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**TAKE CARE OF  
THE PROCESS:  
ONALASKA  
HIGH SCHOOL'S  
RICHARD MOSES**

**AUDITORIUMS  
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**BACK-TO-SCHOOL  
GUIDE 2023**

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**MEET SARAH DORNINK  
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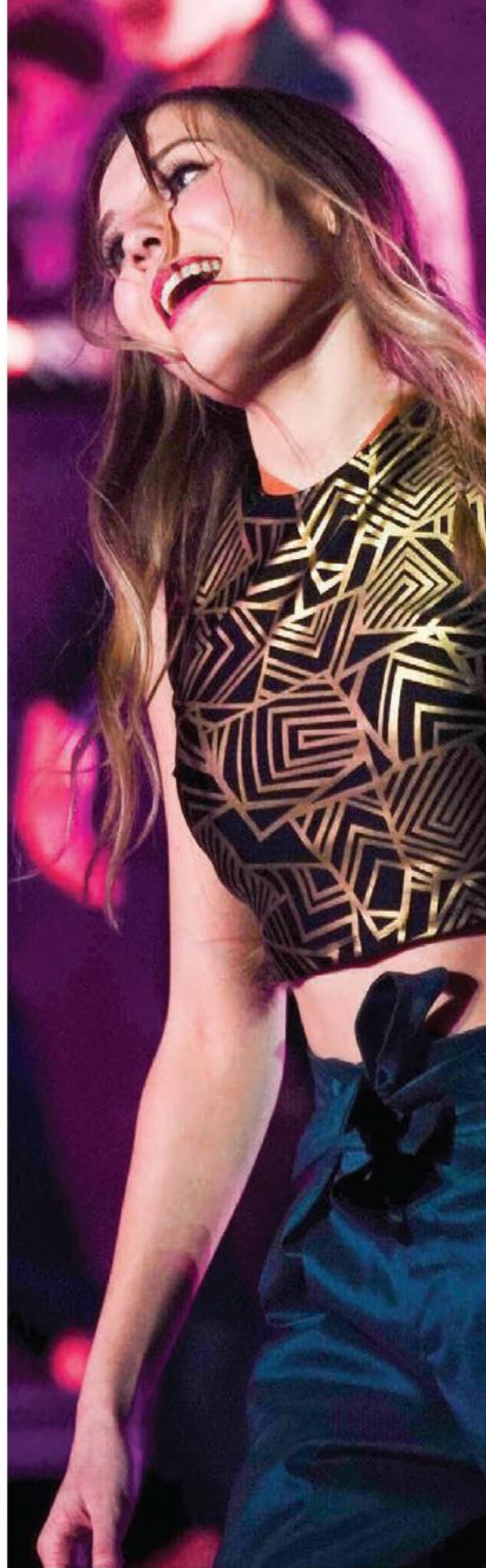
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## 8 FROM MATH TO COSTUME DESIGN

Sarah Dornink had planned on being a mathematician. She was good at math, and she definitely preferred it to writing papers, so she chose it for her major in college. By her senior year, though, she found herself sketching clothing designs rather than writing math formulas and realized her heart was in the fashion world.

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It's time to return to schools and stages everywhere. Our guide covers fundraising, costuming, stages, music, and technology—all the items that make a show choir award winning.



# editor's letter

Dear Show Choir Enthusiasts,

Welcome back to the rhythm and harmony that define the heart of our school year! As the summer sun gradually yields to the crisp embrace of autumn, we find ourselves on the cusp of an exciting new chapter for our show choir community. It is with great anticipation and joy that we extend our warmest greetings to all members, parents, and supporters of our vibrant show choir family.

The beginning of the school year marks a time of renewed energy and dedication, and we can already sense the enthusiasm pulsating through your rehearsals and gatherings. It is incredible to witness the passion that each of you brings to this artistic endeavor, and we are thrilled to embark on this journey with you of creativity, growth, and friendship once again.

As we look ahead to the upcoming months, the air is charged with a sense of anticipation for the performances and competitions that await us. The stage is not merely a platform; it's a canvas where our talents meld into a spectacular tapestry of music, movement, and emotion. The magic of a show choir lies not just in the choreography or melodies, but in the connections we forge and the stories you tell through your performances. This year, we know you aspire to weave narratives that resonate, inspire, and leave a lasting impression on both our audiences and us.

Preparations for the upcoming shows and competition season are already well underway. The dedicated instructors and choreographers have been diligently crafting routines that blend innovation with tradition, ensuring that every step and note captures the essence of our collective spirit. The hours spent refining harmonies, perfecting dance sequences, and honing individual talents will undoubtedly culminate in moments of sheer brilliance on stage.

At the same time, we remember that the journey is as vital as the destination. The friendships formed during late-night rehearsals, the laughter shared during breaks, and the unwavering support you provide for one another are the threads that bind us into a united family. Let us approach this season with open hearts, open minds, and a willingness to learn from every experience.

