

THE HERALD JOURNAL

Nibley City Children's Theatre puts on 38th production

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Utah Public Radio

Flouncing poodle skirts, diner milkshakes, and boys with slicked-back hair set the scene for the play "Cindy Goes to the Sock Hop" at the Nibley City amphitheater this weekend.

The Nibley City Children's Theatre is the longest running city sponsored children's theater in the state of Utah and last weekend put on its 38th production. The play told a 1950s Cinderella story as part of the city's

weeklong Heritage Days celebration.

Emily Rigby has directed the children's theater shows for the past four years and said the break they had to take last year because of COVID-19 makes this year's production extra special.

"My favorite part is seeing how many people come together and work," she said. "Like hundreds of hours of moms and dads setting things up and making costumes and painting scenery. To see it all come together and that the community all came together to put it on is

the best."

Alannah Darrington is one of the volunteers Rigby is referring to. Darrington performed in the plays as a child and now works as the costume manager. While shoo-bop skirts and letterman jackets were a key piece of this year's costumes, the purple mice rompers Darrington and her team made for the magic mice in the show were one of her favorite parts.

"Kids wore rompers in the '50s when they were younger so I really wanted to have that in the play," she said.

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Performers dance during the production of the musical "Cindy Goes to the Sock Hop" on Thursday in Nibley. The Nibley Children's Theatre put on the performance as part of the Heritage Days celebration.

Theatre/ from A3

Performing in the community plays is something Darrington said shaped her.

"I'm a lot more confident than maybe I would have been if I hadn't done the play," she said.

This year more than 200 children participated in the play and have been practicing weekly since the beginning of June.

Adam Saunders played the head of the greaser boys in this year's production and says the

best part of the play is being on stage.

"My favorite part is probably being head and just sitting there like, 'Yeah, you all need to listen to me,'" he said.

Lilly Spaulding played a shoo-bop girl named Alice.

"I'm most excited for when I go on stage," she said.

Both the kids said even though they were a little nervous, they were excited to have their families see what they had been working on. And Rigby, their director, said that is what it is all about.