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(Neb.)-Stage At Chadron State College Transforming To 'Little Shop Of Horrors'



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/02/2012 09:37 AM

(CHADRON)-Chadron State College's theatre program is bringing in a man-eating plant to help open its 2012-2013 production schedule. CSC students, under the direction of Roger Mays, will present "Little Shop of Horrors," the story made popular as a cult classic B-movie in the 1960s. The play will run Thursday through Saturday, October 4th-6th, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, October 7th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall auditorium.

Mays said the play, despite its name, is much less of a horror than a "wildly vivid cartoon." He describes it as "very PG," suitable for a general audience.

The story centers on hapless florist shop worker Seymour, played by Derek Phelps of Sidney, Neb., who raises the plant that feeds on human blood. Also prominent in the play are Willis Miller of Deer Trail, Colo., who plays the part of the dentist and six other roles, and Ashley Rushman of Gurley, Neb., who portrays Audrey, the object of Seymour's desires.

Other cast members are Becci French of Alliance, Neb., Rian Mamula of Box Elder, S.D., Lauren Morris of Loveland, Colo., Zachary Henderson of Douglas, Wyo., and James Steele of Lincoln, Neb.

The original "Little Shop of Horrors" was directed by Roger Corman, the Academy Award winner who gained acclaim for his work on B-movies. The music, which will be led by an orchestra, is composed by Alan Menken in the style of early 1960s rock 'n' roll, Doo-wop and early Motown. The selections include several well-known tunes, including "Skid Row (Downtown)," "Somewhere That's Green" and "Suddenly Seymour."

Area high school students who attend the CSC Theatre Day on Thursday, October 4th, will get a special preview performance of the play. The annual event provides an opportunity for high school students to learn about theatre from CSC students and faculty members.

The cast and crew will also deliver a special production Friday afternoon, October 5th, to hundreds of area elementary students. The program, designed to promote live theatre to area youth, is sponsored by the Chadron Library Foundation.

"Little Shop of Horrors" is the theatre program's first performance of the season. Other titles on this year's production schedule are "God of Carnage," "Vampire Cowboy Trilogy," and "Almost Maine." More information can be found by visiting the CSC theatre programs Website at csc.edu/theatre.

Tickets may be reserved by contacting the CSC Box Office at boxoffice@csc.edu or 308-432-6207.

—Justin Haag, CSC Information Services