

## On Stage (Bonus): Get your mid-week music jam on

By Denny Dyroff, Staff Writer, The Times

### *Crazy for You*

Now through June 25, the highly-entertaining musical “Crazy for You” is being presented by the Candlelight Theater (2208 Millers Road, Arden, Delaware, 302- 4752313, <http://www.candlelighttheatredelaware.org/>).

“Crazy for You” is a romantic comedy musical with a book by Ken Ludwig, lyrics by Ira Gershwin, and music by George Gershwin. It is billed as “The New Gershwin Musical Comedy.”

The hit show is largely based on the songwriting team’s 1930 musical, “Girl Crazy,” but incorporates songs from several other productions as well. “Crazy for You” won the 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical. “Crazy for You” is the story of Bobby Child, a well-to-do 1930s playboy whose sole dream in life is to dance. The show is a high-energy, screwball comedy with mistaken identities, plot twists galore, and fabulous dance numbers.

The production at Candlelight features Nate Golden turning in a standout performance in the lead role of Bobby Child. Golden shines with both his singing and his tap dancing.

“I learned to tap dance when I was in a show – ‘42nd Street’ – when I was in high school in West Virginia,” said Golden, during a phone interview last week from his home in Philadelphia.

“It was a dream of mine for years to be a country music singer. Then, after high school, I studied at Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, Virginia. I got my degree in acting with a focus on musical theater.



*Madison Buck (Polly Baker) and Nate Golden (Bobby Child)*

*Photo: Tisa Della-Volpe*

“I did several productions at Shenandoah, including the tap musical ‘Anything Goes.’ After I graduated from Shenandoah, I moved to Philadelphia for an acting apprenticeship with Walnut Street Theatre. Then, I decided to stay in Philly.”

In recent years, Golden has worked with a variety of area theaters — Walnut Street, Arden, Mauckingbird, Bristol Riverside, Media and Delaware Theatre Company.

“This is my second show with Candlelight,” said Golden, who is also the Artistic Director of Nightcap Cabaret. “I did “How to Succeed” a couple years ago. Candlelight is one of the nicest places I’ve ever worked.”

“Crazy for You” has become one of Broadway’s timeless classics. It features an amazing score by

George Gershwin that includes standards such as “I Got Rhythm,” “Naughty Baby,” “They Can’t Take That Away from Me,” “Embraceable You,” and “Someone To Watch Over Me.” In 1992, in addition to winning the Tony Award for Best Musical, “Crazy for You” also got Tony Awards for Best Costume Design (William Ivey Long) and Best Choreography (Susan Stroman). Stroman, a Delaware native, is a Candlelight alum.

“I love this show,” said Golden. “You just can’t help but smile with this show. I love playing Bobby even though I never get a moment to sit down. There is a lot of myself in this character. I grew up wanting to be a song-and-dance man. Another reason I like Bobby is that he’s not afraid to crack a joke even in serious situations.”



*Nate Golden (Bobby Child) and The Follies Girls. Photo: Tisa Della-Volpe*

“Our production of the show has really evolved. We get more comfortable every day. The show is massive – and it never slows down.”

Video link for the Candlelight Theatre – <https://youtu.be/FsUwE4R4oXk>.

The buffet menu for “Crazy for You” features: Salad Bar, Shrimp with cocktail sauce, Salmon Diavolo, Tricolor cheese tortellini in a roasted red pepper and basil cream sauce, Fajita strip steak with onions, red peppers with cilantro and fajita seasoning, Meatballs in a Bourbon BBQ Thai Chili sauce, Ham in a dijon mustard/honey sauce, Chicken stuffed with roasted red pepper and swiss cheese with hollandaise, Garlic mashed potatoes, Broccoli and carrots, Garlic and cilantro white rice and a Dessert bar.

“Crazy for You” is running now through June 25 with performances Friday and Saturday evenings (doors 6 p.m./show, 8 p.m.) and Sunday afternoons (doors, 1 p.m./show, 3 p.m.) with additional shows on June 14 at 1 p.m. and June 22 at 6 p.m. Tickets, which include dinner and show, are \$60 for adults and \$33 for children (ages 4-12)