Production Committee report

January 2015

The Production Committee used the winter break between semesters to gather for a slightly longer than usual meeting on January 12th at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. All committee members were present as well as the Artistic Director.

The first order of business was to settle which songs would be performed for the February 15th fundraiser. Knowing that there would not be a piano available, it was decided to do *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow* and *Can’t Help Falling in Love.*

We then moved into the main topic of the meeting which was the spring concert. The initial song selection/line-up was reviewed. The list is as follows:

Title Composer Arranger Publisher Part

We Will Rock You Brian May Mark Brymer Hal Leonard TTBB

Geist der Liebe Franz Schubert

Rustics and Fishermen Benjamin Britten Boosey and Hawkes TTBB

Almighty Father Leonard Bernstein Larry Moore Boosey and Hawkes TTBB

Gay Messiah Rufus Wainwright Me TTBB

Zion’s Walls Aaron Copland

Your Song Elton John Mac Huff Hal Leonard SSA

Crazy Little Thing... Freddie Mercury Chris Peterson Barbershop Harmony TTBB

Disco Mash ABBA/Summer/Gaynor Me

Trolley Song Martin/Blane Alan Billingsley Alfred SSA

The Lonely Goatherd Rogers/Hammerstein Me

True Colors Steinberg/Kelly Emerson Hal Leonard 2-part

From a Distance Julie Gold Mac Huff Cherry Lane TTBB

Nine to Five Dolly Parton Ed Lojeski Hal Leonard SSA

Cher-Ma-Ga-Ga Cher/Madonna/Ga Me

After some discussion it was decided to move We Will Rock You to right before the end song of act I and open with Rustics and Fishermen followed by the Schubert. The second act was set and would be performed non-stop. Adam will be arranging four pieces which was thought to be more than enough of a work load for him to handle. All the other music had been ordered and it was thought that we would come in well below our $600.00 budget. Final selections for the ensemble had not been decided upon as yet. We did decide that, since we had the budget allocation, we wanted to use some additional musicians, probably bass, guitar and percussion.

Other decisions that were made are

We would try to get at least two extra rehearsals at Penn State, probably April 27th and May 4th, before our May 7th dress rehearsal.

Blocking for the concert would be minimal; Act I would be a traditional ‘stand and sing’ concept, Act II would utilize lighting to get the feeling of the chorus changing locations, that small limited movements might be included in a couple of spots and that any true ‘movement’ would be handled by a “front-line” of more skilled “dancers” and these would mostly be used in the two mash-ups.

Sets would be minimal using 3, 3-step choral risers for the first act and then repositioning them and adding two wedge shaped platforms between them for Act II to get additional playing levels. We would also incorporate a mirror ball for Act II, hopefully borrowed from Theatre Harrisburg.

We would probably need two set crew volunteers for each concert as well as one lighting tech, hopefully a student from the college who is familiar with the system at Penn State.

We could possibly have the room drapes open for act I and have the view of the trees as a backdrop.

The only props need, at this time, are the ‘goats’ for the Lonely Goatherd and they will be reconstituted from the Lamb Chop puppets we already have.

Costumes will be our basic black shirts and trousers with possible additions for each act; ties for act I, grey vest s with some trim for Act II. The only potential additional costume piece at this time could be the Tyrolean hats from our stock for the Lonely Goatherd.

Additional prop and costume ideas may emerge as we get further along in the rehearsal process.

With there being no further specifics to discuss in regards to the Spring Concert, the committee took the remaining time to discuss singer commitment and responsibilities for the upcoming semester. That discussion brought the meeting to a close.

The committee will meet again to begin work on the 2015-16 season on Monday February 9th at 5:30 at the Unitarian Church.

Respectfully submitted

Paul Foltz

Committee Chairman