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OAT Opens 29th Season, Guns Blazing

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Ozark Actors Theatre opened its 29th Season on June 16th with Irving Berlin's *Annie Get Your Gun*. Directed by Grace Austin, the musical is presented by museum patrons playing dress up in clothes from 'the way it used to be' and follows the adventures of American sharpshooter Annie Oakley as she decides between being the best or being loved.

These classic Berlin songs will have you humming along in your seat and are given new life from some old and new faces to the OAT stage. Hollyn Gayle and Christopher Essex made their OAT debuts as the lovingly competitive Annie Oakley and Frank Butler. Gayle has a voice that sounds like everything she sings comes 'natur-lay', while Essex woos with that good old fashioned cowboy charm. Returning the stage includes Grace Taylor and Rolla's own Lydia Bagnall whose three-part harmony with Gayle is sure to lull even the most unruly child to sleep. Then OAT favorite, Sabra Sellers is sure to wake them right back up with a few laughs as Frank Butler's lovely assistant, Dolly Tate. Other comedic performances include Rolla's Jeff Williams in multiple roles and another fresh face, Simi Bal as the money hungry Charlie Davenport.

Music director Titus Kautz leads a great band while Blake Hardin does a beautiful job of balancing voice and music with his sound design. You too can see this wonderful balancing act with the help of Jack Golden's scenic design work that fits an entire band on stage along with a

large cast.

Annie Get Your Gun is classic fun for the whole family with new relevance led by a woman who could undoubtedly do anything you can do, just better!

The production runs June 16-26, 2016 at the Cedar Street Playhouse, located at 701 N. Cedar Street in Rolla. Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Ticket information: www.OzarkActorsTheatre.org, or call 573-364-9523 ext. 1.

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