As we step onto this stage—both metaphorically and literally—we carry with us the legacy of dedication and excellence that defines our show choir. Let us embrace the challenges and triumphs that lie ahead with the same fervor and commitment that has brought us this far. Our voices, our moves, and our collective spirit will once again unite to create something truly magical.

Here's to a season of growth, music, and camaraderie. Let the rehearsals be our playground, the stage our canvas, and the applause our reward. Together, let's make this a year to remember.

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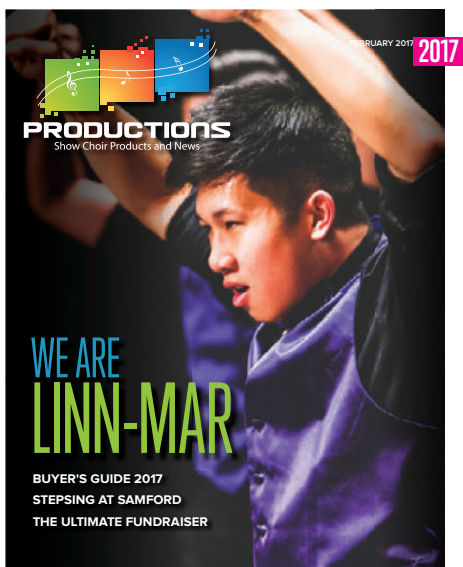
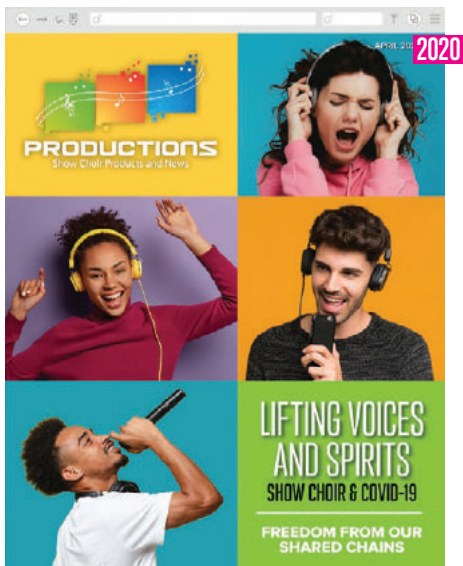
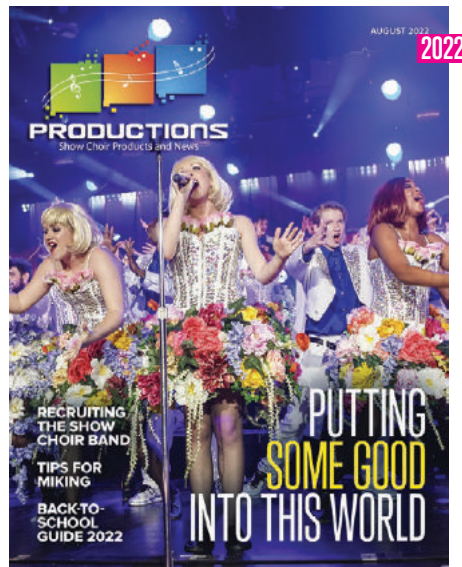


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# FROM MATH TO COSTUME DESIGN

**Meet  
Sarah Dornink of  
Dornink Costumes**

by Lisa Gibbs, Ed.D.



PHOTO COURTESY DORNINK COSTUMES

**S**arah Dornink had planned on being a mathematician. She was good at math, and she definitely preferred it to writing papers, so she chose it for her major in college.

By her senior year, though, she found herself sketching clothing designs rather than writing math formulas and realized her heart was in the fashion world. She graduated with honors, then moved to New York and attended the Fashion Institute of Technology, specializing in evening wear.

She became a business partner with her mother Faythe in 2005 at Dornink Costumes. They ran a retail shop and created custom pieces including bridal, evening, and cocktail dresses, costumes for show choirs, and specialty garments for local fundraisers. The retail side of the business closed in 2021 and now Sarah and her mother work almost exclusively for choirs.

Curious about Sarah's journey, experience, and what uniqueness Dornink Costumes can bring to show choir, I spent some time talking with her.

■ **Tell us about how you and your mother, Faythe, got into costume design.**

My mom started the business when I was a kid. Custom dress design—bridal, evening, cocktail—was the main part of the business when she started. She started doing show choir when my older sister and I were in show choir, and that was a very easy transition because it was dresses. My mom went to my sister's first show choir performance and got into it to help her daughter's show choir look better.

■ **Sounds like a natural progression. Your retail store closed in 2021. What was the reasoning for that?**

Covid was the reason. We had to close in March like everybody did. Show

choirs and schools were not in session that year, so 40 percent of our income was lost, and by the fourth quarter we couldn't maintain the space we had. We had always planned for my mom to retire when our lease was up and go forward with just show choir. The plan got sped up a little bit with covid. My mother still helps me. She works about fifty percent of the time.

