

Nuns Visit Lewis Station Winery for “Nunsense”

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J237: Event Story

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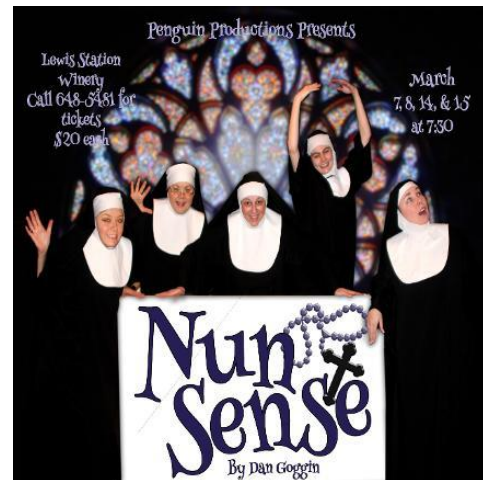
Lake Mills, Wis. — *Saturday evening the Lewis Station Winery theater filled with laughter as Sister Regina, played by Jennie Ortega, explained their convent’s predicament.

*“Nunsense” begins right after the death 52 nuns after eating a stew made by Sister Julie, their cook. When the convent runs out of money to bury all of the nuns, five of the surviving sisters take it upon themselves to solve their problem—burying the sisters stored in the freezers.

*“Nunsense”, performed by Penguin Productions, is the production company’s 10th show at Lewis Station Winery since 2011.

It is an interactive-musical comedy written by Dan Goggin in 1985, and the original has been performed across the globe over 5,000 times.

Saturday, the sisters delivered the irreverent humor to a full house of 50 people.



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Penguin Productions performed one of the other “Nunsense” musicals at the winery four years ago with three of the same actors: Ortega, Jackie Hafenstein (“Sister Hubert”) and Heather Kent (“Sister Amnesia”).

Owner of Penguin Productions and director and stage designer of “Nunsense” Jill Nadeau decided to do the original rendition of the musical after Ortega expressed interest in the show. It was also appealing because “it’s always a favorite with audiences.”

Penguin Productions has been performing shows in the Lake Mills area since 2006. Past shows include: “The Odd Couple”, “The 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee”, “Our Town” and “Rumors.”

Because of the audience interaction in “Nunsense”, the key to a successful performance revolves around their connection with the actors.

Nadeau said that she enjoys “how the actors and audience feed off of each other [in “Nunsense”] - we don't have a great show unless we have a great audience.”

Saturday the sisters found the necessary bond with the lively audience.

Meghan Ledwitch who plays Sister Robert Anne loved having a full-house their second performance.

“Crowd interaction helps immensely to get into character, especially when the crowd laughs and responds to the jokes. That’s the best part. When you are playing silly roles like we do, hearing laughter from our audience shows us that what we have practiced so hard was worth it,” Ledwitch said.

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When audience member Brennan Krieger was asked what he thought about the show, he smiled and said, “The show was God awful. I’m kidding of course. The cast was impeccable with their comedic timing. I really enjoyed the performance.”

With two of the four performances complete and tickets almost sold out, anyone looking for comedic relief this weekend is encouraged to reserve their tickets soon.

The remaining shows are Friday March 14 and Saturday March 15 at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. To reserve seats call Lewis Station Winery at 920-648-548.

If you can’t make it to this show, keep an eye on the Lewis Station Winery website (www.lewisstationwinery.com) and the Penguin Productions’ website (<http://www.penguin-productions.com>) for upcoming events.