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For Release

[Editors: Photos available for downloading at www.dloc.org]

Performances in Antioch, Walnut Creek

DLOC Will Pull Out All the Stops for 50th Anniversary Production of ‘Music Man’

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the opening of “The Music Man” on Broadway, DLOC (the Diablo Light Opera Company) will present a glittering production of the beloved musical in four special performances beginning March 30 in Antioch followed by 21 shows in Walnut Creek.

“Great singers, a talented cast of 46, a barbershop quartet, an 18-piece orchestra, stunning costumes and sets and Meredith Willson’s delightful, ageless story and score that includes ‘Seventy-Six Trombones’ – we’ve got it all,” says Daren A. C. Carollo, DLOC’s executive producer. “It’s a glorious tribute to an enduring family musical that won five Tony Awards, including best musical. It triumphed over ‘West Side Story.’”

Since the musical takes place in River City, Iowa, DLOC found it fitting to open its production in Antioch, Contra Costa County’s own “River City” before opening in Walnut Creek, Carollo said.

Four performances in Antioch, beginning at 8 p.m. March 30, will be in the El Campanil Theatre at 602 West Second Street. Additional shows are at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on March 31 and 2 p.m. on April 1. Tickets (\$27 regular, \$22 seniors, \$15 students) are on sale at the theater (925) 757-9500, www.elcampaniltheatre.com

Twenty-one performances will be presented, beginning April 6, at the Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Tickets (\$32-\$38 regular; \$31- \$36 seniors, and \$26 to \$31 students). (925) 943-7469, www.leshercenter.org

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Starring in the coveted role of Professor Harold Hill is Keith Barlow, who has appeared in more than 50 productions over the past 20 years in the Bay Area. His previous performances with DLOC were in "A Grand Night for Singing" and "The Scarlet Pimpernel" in which he had starring roles.

Marian The Librarian, will be played by Rena Wilson, a versatile performer who appears in both Broadway musicals and operas. Her previous performance with DLOC was in the 2006 production of "My Fair Lady."

In addition to "Seventy-Six Trombones," Barlow, Wilson and the cast will sing all the hits in the show, including "Lida Rose," "Till There Was You," "The Wells Fargo Wagon," "Ya' Got Trouble," "Goodnight, My Someone," and "Marian, The Librarian."

The show will be directed by the award-winning Sue Ellen Nelson, whose other DLOC shows include "La Cage Aux Folles" and "Ragtime," which was named the best musical at the Leshner Center in 2003.

Cheryl Yee Glass will conduct the orchestra. The choreographer is Kate Leland, who won a Shellie Award for Contra Costa Christian Theatre's 2006 production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." John Erreca is the vocal director.

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