■ **Oh, that's so great, being able to work with your mom! What is unique about Dornink Costumes, other than it being a mother/daughter business?**

What makes us unique is we don't do standard show choir things. Directors come to me when they really want something theatrical that they can't find anywhere else. They search me out when they want something that doesn't exist, when they need something custom designed and well constructed. For example, last year Ankeny High School wanted 3-D fortune-teller shapes that were removable throughout the show. Their theme was a dystopian society, where the level of shapes they had and the color were representative of the hierarchy of society. They all started with no shapes and they would put the blue ones on if they were mid-level and if they were blue and gold they were at the highest level. I designed these 3-D shapes that could come off and on throughout the show. We ended up using craft paper with a waxed backing for the fortune tellers so it was stiff enough and didn't rip. That was an interesting challenge, and the end result was really cool.

■ **It sounds like you have a good time picking out what the material is going to be.**

Yes! I do enjoy the production end of organizing and figuring it out, the engineering behind something like that is fun to me, almost as much fun as sketching a pretty dress. Earlier

in my career, I would like to sit down and sketch. Now I really like it when someone brings me a really weird, hard idea and figuring out how to make it happen. I guess that math thing comes in—I do love solving problems, love a good puzzle.

**Directors come to me when they really want something theatrical that they can't find anywhere else. ... I really like it when someone brings me a really weird, hard idea and figuring out how to make it happen. I love solving problems, love a good puzzle.**

■ **You mostly do custom work. Do you also have ready-to-wear?**

Yes, I have vendors I used when we had the store. It's a great option for those directors who just want a pretty dress that looks great on stage and they can get it quickly, usually within a week, and in lots of different sizes and colors.

■ **What about for the men in show choir?**

I have vendors with ready-to-wear suits, from standard to more theatrical like jacquards and sequins, with button downs, even cargo pants. We can source all sorts of cool things ranging from suits to more casual items. I don't enjoy making men's suits from scratch when you can buy them so well made. The tailoring has so much structure and layers that it gets too expensive, especially when you can buy them and then just alter if you need to. You



PHOTO COURTESY DORNINK COSTUMES

## PRO TIPS

### Pro tips for button-down shirts when your choreography calls for raising your arms:

1. Size up.
2. Put elastic at the bottom of the front of the shirt and attach it to the bottom of the back of the shirt, so it loops through the center.

can add embellishments like piping and sequins or a satin ribbon pretty easily. I have made some, but they are not made with the level of detail as a ready-to-wear.

#### ■ What trends are you currently seeing for show choir?

I would say a big trend for groups I worked with over the past couple of years is unisex. The 3-D shapes on jackets were for men and women. Ankeny is my school that does the most unusual things, and they are local so we can meet and hash out ideas. They've been focusing on unisex things, like jackets for guys and girls. This last year we did two different pants and two different tops for guys and girls and you could pick different ones.

#### ■ It's nice to be able to meet in person, and also virtually with video calls these days. What is your process for show choir designs, for both local and non-local directors?

I sketch the design based on what directors ask for and discuss choices of fabric. Once they approve the black-and-white sketch I will use Photoshop and put the color in and the fabrics so they can make sure it really looks like what they are envisioning, as much as you can in 2-D. Once that is narrowed down I make a sample. If they are local, they bring someone to try it on. If they are not local I can try it on my daughter and send pictures or maybe a video. They approve the sample and then we go into production.

#### ■ What happens next?

If it's local, often we will go and fit them at the school. If it's not local I will get them all in, inspect them, put them on a dress form to make sure that everything did come in as I expected it to. Sometimes when you are working with a new pattern or fabric, the fit changes. Costuming is never perfect. Bodies change or fabric changes, or you put in a new fabric and it doesn't do the same. There's always problem solving and troubleshooting. We always do quality control when the garments get to us, then I ship them to the clients.

■ **I'm sure the directors appreciate your attention to fit and function. I read that you are in your third year costuming for Ballet Des Moines. I'm curious, as a ballet dancer myself, how do you approach costuming what a ballet dancer would need versus what a show-choir performer would need?**

It has been a learning curve of learning how ballerinas in particular need the costumes to move. Everything has to have spandex and stretch. It also depends upon what kind of piece we are doing, which has been interesting. For example, in *The Nutcracker*, a lot of the costumes are not stretchy at all. There are bodices that are made of boning and stiff fabrics. I've had to learn where that can be on the body so they can actually do all the movements they have to.

In the second act of *The Nutcracker*, Ballet Des Moines reimaged it and connected the score to animals. We

have a betta fish, which was a super fun piece to create. I worked with the artistic director on the vision for the costume—here's the choreography, and here's my sketch, and how do we put them together in order to create a fin that looks like a betta fish swimming through the water? I ended up using this pleated organza that we cut and painted so it really looked like a tail fin of a betta fish. It was fun to see that design transform into the final piece, to work with the choreography and to work with the dancer on the stage.

■ **Do you find a lot of crossover in the types of fabrics you use for ballet and for show choir?**

A lot of my vendors are the same ones. For ballet we use less sequins. Also it's a small company—I don't ever need to make 30 pieces of the same thing like I do for show choir.

