration for Oklahoma came from Lynn Riggs' play "Green Grow the Lilacs."

The New York Times - February 28, 1963, by Howard Taubman

A good many of these young people probably were seeing Oklahoma in the flesh for the first time. But don't think it was new to them. One of my young neighbors happily hummed through most of the score in company with the performers. His humming was so discreet and he seemed so contented, I could not find it in my heart to be annoyed.

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT . . .

DIANE LAVOIE

ALSO STARRING

ADO ANNIE

DIANE LAVOIE -- Diane has been absent from Actorsinger productions for the last four shows. She first appeared as a "fallen angel" in "Anything Goes." Audiences will remember her as the enthusiastic member of the chorus in "Mame." Her last appearance with us was as Nancy in "Oliver." Diane is a third grade teacher at Main Dunstable Elementary School.

FRANK GRAHAM

WILL PARKER

FRANK GRAHAM -- Frank has been a regular member of Actorsinger productions since he first appeared as the Baron in "The Gypsy Baron" twelve years ago. He also appeared as Nicely Nicely Johnson in "Guys and Dolls," and has appeared in the choruses of many other shows. Frank has sung in many local church choirs, and had a part in the Christopher Players original production of "Paint Your Wagon."

OKLAHOMA - A FINANCIAL LEGEND

The obtaining of the needed capital (\$83,000.00) for Oklahoma became a theatre legend. Most of those who did make a financial investment did so out of friendship for Miss Helburn, or, out of indebtedness to the Theatre Guild because they had either participated in it or belonged to it. It was discovered afterwards that after they had given the money, they felt they were "throwing their money to the wind."

In 1955, a Todd Screen Production of Oklahoma was released and grossed about \$8,000,000.00 in the United States. Oklahoma yielded a profit of over five million dollars on its original investment of \$83,000.00 Each reluctant investor of \$1,500.00 was compensated with a return of more than \$50,000.00.

Oklahoma received a special award from the Pulitzer Prize Committee, because this musical introduced to the recording industry the now standard practice of issuing an entire score of a musical success on phonograph records -the old 78's. Over a million such albums were marketed in one year.

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> For further information on becoming a patron, please contact: Richard M. Connor – Patron Chairman 10 Royal Crest Drive Nashua, New Hampshire 03060

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CREDITS

The Actorsingers would like to extend a special thanks to the following. Without their interest and support "Oklahoma" would not have been possible.

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TIME: Just After The Turn Of The Century

ACT ONE

SCENE I: - The Front Of Laurey's Farmhouse

"Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin' -Curly, Laurey, Aunt Eller

"Kansas City" - Will, Aunt Eller and the Boys

"I Can't Say No" - Ado Annie

"Many A New Day" - Laurey and the Girls

"It's A Scandal! It's An Outrage!" - Curly and Laurey

SCENE II: - The Smoke House

"Pore Jud" - Curly and Jud

"Lonely Room" - Jud

SCENE III: - A Grove On Laurey's Farm

"Out Of My Dreams" - Laurey and the Girls

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PLACE: Indian Territory (Now Oklahoma)

ACT TWO

COTE

GRAHAM

BEDARD

PETERSON

SCENE I: - The Skidmore Ranch

"The Farmer And The Cowman" -Carnes, Aunt Eller, Curly, Will Ado Annie, Slim and Ensemble "All er Nuthin" - Ado Annie, Will and Two Dancing Girls

SCENE II: - Skidmore's Kitchen Porch Reprise: "People Will Say We're

In Love" - Curly and Laurey

SCENE III: - The Back of Laurey's Farmhouse

"Oklahoma" - Curly, Aunt Eller, Ike, Fred and Ensemble

"Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin" -Laurey, Curly and Ensemble

Finale - Entire Company

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

WARREN LIBERTY

THE VILLAINS

JUD FRY

WARREN LIBERTY -- Warren, for Nashua audiences with long memories, is switch hitting. He played Curley in the Christopher Players' production of "Oklahoma." Warren also appeared with them as Steve in their original production of "Paint Your Wagon." He has not appeared with Actorsingers since "H.M.S. Pinafore." He is a graduate of the Ed Williams School of Broadcasting. and has been involved with both radio and TV production.

