

# ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

Presents

# THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Book and Lyrics by      Music by

HOWARD ASHMAN      ALAN MENKEN

April 25 - 7:30 pm	May 2 - 7:30 pm	May 9 - 7:30 pm
26 - 7:30 pm	3 - 7:30 pm	10 - 7:30 pm
27 - 2:00 pm	4 - 2:00 pm	dark

1997

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Welcome to *Little Shop of Horrors*.

This is a very unique show because it combines a musical comedy with a twist of science fiction. Travel back with us to the early 60's; Canelot is in the White House, the world is a simpler place, and the only foreign thing we know of in outer space was something called Sputnik. Or at least that's what we thought.

The cast and crews have worked hard to make this a memorable production. Sit back and enjoy the show.

*Waipara*

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### LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Book and Lyrics by:

Music by:

HOWARD ASHMAN    ALAN MENKEN

Based on the film by Roger Corman

Screenplay by Charles Griffith

Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre,  
New York City, by the WPA Theatre, David  
Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert  
Organization.

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Produced by ACT in conjunction with:

SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

45 West 25th Street

New York, NY 10010

# LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Chifton .....	Nancy Despotovich
Crystal .....	Brenda Kirschman
Ronnette .....	Denise Hassett
Mushnik .....	Bud Pratt
Audrey .....	Kathryn Bisbey
Seymour .....	Randy Reid
Cleaning lady .....	Carol Harris-Ferguson
Derelict/Customer .....	Larry Johnson
Derelict .....	Joshua Sayre
Orin Scrivello, DDS .....	Scott Faulkner
Bernstein .....	Larry Johnson
Mrs. Luce /Bag lady .....	Grace Leverenz
Skip Snip .....	Joshua Sayre
Ms. Pat Martin .....	Carol Harris-Ferguson
Audrey II (Manipulation) .....	Bill Yeager
(Voice) .....	Guest Artist

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## LOCALE:

SKID ROW  
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There will be one 15 minute intermission.

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## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT I

Prologue (Little Shop of Horrors) .....	Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
Skid-Row (Downtown) .....	Company
Da-Doo .....	Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
Grow for Me .....	Seymour
Don't It Go to Show Ya Never Know .....	Mushnik, Chiffon, Crystal Ronnette and Seymour
Somewhere That's Green .....	Audrey
Closed for Renovations .....	Seymour, Audrey, Mushnik
Dentist .....	Orin, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
Sudden Changes .....	Seymour
Feed Me (Git It) .....	Seymour and Audrey II
Now (It's Just the Gas) .....	Seymour and Orin

### ACT II

Suddenly Seymour .....	Seymour and Audrey
Supperime .....	Audrey II
The Meek Shall Inherit .....	Company
Sominex/Supperime (Reprise) .....	Audrey and Audrey II
Finale (Don't Feed the Plants) .....	Company



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

DENISE HASSETT (Ronette) - Denise is having her acting debut on the ACT stage, but she was previously involved in community theater at Bellevue, Iowa. Between shows, Denise enjoys singing, playing guitar and spending time with her husband Bob, who is her biggest fan. She works for the Principal Financial Group.

BRENDA KIRSCHMAN (Crystal) - Although 'Little Shop' is Brenda's ACT debut, she has performed in many other musical productions, starting in high school, on to college shows, and continuing in community theaters. Some of her shows include *Bye Bye, Birdie*, *Bartered Bride*, *Oklahoma*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, and *Oliver*. Brenda has been an elementary music teacher for six years but still has time for tennis, listening to all kinds of music, and playing the saxophone. Originally from Pella, Brenda thanks her parents and older sister for their support.

NANCY DESPOTOVICH (Chiffon) - Nancy was surprised that her "shower" singing got her a leading role in 'Little Shop'. Previous non-singing roles for ACT include *A Timmy Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Boing, Boing and Bell*, *Book and Candle*. Her role in 'Forum' as a belly dancer was memorable, and she is still living that performance down. Nancy works the WIC Program as a nurse, and she thanks her family for caring for her two-year-old Brian while performing as a "Do-Opp" girl.

C.W. "Bud" PRATT (Mr. Mushnik) - Bud has been acting in ACT shows almost since its beginning and has served on the Board of Directors. He has played many roles, worn many different hats, and worked on and behind the stage. His first ACT role was in *The Sound of Music* and his most recent role was in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Bud claims no surprise when he was chosen to play the old man in 'Little Shop', because he is about to celebrate his seventh anniversary of birthdays ending in zero.

KATHRYN BISBEY (Audrey) - Kathryn has multiple credentials in the fine arts and has graced the ACT stage in many roles. Not only is she a fine straight actress, but she is also a veteran of musical theater. Her credits with ACT in the past year include *Nonsense*, *Mousetrap* and *Sunshine Boys*. Kathryn is also on the ACT Board of Directors and performs in the singing and dancing ACT II group. Between a full-time job at KVI, lots of church music participation, and a full-time husband, Kathryn makes time for her passion of the performing arts. She also loves to fish and rollerblade. She has no spare time.