During our chat—and later looking through the gallery on the Dornink

Costumes' website—it was obvious that Sarah truly enjoys costume design and design challenges. A few of her unique designs are a dress made from bacon for the Des Moines Annual Bacon Fest, a snake charmer hat made from bubble wrap and signed by Katy Perry for the Bubble Ball fundraiser, and costumes for dancers for the opening number of the FIFA World Cup Official Draw. Find out more about those projects at [dornink-costumes.com/projects/](http://dornink-costumes.com/projects/). Contact Sarah directly at [sarah@dornink.com](mailto:sarah@dornink.com) to set up a consultation for your next one-of-a-kind costume.

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**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** *Productions* staff writer Lisa Gibbs earned her Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration in 2018. She is an advocate for arts, particularly dance, in education and for increasing the financial well-being of artists through financial education.

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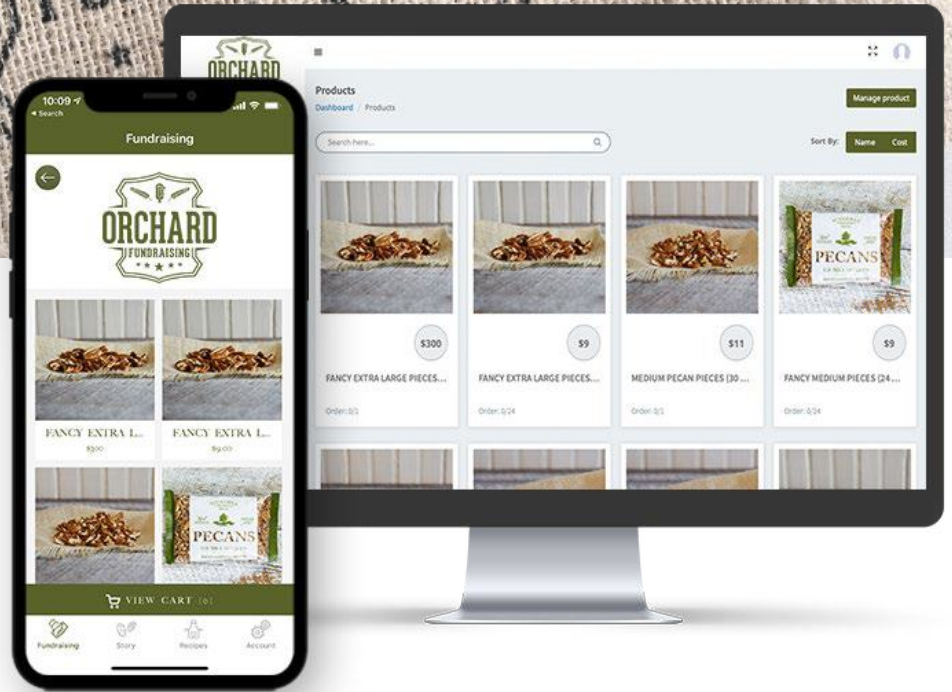
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### Why Develop A New App?

Aron Wimberly from Schermer Pecans explains, "We wanted to develop an innovative platform for fundraisers. Orchard fundraising allows customers to sell Schermer Pecan products through this online platform. This platform creates a shareable link that makes sharing your fundraising information quick and easy. No need for brochures anymore, just share the link on your social media. Friends and family can use your link to purchase products and the funds go straight to the desired bank account."

Wimberly continues, "We've shared the idea with many different organizational groups who are looking for new ways to fundraise. Many organizational leaders are eager to learn about what is to come from this platform. We offer the ability to add their own products, which is even more exciting."

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Aron Wimberly can be reached at [aron@schmerpecans.com](mailto:aron@schmerpecans.com) or by calling 1.800.841.3403. Contact Orchard at [info@orchardfundraising.com](mailto:info@orchardfundraising.com), call 833.850.8324, or visit [www.orchardfundraising.com](http://www.orchardfundraising.com)



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A young woman with dark hair, wearing a vibrant pink and black sequined dress, is captured in a dynamic pose on a stage. Her mouth is open as if singing or speaking, and her right hand is raised with fingers spread. The background is dark, making her bright outfit stand out. The image is partially obscured by a large green graphic element on the right side of the page.

**“THE PRODUCT WILL  
TAKE CARE OF ITSELF  
IF YOU TAKE CARE  
OF THE PROCESS.”**

## **Meet Richard Moses, Onalaska High School**

by Lisa Gibbs, Ed.D.

About 350 miles from where the Mississippi River starts its flow southward out of Lake Itasca, Lake Onalaska opens up along the Missouri/Wisconsin border. The city of Onalaska, part of the La Crosse metro area, sits on a slightly elevated ridge near the lake. Onalaska has abundant outdoor recreation opportunities, such as ice fishing and snowmobiling in the winter and golfing and boating during the summer as well as a thriving arts community.

Richard Moses, director of the Onalaska High School show choirs since 2012, says the school reflects the diverse cultural interests of the community. I spoke with him to learn more about his career and the show choirs at Onalaska High.

