



Play

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The Theater Troupe was ecstatic about the opportunity to perform *Little Shop of Horrors* as their spring musical. They jumped right into preparations with both feet, no hesitations.

Henry Grimm, a senior at NAHS, is starring as the male lead, Seymour. Grimm is so grateful to be back on stage, doing what he loves with his friends. He said, "When I found out I was getting the co-star role to Ms. Paige Horvath I was so excited. We've been in shows before, but never like this. I really hope everyone can feel our chemistry on stage!"

Grimm has shown incredible determination and dedication these past couple of months. He has wasted no time in learning his lines and trying to improve all aspects of his performance, be it acting, singing, or dancing.

"We started rehearsals in January and since then I've been perfecting blocking, choreography and vocals. My voice teacher and I have spent a few hours in the studio working on my part as well. On top of all of that, there is also memorization," he said.

Grimm isn't the only one who has put his whole heart and soul into making sure the spring musical is perfect. Jacob Kremer, a junior at NAHS and the voice actor for Audrey II (the blood thirsty plant), went further than just perfecting his performance. He tackled the daunting task of creating all of the puppets used for Audrey II through the show.

Jameson spoke praise of Kremer's hard work. "He's really taken a leadership role. He literally kind of took off. He just did it. He didn't

even ask. He just started looking up engineering ideas for how to put these plants together and he's just really [stepped up to the task]. He is honestly working his butt off for this show," she said. "Most productions of this show choose to rent their puppets, or purchase ones from other theatres that have already built them. That was never really a thought for us; I knew from the beginning that we'd build our puppets from scratch, and I couldn't be more excited with how they're turning out. They're a lot of work, but it will all pay off in the end."

There are so many more components that go into a successful show than just the on stage actors. The stage crew that works the lighting, the artists that make the props, the students who design the costumes. They have all put in countless hours to make this production of *Little Shop of Horrors* the best it can be. The show wouldn't be possible without all of the individual tasks coming together.

This year's show is also special because students have been placed in key leadership positions. Jameson explains, "It was really important to me that this be a true 'student' production, so we're excited to have students taking staff positions, making decisions and taking the helm. We have two student directors, Claire Eberly and Emma Higton; a student stage manager, Rae Schaffer; a student costume designer, Adrianna Wagner; and our show is even entirely choreographed by students, Paige Horvath, Ava DeFebbo, and Kyleigh Whitmire. It's amazing to see what teenagers can do when you give them the chance."

NAHS student and costume designer Wagner said, "The addition of costumes allows the show to be fully realized-- it truly brings the show together." Wagner and the rest of her team have spent hours sewing costumes, collecting clothing items, and advising the actors on wardrobe. Their job, coinciding with the set/prop designers, is to

make sure the show comes to life visually.

Rick Hilborn, NAHS's band director, has also been working tirelessly with a selective group of students to give the spring musical an edge: a live pit orchestra. Perhaps different from other high school productions, NAHS has been running musicals with live, student produced music for years. The students playing the pit orchestra have put in hours of work both independently and together as a group. It will be well worth their effort for the audience to be able to feel the power that comes from beautiful music.

Ensemble singer Kaylyn Guerrieri said, "After a year away from this stage, it feels amazing to be able to perform such a great show!"

The principal cast consists of Henry Grimm as Seymour Krelbourne, Aaron Louw as Mr. Mushnik, Paige Horvath as Audrey, Daniel Miller as Orin Scivello (D.D.S), Julia Borawski, Julia Chormanski, and Kaylie Force as the urchins Crystal, Ronnette, and Chiffon, and Jacob Kremer as the voice of the man-eating plant Audrey II.

The entire Theater Troupe, no matter their individual role, is excited to perform *Little Shop of Horrors* on April 21, 22, 23, and 24. The show will begin at 7:30 pm each night, with the exception of Sunday the 24. That day the show will begin at 2:00 pm. The cast and crew would love to see the NAHS auditorium packed to a full house! For ticket info, visit www.nazHStheatre.com

After a long 2 years away from the spot-light, the Theater Troupe is ready to be on stage again. The marquee is glowing brighter than ever, powerful music permeates the air, and the applause has already started to sound. Nazareth Area High School's theater program is alive once more.