

State School Musical

Willowbrook Employes in Cast

An original musical play, "Once Upon an Island," will be presented in the auditorium of Willowbrook State School at 8 P. M. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and under auspices of the Willowbrook Players, a group of the school's employes.

The play, with story, music and lyrics by Vincent Lombardi, instructor in music at Willowbrook, will be the first ever to be presented by employes of the school. Proceeds will be used to purchase uniforms for the school's band.

Employes participating in the musical have been attending rehearsals for the past several weeks and Mr. Lombardi recently devoted his vacation period to the production, according to Mrs. Kathleen L. Hennessy, publicity chairman for the band uniform committee.

THE SHOW will feature a cast of nearly 50 persons, and will include 20 original ballads prepared by Mr. Lombardi. The setting for the play is not Staten Island but, rather, an island 18 miles off the west coast, according to the committee.

The Willowbrook play will star Frank DeJulio and Leo LeDuc, and features Miss Margaret Diaderato, Donald Bailey, Chris Penn, Miss Julia Pitou, Mrs. Alice Cotgrove, James Vicari, Mrs. Edna Mulligan and Miss Ida Finkelson.

Scenery and costumes are being prepared by the school's maintenance department, seamstress division and the occupational therapy service.

Chairman of the band committee is Arnold Cortazzo, with Miss Florence Goodfield as vice-chairman. Others are Tracy Plain, secretary; Albert Langenstein, treasurer; Mrs. Alyce Teichmann, tickets, and Mrs. Hennessy, Mrs. Ethel Stevens and Marie Salvatore, publicity.

Willowbrook Show
Opens Tomorrow

Last-minute preparations for the premiere performance of an original play were being made at Willowbrook State School today as officials announced that music will be provided by Local 802, American Federation of Musicians.

The play, "Once Upon an Island," an original musical production by Vincent Lombardi, instructor in music at the school, will be presented in the school auditorium tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday at 8 P.M. More than 50 employes of the school will participate.

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The show will comprise the first of its kind ever presented by employes of a state Department of Mental Hygiene school. Proceeds will go toward providing uniforms for the school's band.

The musical will star Frank DeJulio and Leo LeDuc and feature more than 20 musical numbers composed by Lombardi. Scenery, costumes and choreography are under direction of James O'Connor, with scenery and costumes prepared by the school's maintenance department, seamstress division and occupational therapy service.

Willowbrook
Band Benefit
Passes Quota

Approximately 1,000 persons attended the last performance of "Once Upon an Island," given Saturday in the Willowbrook State School auditorium for the benefit of the school band.

Uniforms for the band will be bought this week. The players exceeded their quota, as about 2,400 persons came to see the show the three nights it was presented. It was the first production of the group, which consists of employes of the institution.

The story, music and lyrics were by Vincent Lombardi, music teacher at the school. Lou Russ's orchestra played. Scenery and costumes were made by the seamstress division of the maintenance department and by the occupational therapy department.

Guests included Frank Pavis, C. Edward Gidion and Mrs. Jacqueline Lyons, members of the board of visitors, and Dr. H.H. Berman, director.