**■ Your school hosts an annual competition that is now going into its 37th year. Tell me a bit about that.**

**Richard:** Yes, the competition was started years ago by Paul Gulsvig. It's typically held the second weekend in January. In that covid year, 2021, we delayed and did it in April. Even with snowstorms and all that, we've never missed one.

We have to be ready before winter break so that when school starts back up in January, we hit the ground



running. We're done with competitions in March. We have to do it in the window of sports. In the fall we run into football and wrestling, and then in the spring there's baseball and soccer and other things going on.

■ **Do some of your students participate in sports as well?**

Many! Onalaska is not a huge school, so we have to share. Our choir competition is a strong tradition here. Paul started this program and made it flourish. He also coached football and basketball, so he had a lot of sports people in his program. We try to work with all the other teams so we can share. For the most part, it works really well. I have football players, cross-country athletes, and soccer players. Soccer players are particularly good dancers, by the way, because of all the footwork they have

to do. And of course we have hard-core band, choir, and theatre people who that's all they do. It's a wide swath of people interested in different things. It's really cool.

■ **I always love it when people in sports and people in the arts inter-connect. There are so many benefits from each one, and so many similarities.**

There are! I think that's not emphasized enough—the whole concept of coming together as a team, having discipline, and working on skills. Winning the game or doing well at a competition is based in the work, the process. The product will take care of itself if you take care of the process. We just do the best show we can. If you focus on that the rest takes care of itself.



**■ Is the competition you host local or regional?**

We have groups coming from Nebraska, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and a lot of local groups. The LaCrosse area is a pocket of show choir. Pretty much everyone is doing a competition now, so we make it a point to go to theirs and they come to ours. Sometimes there's a scheduling conflict but we do try to support one another.

**■ Sounds like there are a lot of opportunities for the students to gain experience.**

Yes! I love going out of state. We see groups we wouldn't otherwise see and there are some amazing groups out there.

**■ I've noticed there are different approaches to putting together a show—popular show numbers, a theme, a story, etc. How do you approach it, and does that change based on the student population?**

Yes. We've dabbled a little bit in several different things. We've done the story shows, the these-songs-are-on-my-playlist type shows. Now we are into a connective thread, such as songs about growing up in high school. The process of building a new show is the most stressful for me. I don't do it alone. My wife and my colleagues have input and I ask my choreographers what they think. Getting the show ready and rehearsing, to me that's fun. Once I see it going then I know it's going to work and I can relax.

**■ Are your choreographers freelance?**

Yes. I've hired Jarad Voss and Damon Brown. I've just hired Lexi Robson, and I'm excited because she's a young up-and-comer. Great choreographers and great arrangements are key, and costumes that make sense. All that comes together to build a great show.

**■ It's so important to find people who are really good at the parts we aren't good at. It's a full team effort, and the students are a team themselves.**

Yes! Last year we had an amazing group of juniors and seniors who worked so well together and it was so enjoyable. The last couple of years have been really great because they are working together as a team.

**■ I wonder if that is something good that came out of the pandemic. They would have been middle schoolers or freshmen when it all started.**

I can't even imagine being isolated and a teenager or pre-teen during that time. We're going to feel those shockwaves for a long time. But I think kids are resilient. They will figure it out.

**■ I read an article about Miss America 2023 visiting the school. What can you tell me about that?**

We have a student who participates in pageants and she knew Grace Stanke who was Miss Wisconsin and became Miss America. She and her mom reached out to Grace's manager and asked if she would come see us at our competition. It was amazing! She came in her gown and crown and played violin for us. The students loved it! She was lovely and so generous with her time.

**■ I also read that early on you had planned to be a record producer.**

Yeah, back in my 20s, that was going to be my thing. I was going to be an audio engineer. I did work for a radio station for a short time and then shifted towards education. I still have a passion for it



and make recordings of our concerts. One of my skills that I'm proud of is that my groups are generally balanced because of that background. I tell the bass and tenors, you have to be louder and be the foundation to support the rest of the group. It's about harmonics and frequencies. Lower frequencies generate upper frequencies, so when the upper frequencies sing louder than the lower frequencies, it's like a pyramid upside down. It's a mixing concept all the way. You have to have a lot of bass and tenor, and alto, then the sopranos don't have to sing as loud as they could.

■ **It's neat that you use those skills in a place very different from a radio station. I'm a dance educator, and**

**I have vivid memories as a child "playing school." I never thought of myself as being a teacher, though. When I went to college. I wanted to be a professional dancer, which I was for a time. I also got an Master of Arts in Elementary Education and ended up teaching dance to elementary-aged kids at a local non-profit studio. Not as a "plan" I had devised since childhood—it just seemed to be the right thing to do for me. So that's the one little nugget I always come back to is that subconsciously I wanted to teach. Is there something from your childhood you**

make music. Then I visited my old high school and the new director there was phenomenal. I saw what you could do with high school students and I knew what I wanted to do. I had that pivotal moment of clarity, I saw what was possible, and that really changed my life. I went back and got certified to teach.

Once I started there was a lot to learn about how students learn, and how to motivate students. The first few years, I learned a lot. Even still today I'm learning new things about students, how different people learn. Certainly the pandemic had a lot to do with how some students are handling things now. We see more anxiety and more stress. It's amazing to me all the different traumas people can suffer but at the same time, students are very resilient.

