



STEVE DINENNO - DIRECTOR, THE PROM

Steve has been an active member of the Dramateurs since 1986. During his time at the Barn, he has worked on numerous shows both on and off stage. He currently serves as the group's President for the 2025 Season. Steve has directed many Barn productions, including *Chess*, *Company*, *The Addams Family*, *Into the Woods*, *Spring Awakening*, *Rent*, *It Shoulda Been You*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Legally Blonde*, *Rock of Ages* and, most recently, our 2024 production of *A Chorus Line*. Steve is a Gifted Support and Advanced Placement teacher at Norristown Area High School. He lives in Eagleville, PA with his wife of 30 years, Marianne, and their two dogs, Tina and Tracy.

Why is Steve interested in directing *The Prom*?

As a High School teacher, *The Prom* touches me for many reasons. Each year, I have a front row seat for the excitement and joy that our Juniors and Seniors experience as they prepare for their proms. It is an exciting time for the entire school. Students often share with me their plans and how much fun they are going to have. I have had the opportunity to experience a modern day prom firsthand and I am thrilled by how it brings students together in a spirit of unity and school spirit. I am also amazed by the creativity and individuality with which many of my students celebrate this unique time in their lives. The issue of LGBTQ rights is also a part of every High School, a time of discovery and finding out who we truly are.

The appeal of *The Prom* for me is the message of acceptance and love told through the humor and exciting musical score of the piece. As you sit and experience the journey taken, not only by Emma, but by many members of the cast, you discover a connection to your own journey. The story of *The Prom* may come right out of the news headlines, but what I hope you take from your time watching our production is something all your own. Emma's bravery can be an example for us all to stick to who we are despite the obstacles people may put in front of us.

I hope you enjoy the show!

Steve