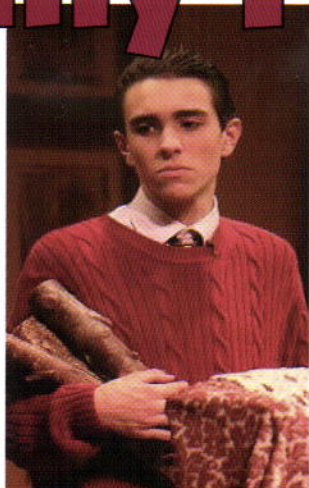
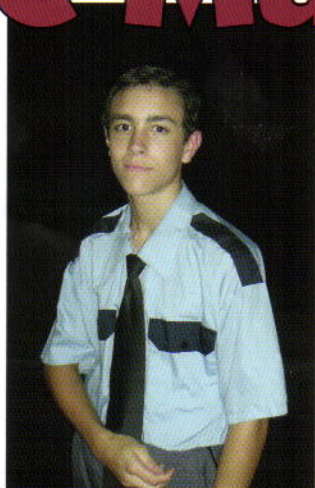


# The Many Faces of



## Shane Lowry '10

*"By definition a good actor possesses creativity, concentration, determination, stamina, access to the imagination, playfulness, the ability to cope with rejection, nonrational thinking, and detailed emotional memory. That pretty much sums up Shane Lowry."*

*-Ed Lawrence, Blackfriars' Theatre Director*

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Elliott Gould played Hawkeye Pierce in the movie; Alan Alda expanded the role in the TV series; Curley's Shane Lowry '10 added his own interpretation in the Tim Kelly play *M\*A\*S\*H*, presented by Blackfriars' Theatre in the fall.

Shane is no stranger to the stage. He started acting in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Stephen's School in a play entitled *Murder Can Be Habit-Forming* and in 8<sup>th</sup> grade took the role of a con man who becomes a school principal. He played soccer and took karate for six years, but slowly the stage became his passion. And, he discovered he liked to sing.

The newness of high school did not intimidate Shane, who joined Blackfriars' Theatre in the fall of his freshman year and earned a non-speaking part in *The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial*. He also joined the choir a few weeks before the Christmas concert and learned his first tenor parts quickly by listening to the older students. In the spring of 2007 he performed in Disney's *High School Musical*. His memory of that show was dancing on a table-top with one of the girls in the cast.

In the fall of his sophomore year, Shane was becoming a fixture in the auditorium and Blackfriars' Theatre. Due to a small cast, he took multiple parts in *No Time For Sergeants*. That spring, he got his first singing solo as Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast*.

Fall 2008 saw Shane take the role of the husband, Giles, in Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*. But it is his role as Tevye in the 2009 spring musical *Fiddler on the Roof* that is most memorable for this author.



Shane really took on the persona of the Jewish milkman who talked to God and dealt with the issues that his traditions presented. Who can forget his dance to "If I Were A Rich Man?"

As a senior, Shane played Hawkeye Pierce in the fall presentation of *M\*A\*S\*H*, which was Mr. Ed Lawrence's 25<sup>th</sup> production as Blackfriars' Theatre Director. And he also played the lead in the spring musical *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

Last year, Shane received Honorable Mention in the Maryland Distinguished Scholars Competition. He participated in, what else, the acting competition. Mr. Ed Lawrence, Director of Blackfriars' Theatre, writes: "Over the last 3 1/2 years I have watched Shane grow as an actor. I see his major strength as his keen sense of character development, which I have only seen in a few of the many students that have performed as members of Blackfriars' Theatre for the 21 years that I have been involved with it. Even many of our theatre patrons have told me that when watching Shane perform, they see the character rather than Shane the student. Some would think that this would give him an ego, but in reality he is just one of the actors in the show, and through his encouragement to the others he promotes that spirit throughout the cast. Shane is most definitely a team who gives his all and expects the same from his fellow actors on stage. By definition a good actor possesses creativity, concentration, determination, stamina, access to the imagination, playfulness, the ability to cope with rejection, nonrational thinking, and detailed emotional memory. That pretty much sums up Shane Lowry. Hopefully someday on one of my trips to see a Broadway show, I will be stopping by the box office to pick up my complimentary ticket that Shane has left for me."

Quite an amazing high school resume for this Curley student who plans to continue in theatre in college. After that, who knows. We may see him in a local community theatre or someday, on or near Broadway. Whatever happens later, Shane has certainly discovered and used his gifts and talents at Curley. And we are all better for it.