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**HERITAGE THEATRE FESTIVAL TO WRAP UP MEMORABLE  
2009 SEASON WITH *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS***

**Hilarious Musical Tale of Boy Meets Girl Meets Insatiable Man-Eating Plant From Outer  
Space Set to Invade Culbreth Theatre Beginning July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – July 14, 2009 – Heritage Theatre Festival will end its 2009 season with one of the most hilarious unconventional musical love stories ever to jump off the streets of Skid Row.

*Little Shop of Horrors*, directed by longtime Heritage favorite Geno Carr, comes to Culbreth Theatre beginning on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. It's the tale of lovesick Seymour who sees a man-eating plant from outer space as just the ticket for the fame and fortune that might win him the heart of longtime crush Audrey. What could go wrong...right? Throw in a sadistic biker dentist and a rockin' score inspired by early 60's pop, Motown and Doo-Wop styles and you've got yourself a musical comedy mix of hilarious proportions.

*Little Shop of Horrors* will run from July 23-25; July 27 and 30; August 4 and August 7-8. Tickets for the show are \$27 for adults, \$23 for seniors (60+) and U.Va. faculty & staff and \$15 for students. Tickets are now available at the Heritage Box Office, online at [www.uvahtf.org](http://www.uvahtf.org) or by calling 434-924-3376.

"I absolutely love this show," Carr said. "It's one of those that people just fall in love with. You have such wonderful characters and then of course you have the big draw, which is this huge plant. Everyone loves to see how you do the plant."

The plant for this production will look familiar to anyone who saw the show during its recent Broadway run, Carr said. "This was built by the puppeteers who worked on that production. It's pretty darned close to the Broadway version. They are beautiful puppets and people are going to be amazed at the way this plant comes to life onstage."

Another big draw, Carr says, are the tunes, provided by the now legendary writing team of Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman. "What is so great about this score is it is such an eclectic blend of music. There is this sort of Motown influence, the stylistic period including the classic girl groups. But what is really amazing about it is how the writers use the music to help tell the story and build the characters as well."

Like so much of this summer's Heritage season, Carr says *Little Shop of Horrors* is a great chance for families to enjoy great laughs and great music – even given its murderous plant-driven plot. “It's all done with great fun. This is just a really enjoyable show for families to experience together...especially if they have not seen the play or movie yet.”

The 2009 Heritage Theatre Festival season continues at the Helms Theatre on July 21 with the Texas laughs of *Red, White & Tuna*. *On Golden Pond* opens in the Culbreth July 16 and plays July 17-18, 29, August 1, 3 and 6. *Moonlight and Magnolias* continues its run at the Culbreth Theatre through August 5.

Reduced season subscription packages are now on sale and include tickets to the remaining four shows -- *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *On Golden Pond*, *Red, White and Tuna* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Prices are \$76 for adults, \$64 for seniors (60+) and U.Va. faculty & staff and \$48 for students. Reduced subscriptions are available at the Heritage Box Office.

For complete ticket and schedule information or to order your tickets today, visit [www.uvahtf.org](http://www.uvahtf.org) or call the box office at 34-924-3376.

Press photos are available at <http://www.virginia.edu/heritagetheatre/pressCenter.htm>.

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