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### **Gardner-Webb University Opera Returns with The Old Maid and The Thief**

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# Gardner-Webb University Opera Returns with The Old Maid and The Thief

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Office of University Communications

February 7, 2014

## *Performances for Family-Friendly Opera Planned February 13-16*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University’s School of Performing and Visual Arts presents *The Old Maid and The Thief: A Grotesque Opera in 14 Scenes*, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 13-15 at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2:30 p.m. in the Dover Theatre, located in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation (LYCC). The stage performers and orchestra members for the opera consist of GWU students and community participants.

Dr. Megan McCauley, GWU Director of Opera Theatre and assistant professor of voice is directing the opera, which was written by Gian Carlo Menotti. Dr. Patricia Sparti, professor of music and music director, is conducting the GWU Orchestra as they provide live music for the event.

“This comedy was originally composed as an opera for radio,” said McCauley. “It tells a story of two women desperate for the attention of a man and the mistaken identity of an escaped convict on the run.”

The Old Maid and The Thief is performed in English and is appropriate for audiences of all ages. McCauley says audience members can expect a show full of surprises, laughs, and disguises.

McCauley adds, “There will also be a photo booth in the lobby for free pictures in disguise, and a raffle on opening night for a grand prize.”

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and (non GWU) students, and \$2 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased at the door or by phone at 704-406-2777.

More information about the School of Performing and Visual Arts music division is available at 704-406-4453.

*Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University’s purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).*