I've been at this for a long time now, and there are still things to learn. I think that's a key to being a decent educator—continue learning yourself.

**I agree. And I think that's important for people of any age to hear stories of how you got to where you are. There still seems to be this idea that you choose your path in college and that degree is what you do, and for a lot of people it's hardly ever that.**

People get all sorts of degrees and then do something different. I think the experience of going to school and learning new things, that opens up your mind. Just keep learning!

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** *Productions* staff writer Lisa Gibbs earned her Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration in 2018. She is an advocate for arts, particularly dance, in education and for increasing the financial well-being of artists through financial education.

### can recall of some spirit in you that led to where you are?

As a child I was into engineering and I would record high school friends in bands, everything from bluegrass to hard rock to jazz. When I started college, I went into composition. I was good at theory and composing tunes. I did an undergraduate [degree] in composition, and then I got a Master of Arts in Music Theory. Similar to you, I decided later to teach. I just knew I wanted to

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PHOTOS COURTESY HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR



# Auditoriums and Show Choir

by Rick Roe





### **Creating a Multi-Purpose Space for your Show Choir**

In today's environment of the multi-purpose space, the auditorium manager is faced with the hurdles of providing every stakeholder the opportunity to host their event flawlessly.

Their limited staff, storage space, and event-specific presentations create a very unique challenge. The days of permanent set pieces and dedicated lines are gone—replaced with the equipment that can allow for a fast-paced change.

### **Finding the Right Staging Combination for Different Groups**

For every space, show choirs, theater groups, orchestras, and traditional choirs all want their equal time and want the space set for their specific application. This competition for the space available can create a tense environment with a lot of friction among the groups of users, so finding the right combination of equipment that can be flexible and hold the highest level of presentation is very important.

### **Raising the Performance Level**

This is evident in the world of show choirs that constantly need to raise their level of performance yet leave the stage in the allotted time.

A platform system with unitized framing support that is easy to set up for the performance, yet can be whisked away at a moment's notice, goes a long way toward helping make the open stage space accommodate the show choir needs.

The traditional 3x3 or 4x4 grid configurations can also be set up in a variety of layouts and be added to in the future to accommodate the growth of the program. Getting the right portable equipment to fit today's production needs, but also looking to the future, will ensure the best investment over time.

### **Easy-to-Use Portable Riser Equipment**

Easy-to-use portable riser equipment helps the auditorium manager by reducing both the amount of set-up staff



and product training that is needed. In many cases, the actual performer or the volunteers supporting the production can assist with set up and tear down.

The portable riser equipment should be simple to utilize yet still provide the venue with utmost in durability and performance. Even with very limited staff to make events happen, a typical performance platform can be set up and ready to use with just two people in less than 30 minutes. A multi-purpose space also requires equipment storage for the orchestra, theatrical group, and show choir.

### Platforms with Reversible Deck Systems

One simple way to help make the equipment be more flexible and user friendly is to consider platforms with a reversible deck system. This can help make the same equipment useable for a multitude of users and events.

Dual-sided platforms provide two different playing surfaces to fit the needs of different performances and productions. Imagine two surfaces, one carpet and one hardsided, that now give you the option to control your foot noise for when you want it and when you do not.

### Rolling Props, Backdrops, and Acoustic Shells

The other area that is starting to emerge is the use of rolling props, back drops and acoustic shells to take the large stage space to a more intimate setting.

These give each group the ability to maximize their presentation but not permanently impact the operation of the space. Many times a rolling acoustic shell or backdrop can provide a different color behind the performers to make them stand out from the traditional black drape that is in every stage space. The acoustic shells can also help to enhance your sound projections in

areas where there are only soft goods and no reinforcement.

### Embracing the Multi-Purpose Space

The multi-purpose space of today is not to be feared and should be embraced. The perfect or nearly perfect execution of every event is possible if you have the right equipment to help with your event.

Remember that every stakeholder is trying to accomplish the same thing: a flawless event that keeps the audience wanting more.

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**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Rick Roe has twenty-three years of StageRight sales experience, serving all divisions through the years with the last thirteen years as the StageRight School and Church Market Manager. Rick is based out of the home office in Clare, Michigan.

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# BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE



It's time to return to schools and stages everywhere. Our guide covers fundraising, costuming, stages, music, and technology—all the items that make a show choir award winning.



## **DORNINK**

[www.dorninkshowchoir.com](http://www.dorninkshowchoir.com)

Dornink, a custom-design fashion house in Des Moines, Iowa, can create your show choir costumes to perfectly complement your set. Choose from our many styles or design your own and let us make your vision a reality. Dornink styles can be customized to fit your set and your budget. Dornink has over twenty-three years of experience creating show choir costumes for schools through the Des Moines and surrounding areas. Founder Faythe Dornink began custom sewing costumes for her daughters in show choir in 1992 when she realized their need for a unique look. Since then, designer and daughter Sarah Dornink, educated and trained in New York, has joined the business. Sarah and Faythe will personally work with you to custom design your costumes and create the perfect set. Work with our design team to custom design the perfect look for needs. Whether you're looking for show choir or theatrical costumes, we can design and create just about any style. Be inspired by the many fabric selections on our fabric page. And if you don't see what you're looking for, just ask! Let Dornink set your group apart from the rest. Dornink can design and create the look you need. Our design team is always sourcing new fabrics, styles, and the latest trends to keep your group looking amazing on stage.

