

# Looking Ahead

Tonight was my introduction into a new theatre board. I think this organization will be a fun, challenging, and ultimately rewarding crowd to be a part of. Hopefully, the passion I have for the dramatic arts will be beneficial. This summer, the group will be presenting the beloved, immortal classic *The Wizard of Oz*. I have dreamed of playing one particular role for as long as I can remember.

However, another nearby group will be presenting another of my favorite shows. I believe that I have mentioned a time or two that I have been in two separate productions of *Annie*. Back in 1992 at good ol' EHS, I played Rooster. Daniel Francis Hannigan will forever be one of my most memorable and favorite roles. Back in 2001 (I believe it was), I was cast as a Hooverville-ite and as one of Daddy Warbucks' servants. As we approach the 35th anniversary of the musical's Broadway debut (and it's planned 2nd revival in 2012 as part of the celebration), the opportunity to audition for Rooster once again would be a delight!

Thank goodness, I have a few months to ponder the conundrum.

For any lurkers who may be out there who deem themselves qualified to fill one of the PAID technical (director, pit director, vocal director, etc) positions for a full-scale version of the *Wizard of Oz*, visit the [Fountain City Festival](#) website within the coming weeks for more information. If you drop by the website now, you can take a tour of the past few summer shows the group has produced.

---

# Christmas Wishes

Over the past few weeks, I have been blessed to become re-acquainted with someone who used to teach at the local elementary school. She has since moved to North Carolina. She started commenting on my blog during the worst couple of weeks I have had in my 35 years when Emily became seriously ill and lost her battle with leukemia. I helped Terri and Emily direct the high school's production of Bye, Bye Birdie a few years ago. I am extremely sad to say that the theatrical tradition that was once so strong at my alma mater has disappeared. Growing up I remember watching great musicals performed on the gymnasium stage. The first being The Wizard of Oz in 1977. I was introduced to my favorite musical, Carousel, in the early 80s, as well as [Finian's Rainbow](#), You're A Good Man Charlie Brown (which [justj](#)'s daughter will be part of in her high school's production next Spring). I also watched both of my brothers on stage. THEN, I guess I made my mark in Fiddler on the Roof, I Remember Mama, and (finally) as Rooster in Annie. I also helped stage The Sound of Music, South Pacific, and the aforementioned Birdie. Do any of my faithful readers have any memories of school musical productions they would like to share?

Terri recently sent this holiday greeting which features my favorite version of my favorite carol set to a beautiful scene which signifies the true meaning of the season.

This will be our final song to you before Christmas, which truly symbolizes our belief of the true meaning of Christmas.