

LADY

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plays Eliza Doolittle, is "delightful" onstage. He saw her perform in musicals and plays through high school, most recently as Adelaide in the YHS spring production of "Guys and Dolls."

"You can't do this show without a fair lady," Henrickson said. "We have a fair lady."

Other standout contributors to the show include Carol Lynn Weatherwax, who doubles as dialect coach and Mrs. Pearce onstage. Henrickson said Weatherwax offered early on to help the cast embrace the standard British and cockney accents.

"The cockney, I think, is the most challenging because we want a heavy cockney, yet understandable for the crowd," Henrickson said. "If you were to truly do a heavy cockney, you wouldn't be able to understand anything."

Asking the actors to speak and sing in their designated accents has been a challenge, Henrickson said.

"I love that cockney stuff, but when you misspeak it, you just notice," he said. "I'm glad that Carol offered to assist with it. It's been enormously helpful."

Henrickson said the set and costumes really make the show special, too.

"The set is spectacular, the costumes are absolutely marvelous," said Chuck Lambert, executive director of the Lewis & Clark Theatre Company. "Eliza's dress is exactly the same as the one in the movie."

The set, designed by Steve English, has many features, including a massive revolving unit in the middle. The early 1900s costumes were rented from Einstein's Costumes in Mitchell.

While putting the show together has been a challenge and a joy for Henrickson, it isn't his first go-around at "My Fair Lady." He directed at the Sioux Falls Community Playhouse 21 years ago. Henrickson has gotten more out of the story of "My Fair Lady" directing it for the second time, he said.

"I think the show has a message about how we treat each other," he said. "I'm just a little more drawn to the plight of Eliza this time. I have a little more empathy for her, just in what she lacks in her life."

Henrickson added that people who haven't seen "My Fair Lady" need to see the Lewis & Clark Theatre Company's rendition.

"Those people need to come to join the army of people who have seen 'My Fair Lady,'" he said. "If you're a fan of musical theatre in the least, it's a show you need to see; you need to be familiar with. If you have seen the show, which is going to be the majority of people, you need to come just to see how our 'My Fair Lady' stacks up to the others you've seen."

"My favorite moments are probably going to be the favorite moments the audience has," Henrickson added. "I won't give away what the line is, but if people have seen the movie or seen the show, they know what it is. It's just priceless. Eliza just loses her ladylike behaviors at that moment."

People who've only seen the movie need to see the live performance to "breathe the same air as the characters in the room," Henrickson said.

"The cast showcases the talent that Yankton has to offer," Lambert added. "We're working hard and we will be ready."

The "My Fair Lady" half-price night is Thursday, July 29, starting at 7:30 p.m. The show runs Friday, July 30, through Sunday, Aug. 1; Friday, Aug. 6, through Sunday, Aug. 8; and Friday, Aug. 13, through Sunday, Aug. 15. Curtain times are 7:30 p.m. for Friday and Saturday performances and 2 p.m. for Sunday shows.

Call the Dakota Theatre box office at 665-4711 for more information.

CAST

Eliza Doolittle — Elle Tieszen
 Henry Higgins — Jake Christensen
 Colonel Pickering — Dr. James Simmons
 Alfred P. Doolittle — Bob Bryan
 Freddy Eynsford-Hill — Matthew Black
 Mrs. Pearce — Carol Lynn Weatherwax
 Mrs. Higgins — Mary Pistulka
 Mrs. Hopkins — Rebecca Hebda

Mrs. Eynsford-Hill — Bev Larson
 Lord Boxington — Nick Weydert
 Bartender — Leah Smith
 Jamie — Dave Baumeister
 Harry — Gene Johnson
 Chorus — Cheyenne Schroeder, Adalya Schroeder, Hebda, Megan Kniefl, Jo Bryan, Weydert, Isaac Beeck, Matt Trenhaile, Mary Pistulka, Johnson, Baumeister, Larson, Audry Bryan, Laura Baumeister, Leah Smith, Maddie Henrickson, Molly Baumeister

CREW

Director — Andy Henrickson

Musical director/conductor — Sister Patricia Ann Toscano
 Scenic and lighting designer/Technical director — Stephen English
 Stage manager — Aaron Steward
 Costumes — Roni Staples, Einstein's Costumes
 Choreographer — Kathryn Reimler
 Rehearsal accompanist — Jaclyn Mathison
 Dialect coach — Carol Lynn Weatherwax
 Sound designer/operator — Nicholas Rokahr
 Scenic painter — Randijo Hairdresser — Lelia Elder

Properties assistant — Maddie Henrickson
 Backstage crew — EJ Staples
 Spotlight operator — Christine Lambert

ORCHESTRA

Keyboard — Jaclyn Mathison
 Keyboard/strings — Jane Bobzin
 Flute — Stephanie Schultz
 Clarinet — Bill Magera, Liz Fiedler
 Trumpet — Hannah Lambert, Jessica Mathis
 Horn — Katherine Fiedler
 Trombone — Emily Niebrugge, Alex Heglin
 Percussion — Colton Lange

ACTRESS

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wait all day long for your scene. It's not glamorous at all."

In spite of the long days, she looks back on her role as Marilyn Munster as one of her favorites. "We became a family, personally as well as professionally," said Hansing, who worked with actors Fred Gwynne, Yvonne De Carlo, Al Lewis and Butch Patrick, who played little Eddie. "The Munsters" continue to have an impact on her life.

Hansing has traveled to dozens of memorabilia shows across the country, posed for pictures, and signed hundreds of autographs.

A quick search of the auction site eBay reveals almost 2,000 auctions for Munsters memorabilia. Items include DVDs, glossy pictures and even a glow-in-the-dark wall clock.

One auction features a 12-inch Marilyn Munster doll. The doll, the 40th anniversary edition, is dressed in a white top and blue skirt. The listing includes a handbag, mirror and a third arm that can be replaced to grip a miniature mirror.

A doll with three arms — Uncle Herman would be so proud.

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