AL BEDARD

ALI HAKEM

AL BEDARD -- Al appears frequently on local stages, with the Actorsingers, the Christopher Players, Salem's Town and Country Playhouse, and Milford's Playhouse 101. In Milford he appeared as one of the fathers in the "Fantastics." In Salem he played Benny Southstreet in "Guys and Dolls," and as the innkeeper in their production of "Fiddler on the Roof." He recently starred as Ben Rumson in the Christopher Players new production of "Paint Your Wagon." Actorsinger audiences have most recently seen him in "Finian's Rainbow," "Kismet," and "Fiddler."

OKLAHOMA: NEW LIFE FOR THE N.Y. THEATER GUILD

Theresa Helburn, the New York Theatre Guild executive who had conceived the project in the first place, because of possible bankruptcy, thought the musical idea might become excellent art, but also had fears that it could also be a financial calamity. All around Broadway, the new Theatre Guild musical was known as "Helburn's Folly."

However, the play was the start of stardom, after a time, for then unknowns; for example: Celeste Holm (Ado Annie), Shelly Winters (dream dancer), Joan Roberts (Laurey), Betty Garde (Aunt Eller), Howard da Silva (Jud), and Owen Martin (Cord Elam).

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FRANCES PETERSON

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

ALSO FEATURING

AUNT ELLER

FRANCES PETERSON -- Fran needs very little introduction to Actorsinger audiences. She has appeared in leading roles in many of our productions, from the "Gypsy Baron" to her recent starring role in "Mame." When not directly in the limelight, she has lent lustre to Actorsinger choruses. Fran has had three years professional experience in repertory theatre, and has appeared professionally as a soloist in many local churches.

TIMOTHY P. MYETTE

ANDREW CARNES

TIMOTHY P. MYETTE -- Tim is appearing for the first time with Actorsingers. This is not, however, his first appearance on stage. He was a member of the Newport (Rhode Island) Players Guild, and had the lead in their production of "Inherit the Wind." Tim took courses in acting at the Sherborne School in Newport. In Methuen he appeared with the Garret Players in "Little Mary Sunshine."

CAROL CROATTI

GIGGLING GERTIE

CAROL CROATTI -- Carol is appearing in her first featured role with Actorsingers, but she is a veteran performer with us. Carol has sung in the choruses of "The Student Prince," "Oliver," "Hello Dolly," and most recently in "Kismet." She has had experience singing with the choir of the Church of the Good Shepherd. Carol sang lead in a Sweet Adeline quartet in Massachusetts.

IRENE D. BATCH

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

IRENE D. BATCH -- Irene is one of the people whose presence or absence makes a show possible or impossible. Her backstage presence has been making Actorsinger shows possible since "Guys and Dolls." Oklahoma is the fourth show in which she has been production coordinator. The others were "Fiddler on the Roof," "Kismet" and "Anything Goes."

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20

With the end of Actorsingers current production, this organization will have presented forty-six shows to Nashua audiences in thirty-nine productions.

