



Hopatcong Borough Schools Press Release

Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow.

HHS Drama Club proudly presents their production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, April 5, 2018

With the excitement and fanfare of a Royal Ball, the Hopatcong High School Drama Club (HHSDC) proudly presents their production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. This beloved version of the timeless fairy tale is patterned after the adored Julie Andrews' television version from 1957.

Coming off of their wildly popular 2017 production of *All Shook Up* featuring the music of Elvis Presley, the HHSDC finds *Cinderella* to be a bittersweet production. Sweet because of its timelessness, hold on the culture, and beautiful book and score by Rodgers & Hammerstein. The bitter is because it is the final directorial outing of Joe Ross on the Hopatcong High School stage.

Mr. Ross explained that Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* was the first musical he directed at Hopatcong High School. Now that Mr. Ross has decided to retire from teaching he wants to mount this production with his current students to end his time on the Hopatcong High School stage by coming full circle.

The HHSDC's *Cinderella* stars senior Abi McDonough who enchants as the title character. Senior Jackson Morgan portrays Prince Charming charmingly. Junior Kelly Nee sparkles as the Fairy Godmother. Senior Tara Nixdorff is wickedly delicious as the evil step-mother, while freshmen Victoria Semiz and Madison Maniquis are perfectly awful as the stepsisters. Sophomore Matt Smith artfully tackles the role of Prince Charming's father, the King, and junior Abby Dekker regally assumes the role of Queen.

Technical Director and producer Mr. Michael Bathe worked to impart wisdom and autonomy to co-producers Luisa Kazanfer, a junior, and Brittney Lengkong, a sophomore. Student director sophomore Fernando Leyva commands as assistant director working closely to learn his trade from Mr. Ross and Mr. Bathe. Junior Anthony Marinaro creates magic as head of technology. And senior Dominic Solimando hustles brilliantly as head of publicity.

Mr. Kurt Zimmerman heads the supremely talented pit orchestra. Ms. Megan Nardone and HHSDC alumni Ms. Alexis Mott worked as costume mistress and choreographer respectively. Mrs. Ross as blocking and acting coach and Mrs. Barbara Fersch as music coach helped bring this production to life.

The HHSDC presents their production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* starting Thursday, April 12 – Saturday, April 14th at 7p and Sunday, April 15th a matinee at 2p. Tickets are \$10 and \$7 for senior citizens and students. Sunday's performance is a combined Senior Citizen and Scout Day.

Come see the incredible cast and production and bid farewell to Mr. Joe Ross. All performances are held at Hopatcong High School auditorium located at 2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong.

Hopatcong High School Drama Club Proudly Presents

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
Cinderella

Music by Richard Rodgers
Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Hopatcong High School Auditorium

Thurs., April 12th - 7pm

Fri., April 13th - 7pm

Sat., April 14th - 7pm

Sun., April 15th - 2pm

*Senior Citizen/Scout Day is
Sunday, April 15th!*

Adults: \$10

*Students &
Seniors: \$7*