## **DUTCH MILL BULBS**

[www.dutchmillbulbs.com](http://www.dutchmillbulbs.com)

For over half a century, Dutch Mill Bulbs has been committed to providing our customers with the best available bulbs and rooted perennials. We work only with reputable growers who share our dedication to quality and service. We look forward to an opportunity to earn your business. Dutch Mill Bulbs was established in 1960 with a company vision based on several criteria. First, we were committed to a unique fundraising idea that was environmentally responsible and available year-round, offering spring and fall flower bulb fundraising programs. Second, we would provide no-risk spring and fall flower bulb fundraising programs. Next, we would provide low cost, easy-to-sell, guaranteed-to-bloom-and-grow-and-bloom pre-packaged flower-bulbs and bare-root perennials. Finally, we committed ourselves to superior responsiveness to customer needs as well as continuous improvement. We've been so successful for so long because we not only stand behind our products with a no-nonsense guarantee, we also stand behind our customers, offering unmatched service and support. Contact us toll free at 800-533-8824 or visit our site to get started on your next fundraiser!



CONTINUED...

# BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE



## FAME/SHOW CHOIR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

[www.fameproductions.com](http://www.fameproductions.com)

For over twenty years, FAME has produced national show-choir competitions and today is the clear leader in producing professional-level events for the nation's best show choirs. Three essential philosophies are woven into the foundation of each of our events: encourage innovation, inspire creativity, and reward excellence. The Show Choir National Championship Series was developed to provide a true national champion! Six qualifying events take place in Hollywood, Orlando (two weekends), New York, Chicago, and Branson. The top three mixed and top two single-gender show choirs from each world-class division at each event will be invited to participate in the National Show Choir Finals the last weekend in April. In addition, qualified groups that have not competed at one of the qualifying events may apply to compete at the Show Choir National Finals. Learn more about the upcoming events by visiting [www.showchoirs.org](http://www.showchoirs.org).

## FUN PASTA

[www.funpastafundraising.com](http://www.funpastafundraising.com)

Need a great show choir fundraising idea? Earning up to fifty percent profit, you can sell from our brochure and also online with your webpage link with free shipping! Prizes include iTunes or Walmart gift cards. Some

of the benefits of our program include the following: One-of-a-kind products, made in the USA, affordable price points, healthy and fun, long shelf life, easy distribution—no melting or refrigeration—Online Leader Dashboard, and Auto Alert Marketing Tool for sellers. Fun Pasta Fundraising is both new and unique—a chance to sell pasta in fun shapes like musical notes, sports, holidays, and more. Our fundraising program is simple and effective—the #1 Brochure Sales + Online Sales. Your participants will sell from a colorful brochure and also share an online webpage link with out-of-town friends and families. You can earn fifty percent profit with your total brochure sales over \$4,000 or earn forty percent with your total brochure sales less than \$4,000. All online sales earn forty percent profit, and you can earn bonus cash prizes based on total gross sales!



## MANHASSET SPECIALTY STANDS

[www.manhasset-specialty.com](http://www.manhasset-specialty.com)

The Manhasset Specialty Company began in 1935, when inventor and musician Otto Lagervall, dissatisfied with the quality of the existing music stands and their inherent problems and shortcomings, set out to develop a better music stand. He succeeded in developing the initial Manhasset® music stands. Over the years, new stands and various accessory products have been added to the Manhasset® line, and countless improvements have been made to the manufacturing processes. Today at

Manhasset, we continue working to research and develop new and unique products to fit the needs of musicians of all ages, as well as to improve upon what has always been the finest quality line of music stands available. The Manhasset Specialty Company is an employee-owned business—all of us care about the company and our products and take great pride in what we produce. We value very highly our company’s reputation and are strongly committed to continuing our tradition of exceptional quality. From our full line of music stands to our innovative accessories that answer our customers’ needs, at Manhasset we are continuing in our efforts to bring you the very best.

the best! Music Arrangement Services, Inc. can assist in all licensing and arrangement permissions to ensure the legality of making copies for your rehearsals! Currently, there are hundreds of titles on file that have been created over the decades, including original pieces by Jeffrey Bowen that have been purchased by show choirs around the country.