THE MIKADO (Gilbert & Sullivan)June 7, 8, 1955 THE BOHEMIAN GIRL (Balfe)January 31, February 1, 1956 THE TELEPHONE (Menotti)May 22, 23, 1956	
LADIES OF THE MOP (Harris) May 22, 23, 1956	
TRIAL BY JURY (Gilbert & Sullivan) May 22, 23, 1956	
NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Victor Herbert)November 12, 13, 1956	
EVERYMAN (Morality Play)	
ABRAHAM & ISAAC (Morality Play)April 17, 1957	
TOTENTANZ (Morality Play)April 17, 1957	
IOLANTHE (Gilbert & Sullivan)June 3, 5, 1957 CHIMES OF NORMANDY (Planquette)November 11, 1957	
THE SORCERER (Gilbert & Sullivan)	
THE LANTERN MARRIAGE (Offenbach)	
SWEETHEARTS (Victor Herbert)November 18, 20, 22, 1958	
GONDOLIERS (Gilbert & Sullivan)	
YEOMEN OF THE GUARD (Gilbert & Sullivan)November 17, 19, 21, 1959	
COX & BOX (Burnand & Sullivan)June 1, 2, 4, 1960	
IN THE SUDS (Barnard & Hewitt)	
THE UNMUSICAL IMPRESSARIO (Davis)	
LA PERICHOLE (Offenbach)	
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE (Gilbert & Sullivan)	
THE GYPSY BARON (Johann Strauss, Jr.)November 14, 17, 18, 1961	
TRIAL BY JURY (Gilbert & Sullivan)May 26, June 1, 2, 1962	
H.M.S. PINAFORE (Gilbert & Sullivan)May 26, June 1, 2, 1962	
THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS (Matthews) December 2, 1962	
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE (Besoyan)	
PRINCESS IDA (Gilbert & Sullivan)November 15, 16, 1963	
NEW MOON (Sigmund Romberg) May 22, 23, 24, 1964	
WINTER CONCERTJanuary 9, 10, 1965	
BRIGADOON (Lerner & Lowe) May 14, 15, 21, 22, 1965	
KISS ME KATE (Cole Porter) December 3, 4, 1965	
SOUTH PACIFIC (Rodgers & Hammerstein)November 18, 19, 1966	
ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (Irving Berlin)	
DESERT SONG (Sigmund Romberg)October 20, 21, 1967	
GUYS AND DOLLS (Swerling & Burrows)May 17, 18, 1968 SHOWBOAT (Jerome Kern)November 15, 16, 1968	
SHOWBUAT (Jerome Kern)	
ANYTHING GOES (Cole Porter)	
HOLIDAY SHOW December 28, 1969	
MAME (Jerry Herman)	
FINIAN'S RAINBOW (Lane and Harburg)November 20, 21, 1970	
OLIVER (Lionel Bart)	
HELLO DOLLY (Jerry Herman)November 19, 20, 21, 1971	
KISMET (Wright & Forrest)	
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Jerome Robbins)November 17, 18, 19, 1972	

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Since January 1956 the Actorsingers have presented two musicals per year to appreciative audiences in Nashua. In that time the membership has more than tripled. Statistics show that groups of this nature usually have a life-span of seven years, and its existence today is a testimonial to the organization's popular acceptance by local theatre goers.

Actorsingers represent diverse occupations, nationalities and ages. Versatility is a key word for membership since most members are called upon to share in the many phases of the theatre: performing before the footlights; designing and building scenery; manning the lighting system; directing music, drama and choreography; creating and fabricating costumes; applying make-up; coordinating productions; gathering props; distributing and selling tickets; issuing publicity and even keeping the coffee urn perking for rehearsal and production "breaks" -- all of which contribute to the success of the final presentation.

Nashua audiences have applauded and occasionally have given standing ovations to musicals which have run the full scale: from Gilbert & Sullivan to the "schmaltz" of Victor Herbert, from Christmas concerts to recent Broadway shows; each vehicle presenting a new challenge and evoking fresh talent.

In the spring of each year the Junior Actorsingers, a group of children of the members and patrons, from the third grade through the eighth grade, perform in an operetta. High school students work backstage during these productions. Recently the children have appeared with the adult group, as in "Oliver".

Incorporated in 1961, the group is non-profit and non-denominational. Several scholarships have been made available to high school graduates, who intend to pursue a career in music or drama. Periodically, sizeable donations are made from proceeds of a show to deserving organizations.

If you would like to join the Actorsingers as a member, further information and applications may be obtained from:

> Millie Wright, Membership Chairman 2 Hidden Trail Nashua, N.H. 03060

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