



Program Notes

Moonface Martin aid Billy in his quest to win Hope. The musical introduced such songs as *Anything Goes*, *You're the Top*, *Blow, Gabriel, Blow* and *I Get a Kick Out of You*.

Four versions of the libretto of Anything Goes exist: the original 1934 libretto, the 1962 revival libretto, the 1987 revival libretto, and the 2011 revival libretto. The story has been revised, though all involve similar romantic complications aboard the S.S. American and feature the same major characters. The score has been altered, with some songs cut and others reassigned to different scenes and characters, and augmented with various Porter songs from other shows, including *Friendship* and *It's De-Lovely*.

The original Broadway production of 1934 starred Ethel Merman as Reno Sweeney. The 1962 Off-Broadway edition starred Hal Linden as Billy Crocker. In 1987, the production starring Patti LuPone and Howard McGillin won the Tony for Best Broadway Musical Revival. The current Broadway revival opened in 2011 and features Sutton Foster (*Tony winner*) and Joel Grey. It is currently playing at the Stephen Sondheim Theater. A national tour of the current production will begin this fall.

The Pirates of Penzance; or, *The Slave of Duty* is a comic opera in two acts, with music by Arthur Sullivan and libretto by W.S. Gilbert. The opera's official premiere was in New York City on December 31st, 1879, where the show was well received by both audiences and critics. After its London debut in 1880, the opera ran for another 363 performances in England that year.

The story is set on the coast of Cornwall, at the time of Queen Victoria's reign. Frederic, the story's main character, is celebrating his twenty-first birthday and what he thinks will be the end of a long apprenticeship to a gentlemanly band of pirates. As Frederic prepares to leave the pirate band, he devotes himself to the extermination of piracy, and invites his comrades to give up piracy and to go with him so that he need not destroy them. The Pirate King reflects that piracy is an honest vocation compared with respectability (*Oh, Better Far to Live and Die*).

A group of girls, wards of Major-General Stanley, arrive on the scene to have a holiday (*Climbing Over Rocky Mountain*). One of them, Mabel, is the daughter of Major-General Stanley. Mabel and Frederic take an interest in each other and fall instantly in love; Frederic renounces his "vile profession" (*Stop, Ladies, Pray*) and Mabel confesses her loyalty and devotion (*Poor Wandering One*). The other girls are seized by the pirates and threatened with immediate marriage. When the Major-General finally arrives (*I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General*), he frees the girls by lying to the pirates, saying that he is an orphan, hoping they will pity him.

The Pirate King returns to tell Frederic that he is bound to the pirates until his twenty-first birthday and that, since he was born on February 29th of a leap year, he has actually had only five birthdays. Bound by his sense of



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duty, Frederic feels he must rejoin the pirates, which will require him to serve for another 63 years! Frederic is comforted when Mabel agrees to wait for him.

Frederic tells the pirates of the Major-General's deception, and they vow revenge (*A Rollicking Band of Pirates We*). When the pirates seize the Major-General, the police command the pirates to relent and retreat, which they do (*When the Foeman Bares His Steel*). When reminded that the pirates are but, "noblemen who have gone wrong," the Major-General pardons them and allows them to marry his wards in the end.

For over a century, Arthur Sullivan's effective use of patter, melodic counterpoint and coloratura vocal lines coupled with W.S. Gilbert's humor and witty lyricism has established *The Pirates of Penzance* as one of the most influential, parodied and performed works of music theater.

Jersey Boys is a documentary-style presentation of the story behind the origin of the band, "The Four Seasons." While set in two acts, the musical adopts a clever formal design dividing the show into the four seasons, with each season narrated by one of the band members.

Act I begins with the spring season, and is narrated by Tommy DeVito. Like the opening to the musical, our performance this evening begins with *December 1963*. DeVito describes the story of how he, his friend Nick Massi, and the very young Frankie Valli (then Frankie Castellucio) all began working together. At this point, three of the original four members are in place. Then the second half of Act I continues with summer, which is narrated by the eventual fourth member of the band, Bob Gaudio. Gaudio describes how he met the members of the group after attending a performance with mutual friend, Joe Pesci. He then describes how he auditioned for the group afterwards, solidifying the fourth spot in "The Four Seasons." Now with all four members in place, the group began its successful run releasing hits like *December 1963*, *Sherry* and *Walk Like A Man*.