## MUSIC ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

[www.showchoirmusic.com](http://www.showchoirmusic.com)

In the late 1980’s, Jeffrey Bowen began arranging for competition show choirs as extra work. During the 1990’s, the arranging grew into full-time work and was established as Music Arrangement Services. In 2012, the company became incorporated as Music Arrangement Services, Inc. with the same concept of providing high-quality competition arrangements as well as ensuring the legal licensing of each and every title. Arrangements have been purchased by schools in over thirty-five states, several European countries, and Australia. Music Arrangement Services, Inc. provides quality show choir arrangements to competition show choirs all over the country. With hundreds of titles to its credit, directors will be able to see the wide variety of styles created to make your show choir sound

## PEAK PERFORMANCE TOURS

[www.peakgrouptravel.com](http://www.peakgrouptravel.com)

Performance tours can be really stressful if not properly planned. Your group deserves an inspiring, performance-filled adventure with comfortable and dynamic performance spaces we have pre-screened. PPT has been helping schools plan comprehensive performance tours by reducing the stress and amping up the fun for over twenty years. Planning a group tour can be overwhelming, but Peak Performance Tours will guide you every step of the way, from concept to completion, in co-designing the right program based on your performance and entertainment goals. Whether you want to participate in a music festival, perform publicly, or participate in a workshop, Peak can provide you with a proposal for destinations in the USA and beyond. We have experience planning trips for clients with groups of all styles and size. From a live street performance to a Broadway workshop, these tours are designed to give you and your group a broad range of personal and local performance opportunities. Contact us today for your customized performance tour by calling 215-598-8690 or 800-220-0165.

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# BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE



## SCHERMER'S PECANS

[www.schermerpecans.com](http://www.schermerpecans.com)

Harvested from Georgia orchards that have been in our family for over seventy years, our pecans are always hand selected and fresh shelled. We take pride in our pecans from start to finish; we plant and care for the trees, shell the pecans, and candy the delicious varieties. Schermer's Pecans offers a healthy and delicious option, a fundraiser you can feel good about! In a nutshell, here's how it works: First, call, email, or download our easy app to sign up. We offer free shipping in the continental USA, no money up front with approved credit, and thirty days to pay. We will mail you printed order forms to use for selling, or—to make it even easier—you can use our new app to set up your sellers with a link they can share with friends and family on social media or for door-to-door selling. Our app, "Orchard," is an innovative fundraising platform that is changing the way your organization can raise money. With its mobile platform, Orchard allows fundraising organizations to present, order, and track their fundraising sales and shipments in real time online. Orchard is built to elevate fundraising activity and results in an easier and engaging manner.



## STAGERIGHT

[www.StageRight.com](http://www.StageRight.com)

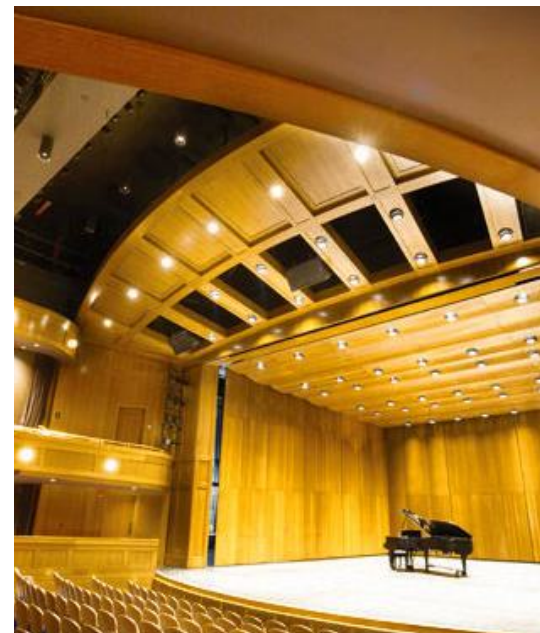
Bringing over twenty-five years of innovative solutions and products, StageRight stands at the forefront in platform design and application. We have products and services that can be applied to meet the design intent of any space. We welcome the input of the designer and end user, so that the end result exceeds expectations in both aesthetics and functionality. Our sturdy and durable materials offer you a solid investment that will continue to exceed your needs for years to come. Let us know how we can help you solve the challenges of the ever-changing environment. Please contact us for design consultation, budgeting and specifications. A solution is only a phone call or click away. StageRight can offer unlimited choir riser configurations and can arrange different layouts—show choir, jazz platform, seated choral, or band risers—which can all use the same components. With an endless array of products, StageRight can help you convert any classroom, hall, theater, auditorium or gymnasium—for a performance to remember.

## WENGER

[www.wengercorp.com](http://www.wengercorp.com)

Wenger Corporation provides innovative, high-quality products and solutions for music and theatre education, performing arts and athletic equipment storage and transport. For more than sixty years, Wenger has been listening to what our customers need and then designing and

manufacturing innovative, durable, and functional products to meet those needs. Wenger pioneered sound isolation in practice rooms and now offers modular rooms with virtual acoustic technology (VAE) and built-in digital recording/playback. Products include pre-engineered acoustical doors, sound-isolating music practice rooms, acoustical shells, instrument and equipment storage cabinets, audience seating, portable stage platforms and staging systems, tiered risers, music furniture, and more. No other company meets and exceeds the product needs of the music-education, performing-arts, and athletic markets like Wenger. Our expertise, design capability, and level of service are unmatched in the industry.





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