

# Hitting high notes

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There are a lot of events to look forward to during the school year. From football games to state speech there is a wide variety of activities for students to enjoy, but for many choir students the spring musical is one the main highlights of the year. Considering it only happens once a year, it is a pretty special thing to be a part of.

This year, the musical is “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”. It’s a story that follows the biblical story of Joseph and his brothers that betray him and how he comes to terms with that. The cast has been decided and everyone is swarming with many emotions leading up to practices. The cast will practice two to three times a week with the help of the staff and student directors.

With the beginning of a new musical comes a new student director along with it. Joey Hancox, senior, made the decision to step down from acting and instead become one of the two student directors. One of her biggest reasons was because of her

love of music and helping others, “I really like being able to lead and help out the staff so I felt like student director would be best for me,” said Hancox. In past years she has been a part of the musical, taking a role on stage, but this year she wanted a change of tone and this was the best way for her to do it. Combining her love for performance and leadership. Other students, however, have made the opposite decision.

Reid Coates, senior, has never been on the musical stage up until this year when he decided to try out for the part of Jacob. In past years, he has been working in the background doing lights. An important but not well-recognized job. His love for music brought him to try out acting for a change, “I absolutely love every part of music and a musical has it in the name, so that’s why I decided to audition,” said Coates. Being the light tech also brought him to see the amazing talent and atmosphere that a musical brings with it. Making him want to be a part of it even more than he already was. All of the hard work that Coates brought into this ultimately led to him getting the part he was hoping to get.

Musicals require talent, hard work, and dedication. From long practices to dress rehearsals the process of being in a musical is magical. Many long practices just for a couple of hours on stage. But it’s not just about the performance. The process builds friendships and bonds along with a much higher respect for music and the performing arts. So if you’re not busy, go check out everyone’s hard work on April 16th, 17th, and 18th this spring.



Students in the musical rehearse their songs during practice.

# Ones for all

By: Molly Dunne @MollyDunne\_11



Molly Schlitter, sophomore, smiles at the audience during her speech performance.

Making it to State in anything is a huge accomplishment. But especially when it’s your first year doing speech. Students involved in speech practice 1-2 times a week for each group they are in, so doing a speech is a huge time commitment. Even though they practice so much, there are only two-three speech competitions depending on if you make it to State or even All-State.

Speech is not what most people think it is. There are many different groups that you can choose to be a part of. There are readers theater, mime, musical theater, improv, and many more groups. Sophomore Molly Schlitter was a part of the reader’s theater and group mime this year. Despite it being only Schlitter’s first year, group mime made it to state this year. “I’m not really sure how it will go- we will do our best. If we don’t make it into All-State then that’s ok,” said Schlitter.

Noah Wasek, freshman, also made it to State for musical theater. “I think we will do ok; we just have to solidify some things,” said Wasek. The musical theater

group practices two times a week for around 2 hours each time. Both groups ended up getting one’s at state but unfortunately didn’t make it to All-State.

In order to make it to State, you have to get a 1 at districts. You have to practice a lot and really know what you are doing in order to get ones. For mime, you get less than six minutes to act out a story without talking. For musical theater you get 10 minutes to sing, act and do choreography while telling a story.

“I had friends in speech last year who said it was fun and I’m not in any winter sports, so I thought I would give it a try,” said Schlitter. Wasek also said, “The people are fun to be around and liked the variety and it sounded fun, so I joined.” Speech is something that anyone can be involved in. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication but it is something fun if you are willing to giving it a shot. So if you are bored next winter and want to have something to do, consider giving speech a try.