Act II begins with the fall season and Nick Massi narrating. Despite their professional successes, personal issues begin to tear at the fabric of the band. Massi describes conflicts with members of the group and even a situation where Tommy DeVito has to stay in Vegas to pay debts owed to the mob, while the rest of the band continues to tour and perform throughout the country. In addition, personality conflicts arise which eventually lead to Nick Massi's departure (*Let's Hang On/Stay*).

Despite these obstacles, Frankie Valli informs the audience as he narrates the final season of Act II, Winter, that the group is more popular than ever. Songs like *Making My Way Back to You* and *Can't Take My Eyes Off of You* top the charts, and the group changes its name to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons at the request of band member Bob Gaudio.



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The show concludes with the original four members at their 1990 appearance at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame (*Let's Hang On*). There they were inducted into the hall of fame and honored for creating music that has lasted throughout generations. Here at FCCC we hope that you can share that appreciation for their contribution to the American musical genre we call Rock & Roll.

Special Thanks

The FCCC Auction Committee would like to thank the following parents and friends who contributed their support to our children in this 2012 auction process.

Special thanks to:

Tracy Brockman-Diaz, Kathy & Bob Clair, Jillian Korte, Hillary Mandell, Cindy Mindell, Marie Mondesir, Colleen Murphy, Sarah Noyes, Leslie Palmer, Clare Pernice, Dianne Quagliariello, Wendy Rauch-Serino, Ellen Waugh, Paula Landesberg, Trudi Durrell, Joann Marino, Bernadette Thottam, Barbara Brauner, Mirielle & Joe Bovine.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed donations and items this year. And we thank all those who supported the FCCC by bidding on our many auction items! We thank each of you from the bottom of our hearts for a great team effort!

Additional Thanks to:

Bull's Head Market (Norwalk & Stamford)
for providing tablecloths for the auction.

Sharon Giannicchi
2012 Auction Chair



For audition and ticket information, call



Fairfield County Children's Choir

P.O. Box 110588 Trumbull, CT 06611 • (203) 414-4292 • www.SingFCCC.org

Fairfield County Children's Choir
Jon Noyes, Music Director & Founder presents

An Evening of Broadway Highlights

Saturday, February 4, 2012 7:00pm
Silent Auction and Refreshments beginning at 5:30pm
Norwalk Concert Hall • Norwalk, CT

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Norwalk Concert Hall

NORWALK, CT

The Performers

The Choristers of the Fairfield County Children's Choir

Jon Noyes
MUSIC DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER

Lisa Bettke, Kevin Cotellese, Cynthia Gisela Holberg
CONDUCTORS

Lisa Bettke & Todd Simmons
PIANO

Todd Simmons & Kevin Cotellese
SYNTHESIZER

Rodger Bryan
BASS

Peter Hohmeister
PERCUSSION



Medley from *Oklahoma!*

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II • Music by Richard Rodgers

Conducted by Jon Noyes

Oh What a Beautiful Mornin'Morgan Morse & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

The Surrey With the Fringe On Top . . .Bari Lipper

Kansas CityBlaise Carter & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

People Will Say We're In LoveCharlotte Weber & Morgan Morse

OklahomaThe Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Medley from *Anything Goes*

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter

Conducted by Lisa Bettke

Anything GoesFiona Carter, Sage Factora, Tara Kotulsky,

Maddie McDermott, Kallie Meehan,
Aleksandra Suvorova, Abi Varsos, Maddie Wechsler
& the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

You're the TopLilly Boyd, Emily Chizmadia, Annie Huber, Melanie

Nelson, Sarah Quagliariello and Vandy Sampson

I Get A Kick Out of YouVictoria Conaway

Blow, Gabriel, BlowAnna Giannicchi & the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

It's De-LovelyKelvin Alvarez & Rajané Brown

FriendshipSarah Hindenach and Daniela Mayer

Anything Goes (*Reprise*)The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

INTERMISSION

Visit the Auction

Medley from *The Pirates of Penzance*

Music by Arthur Sullivan and Lyrics by W.S. Gilbert

Conducted by Cynthia Gisela Holberg

Oh, Better Far to Live and DieAaron Levy as *The Pirate King* with the

PIRATE ENSEMBLE: Kelvin Alvarez, Jared Bovine,
Lazarus Brown, Blaise Carter, Christopher Conaway,
Stephen Kelly, Dylan Levinson, Mark Lichtman,
Martin Menz, Morgan Morse & Dylan O'Brien



