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ENTERTAINMENT

Oliver! nothing short of wonderful

By Wendy Long

Georgetown Globe Productions' rendition of *Oliver!* is nothing short of wonderful.

By the time you leave, your feet will be tapping and your head will be singing one of those timeless *Oliver!* melodies. Oom pah pah, oom pah pah...

Vesta Jorgensen, president of Globe Productions, described *Oliver!* as "a stunning visual wrapping", and we agree.

The costumes were well designed (the work of Rachele Warburton and Mary Bilik) and the stage sets craftily utilized to create a variety of moods and scenes (thanks to Jackie Willow and Mary Griffin). Victorian London was successfully and intelligently recreated.

The night that Halton Hills This Week viewed the play, Stephanie Scott portrayed *Oliver*. Scott is alternating the lead with Owen Cherry. The Artful Dodger was played by Corey Rivers, who is sharing this part with Mark Lavery.

Scott has a lovely voice, and she did well in portraying a stiff and orphaned little British boy. Rivers was energetic and convincing as the Artful Dodger, although at times it was a tad difficult to hear him.

And Fagin! Fagin (Mark Llewellyn) was poetry in motion, an absolute delight. A big standing ovation for Fagin.

Humor was abundant in the roles of Mr. Bumble (Eric Witvoet) and Widow Corney (Vera MacDonald). Accolades too, to Mr. and Mrs. Sowerberry (Colin Eastment and Joyce Grant). The color and raw enthusiasm of these characters energized the play.

Bill Sikes (Derrick Hempel), Nancy (Nanci McNeil), and Bet (Diane Atkinson) were strong plot

leaders and did a fine job of creating dramatic tension and maintaining British accents.


Let's not forget actors and actresses Keith Mills, Kathryn Landey, Barry Pletch, Brian Banyard, and Jan Hillier. Oops - and Ben, of course! Kudos for strong, sound performances.

An overwhelming feature of this play is the outstanding choreography and artistic quality. The children's chorus opened the performance with some of this fancy footwork. These kids did a great job.

On the flip side of the coin, the second act had some problems with fluidity and the climax left some questions hanging in the air.

But on the whole, three stars. Simply wonderful.

Treat yourself to an enchanting evening of community theatre, it's well worth the ticket price. *Oliver!* will be at the John Elliott Theatre this weekend, Nov. 26, 27 and 28 (there will be a Sunday matinee on the 29th), and on Dec. 2, 3, 4 and 5.



Breakfast with Santa!

December 12 at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

at the McGibbon Banquet Room,
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Downtown Georgetown
 Christmas Hours begin Nov. 30

Monday - Friday:	9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday:	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve:	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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