RANDY S. REID (Seymour) - 'Little Shop' is Randy's third musical with ACT. He previously appeared as Jesus in *Godspell* and Bobby in *Company*. He is also a member of ACT II, the song and dance troupe sponsored by ACT. Randy feels he owes ACT, since he will be performing this summer at the ALTER, when he marries Sarah, the love of his life, whom he met during an ACT production. Congratulations, Randy. When not on stage Randy is a buyer for Pomeroy Computer Resources in Des Moines. By the way, Randy was not type-cast as a nerd, even though he is one--a computer nerd.

CAROL HARRIS-FERGUSON (Cleaning lady and Ms. Patricia Martin) - Carol is a newcomer to Ankeny and the ACT stage. She and her three sons recently moved here from Ottumwa, and she is working as a computer consultant for TSC at the Hoover Building. Carol comes from a musical family that enjoys performing together. She is diligently pursuing her career in an effort to move uptown from her life on 'Skid Row'.

LARRY JOHNSON (Derelict, Customer and Bernstein) - Larry moved to Ankeny 15 years ago to attend college (has an MBA) and has been here since. After seeing *Les Misérables* Larry's interest in theater emerged. Hence, this is his first production as an actor/singer. His other interests include Toastmasters, playing most sports, and singing for his supper as a member of the Principal Singers. Guess where he works.

JOSHUA SAYRE (Derelict and Skip Snip) - As a sophomore at Ankeny High School Josh participates in chorus, band, soccer and chess, not to mention some academics. As a first-timer in any production, Josh has proven that he is a natural as an actor and his singing voice will take him a long way. Josh has been encouraged to participate in this show by his uncle, aunt and grandmother--all of whom have been on the ACT stage--and he claims he has been enjoying his experiences. Josh thanks all of his family for their support.

GRACE LEVERENZ (Bag Lady and Mrs. Luce) - Grace has considerable experience as a "gopher girl" producer for ACT. She also is serving on the ACT Board of Directors. In her spare time Grace likes golf, bridge, football, "Penguin" water exercise, church music and several other non-paying activities. She claims to be fascinated (and intimidated) by the multi-talented people in 'Little Shop'.



SCOTT FAULKNER, DVM (Orin Scrivello, DDS) - Scott has been active in local community theater for over 20 years. He has appeared in such ACT productions as *(aroussel, Amme (et Your (im, A Jimmy Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and many others. Scott is a local veterinarian and would like to think it was his talent that got him this role--but really believes that he was cast because he had the dentist's smock, the leather jacket and the Harley. (Director's note: The portrayal of this character does not reflect the views and ethics of the Ankeny Central Pet Clinic.)

BILL YEAGER (Audrey II ) - Bill migrated to Ankeny from Des Moines eight years ago and lives here with his wife and three daughters. He works as an accountant at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames and apparently needed a complete turnaround when the director asked Bill to manipulate Audrey II. His first-time on stage, and the audience never sees him. Mr. Director promised Bill that he would "grow" in this production.

WAYNE PIERSON (Director) - Wayne was first introduced to ACT when his wife (Gaye) performed in *Nonsense*, after which he was producer for *Plaza Suite*. Previous community theatre experience was with The Whistlestop Players, where he directed or appeared on stage in productions of *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, 1776, (arnival, Hello Holly, (nce Upon a Mattress, and Bedfall of Foreigners*. Wayne can sing, dance, act and direct--no problem--and he's probably one of the busiest people in Polk County. He is a ball of energy (and nerves during rehearsals) and keeps his cast members inspired. Wayne works as a recreation therapist at the Iowa Veterans' Home in Marshalltown and lives in Elkhart.

GAYE PIERSON (Director's Assistant) - Gaye and Wayne are busy, busy people. Both are involved in jobs, church music and the theater. Gaye owns and operates a puppy parlor in Ankeny and enjoys five Lhasa Apso family members. Gaye has been on the ACT stage as a singing/dancing nun in *Nonsense*.

MARY KAY BORTS (Keyboard/computer technician) - Mary Kay has been playing keyboards since she was 14 and has enjoyed every minute. No wonder she's an expert. At present she is the music coordinator at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Altoona. She and her husband Rick have three children and live in Altoona. We wish she lived in Ankeny.

THERESA FLEENER (Producer) - Theresa had backstage involvement with community theater for over 15 years in Waterloo. After moving to Ankeny in 1988 Theresa became involved with ACT and is presently doing her first producing job. She thanks her family (husband and two children) for their support during her absence and the cast for working hard on a great show.



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### ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

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Ankeny Community Theatre

1932 SW 3rd Street

Ankeny, Iowa 50021

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