Climbing Over Rocky MountainMAIDEN ENSEMBLE: Amelia Barrow, Catherine Clair,

Brenna Conroy, Eliza Elliot, Evelynne Fulda,
Carly Georgen, Kelsey Llewellyn, Sarah Mickool,
Hannah Olshansky, Katie Owens, Cassie Robinson,
Anika Vanderwal & Sarah von Euler

Stop, Ladies, PrayLazarus Brown as *The Pirate Apprentice* with the
MAIDEN ENSEMBLE: Amelia Barrow, Catherine Clair,

Brenna Conroy, Eliza Elliot, Evelynne Fulda,
Carly Georgen, Kelsey Llewellyn, Sarah Mickool,
Hannah Olshansky, Katie Owens, Cassie Robinson,
Anika Vanderwal & Sarah von Euler

Poor Wandering OnesCatherine Clair as *Mabel* with
the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

I Am the Very Model of a

Modern Major-GeneralJared Bovine as *Major-General Stanley* with
the Combined Choirs of the FCCC

A Rollicking Band of Pirates WePOLICE AND PIRATE ENSEMBLE: Kelvin Alvarez,
Jared Bovine, Lazarus Brown, Blaise Carter,
Christopher Conaway, Stephen Kelly,
Dylan Levinson, Aaron Levy, Mark Lichtman,
Martin Menz, Morgan Morse & Dylan O'Brien

When the Foeman Bares His Steel . . .The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Medley from *Jersey Boys*

Book by Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice

Music by Bob Gaudio and Lyrics by Bob Crewe

Conducted by Kevin Cotellese

December 1963 (*Oh What a Night*) . .Dylan O'Brien and The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Working My Way Back to YouAmanda Violone and The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Stay/Let's Hang OnKatherine Waugh and The Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Can't Take My Eyes Off of YouDylan Levinson and Cassie Robinson

Who Loves YouThe Combined Choirs of the FCCC

Program Notes

Welcome to the Annual Broadway Concert and Silent Auction of the Fairfield County Children's Choir. We are sure you will enjoy the music presented here tonight and we also hope you will find our auction items to be interesting and exciting. Thank you for attending the concert, bidding on the auction items and supporting the programs of the Fairfield County Children's Choir.



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Musical theater, one of the most popular forms of entertainment of stage and screen, evolved from a marriage of operetta and the British, European and American music hall acts of the early days of the 1900's. It came into its golden age on Broadway in the mid-20th century, with composers such as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, Leonard Bernstein, Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe creating many memorable masterpieces. These productions are a treasure trove of irresistible songs loved and embraced by the public. In addition, Broadway show tunes are an important part of the cultural heritage of America and tonight we are thrilled to perform selections from **Oklahoma!**, **Anything Goes**, **The Pirates of Penzance** and **Jersey Boys**.

Oklahoma! is the first musical written by the team of composer Richard Rodgers and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II. The musical is based on Lynn Riggs' 1931 play, *Green Grow the Lilacs*. The original Broadway production opened on March 31, 1943. It was a box-office smash and ran for an unprecedented 2,212 performances, later enjoying award-winning revivals, national tours, foreign productions and an Academy Award-winning 1955 film adaptation.

Set in Oklahoma Territory outside the town of Claremore in 1906, it tells the story of cowboy Curly McLain and his romance with farm girl Laurey Williams. A secondary romance concerns cowboy Will Parker and his flirtatious fiancée, Ado Annie.

It is a radiant summer morning. Curly comes to call with a serenade, (*Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'*). When Curly grandly offers to take Laurey to the Box Social that evening, she doubts that he can escort her in proper style (*The Surrey with the Fringe on Top*). At the train station in Claremore, Will Parker receives a hero's welcome upon his return from *Kansas City*. While there he won enough prize money at the rodeo -- \$50! -- to earn the hand of Ado Annie, whose strict Pa, Andrew Carnes, wasn't going to let Will marry his daughter without cash up front. Laurey and Curly are still tentative with each other, but they admit that folks are beginning to talk (*People Will Say We're in Love*). Three weeks later, Curly and Laurey are married and all celebrate the happiness of impending statehood (*Oklahoma!*).

Written in 1934, **Anything Goes** is a musical with music and lyrics by Cole Porter. The original book was a collaborative effort by Guy Bolton and the English humorist, P.G. Wodehouse, heavily revised by the team of Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. The story concerns madcap antics aboard an ocean liner bound from New York to London. Billy Crocker is a stowaway in love with heiress Hope Harcourt, who is engaged to Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Nightclub singer Reno Sweeney and Public Enemy #13