

# PRESENTED BY THE HESSTON COLLEGE MUSIC AND THEATRE DEPARTMENTS

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S

# A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING



THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH R&H THEATRICALS

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II CONCEIVED BY WALTER BOBBIE

#### COMPANY

Elizabeth Arriaga, Seth Baker Gavin Betzelberger, Tony Brown Nicki Coblentz, Erin Hershberger Kendra King, Adam Larson Bethany Miller, Karissa Miller Christine Schweitzer, Katie Wahl, Brad Williams

#### A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING

Sounds of the Earth/Opening Medley Surrey With the Fringe On Top Stepsisters' Lament We Kiss In A Shadow Hello Young Lovers I'm In Love With A Wonderful Guy I Cain't Say No Maria Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful Love Look Away The Gentleman Is A Dope Many A New Day/I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair If I I oved You Shall We Dance That's the Way It Happens Act I Finale/Some Enchanted Evenina

#### **10-Minute Intermission**

Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin' Wedding Sequence The Man I Used To Be It Might As Well Be Spring Parent Medley Honey Bun When You're Driving Through the Moonlight/A Lovely Night It's Me Something Wonderful This Nearly Was Mine Impossible/I Have Dreamed

# MUSIC DIRECTOR

Matt Schloneger

#### STAGE DIRECTOR

Megan Tyner

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager — Megan Tyner Lightboard Operator—Stephanie Friesen Light Design—Doug Peters Set Construction—Drama Participation Class, Elizabeth Arriaga, Kendra King Bethany Miller, Christine Schweitzer

## BAND

Band Leader/Rehearsal Accompanist—Ken Rodgers Keyboard—Linea Bartel Flute/Piccolo/Alto Flute—Vada Snider Flute 2—Naomi Tice Clarinet/Sax—John Banman Bass—Sam Hershberger Percussion—Brad Shores, Jaimie Shores

## SPECIAL THANKS

Jerry Peters, Rob Tierney



# MUSIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When A Grand Night for Singing opened on Broadway in 1993, it marked the first time that the songs of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II had been presented on Broadway in a revue format, more than thirty years after the duo's final collaboration. It has been speculated that one reason for the delay was that so many Rodgers & Hammerstein songs connect so directly with the stories they tell and are so imbedded in our culture that it becomes difficult to envision them out of context. Perhaps another reason is that these classic tunes sometimes seem sappy and out of touch with the edgy realism today's audiences so often expect. In A Grand Night for Singing, however, Walter Bobbie has arranged more than 30 of Rodgers & Hammerstein's songs into a catchy new format that follows the timeless seasons of love, using themes with which we can all identify. Absent are some of the most famous tunes, like "You'll Never Walk Alone", "I Whistle A Happy Tune" and every song from The Sound of Music except "Maria" (which in this case is not sung by a chorus of nuns, but by a love-sick tenor). Included are some great songs from lesser known shows like Allegro, The Flower Drum Song, and Me and Juliet, and unique new arrangements of classics like South Pacific's "Honey Bun" and "Wash that Man Right Outta My Hair". These songs touch us with lyrics that we may not have realized were so personal when we heard them in their original settings. Together in their new context, A Grand Night for Singing reminds us that these great songs are as timely and engaging as ever. The 1993 show took Broadway by storm, and was nominated for two Tony awards, including Best Musical.

Tonight's production includes all but a few of the songs from the Broadway version of *A Grand Night for Singing*. While the original production had only five actors, our production includes thirteen to allow more opportunities for our students (and some faculty and staff who we are thrilled have joined us!). We're also excited to mount this production with the support of a full band led by Ken Rodgers (no relation to Richard!) at the piano. We hope you enjoy today's performance—it Is a grand night for singing!