

NBHS Theatre Company Presents Seussical The Musical



Seussical is a musical by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty that is based on Dr. Seuss' books, weaving together his most famous tales.

The New Bedford High School Drama Club will present its spring production, *Seussical the Musical*, with three shows:

- Friday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, April 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Kerri Quinlan-Zhou, director of fine arts for New Bedford Public Schools, said the show is an example of New Bedford High's well-known theater program.

"*Seussical* continues our NBHS drama club's tradition of excellence," she said. "This is the first musical that Ms. Sarah Cadieux has staged at New Bedford High and the quality of student performance remains as high as ever. The show has a tight-knit ensemble cast that promotes teamwork and collaboration among students – great skills for life after high school in college and careers."

Superintendent Pia Durkin said the students involved in the production exemplify the many who participate in New Bedford High's dozens of extracurricular arts, music and athletic programs at the high school.

“Productions like this are a fun experience for our students, but just as importantly they expand our kids’ abilities both inside and outside the classroom,” said Dr. Durkin. “Arts, music, sports and our many other activities offered at New Bedford High all enrich the high school experience.”

This year’s production stars NBHS students Tyler Rebello as Horton the Elephant, Zara Lemieux as the Cat in the Hat, CJ Rodriguez as Jojo the Boy, and an ensemble cast including Olivia Marques; Michael Mezhberg; Jonathan Furtado; Kenzi Farland; Mirko Lopes; Lillanne Condez; Justyn Bernardo; Rebecca Tavares; Carina Borges; Laura Bongiorno; Danielis Hernandez; Tara Lopes; Mikey Williams; Madison Sylvia; Joshua Yarro; Jessica Mello; Tayber Lima; Diana Lima; Kaitlyn Arruda; Sawyer Snook-Pollitt; and Ayanna Pediford.

Sarah Cadieux, theater arts teacher at NBHS and co-director, said, “We are so lucky to be working with a talented and energetic cast for this production. We have really enjoyed bringing some of our favorite storybook characters to life and we’re very excited to share them with the audience. The show is packed with laughs (and rhymes) and surprisingly has a wonderful message about body image, acceptance, perseverance and tolerance that can appeal to audiences of all ages.”

“We tried to take a fresh approach to our set and staging, so even if you’ve seen Seussical before, you’ll definitely want to see the NBHS production for a unique show,” co-director Aaron Valente said of the new stylized set planned for the musical.

Seussical is a musical by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty that is based on Dr. Seuss’ books, weaving together his most famous tales and characters from fifteen of his books. Seussical follows the adventures of Horton, an elephant who one day hears voices coming from a speck of dust and soon discovers that this speck contains the universe’s smallest planet. While he is ridiculed by his fellow animals for

believing in something he can't see, Horton stubbornly persists in his belief that the Whos exist. With many journeys in the show, some characters fall in love, others have desperate adventures, and some even save the world.
