

## Lyric arts trio to honor Cather novel

By JEROME PUGSLEY

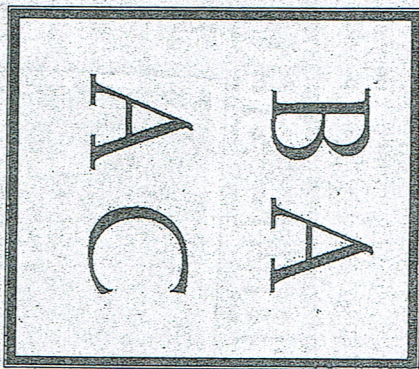
BEATRICE AREA ARTS COUNCIL

The Beatrice Area Arts Council is excited to present The Lyric Arts Trio, a Kansas City-based touring ensemble, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Hevelone Center for Performing Arts, 600 Orange Blvd in Beatrice.

The trio is made up of clarinetist Elena Lence Talley, soprano Sarah Tannehill and pianist Dan Velicer; this is the group's second performance in Beatrice.

For this performance the trio has selected works that have particularly close ties to south central Nebraskans. Since this year will mark the centennial of the publication of Willa Cather's novel, "O Pioneers!" the trio will perform "A Prairie Diary" by Kim D. Sherman. This is a collection of settings of texts from Sherman's off-Broadway musical production based on Cather's novel. Among the eight songs in the collection are "Prairie Dawn," "Recipe," "No Rain" and "Still Alive."

The trio will also feature the



premier performance of their commissioned arrangement of American composer Samuel Barber's "Knoxville: Summer of 1915," "Four Songs on Tests of Emily Dickinson," and songs by Stephen Foster.

The Lyric Arts Trio is a unique ensemble of clarinet, soprano and piano, which has been delighting audiences throughout the Midwest for over 20 years. One of the few professional organizations of its type, the trio excels in its elegant programs of solos, duos and

trios. Recent performances have included the noted OK Mozart Festival, Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City, and State Fair Community College in Missouri.

Join for a memorable evening of beautiful music. Tickets are \$5 at the door, while children and students are free. This performance is made possible thanks in part to the generous support of the Hevelone Foundation.

Here's a roundup of upcoming arts-related events in the area for the next two weeks:

**Feb. 22-24**

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" Musical comedy at Community Players. Tickets \$18 adults, \$10 students. 402-228-1801 [www.beatricecommunityplayers.com](http://www.beatricecommunityplayers.com)

**Feb. 28**

Lyric Arts Trio. Hevelone Center for Performing Arts. Tickets \$5 adults, students free.

*This column was written by Jerome Pugsley, Beatrice Area Arts Council Board Member.*