

Charlotte Performing Arts Center

~ PRESS RELEASE ~

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CHS Drama to present the classic musical *Singin' in the Rain* in November



The Charlotte High School Drama Department is hard at work preparing for their fall musical, *Singin' in the Rain*. For the 2nd year, the musical is under the direction of Hollie Auten. Mrs. Auten is the Box Office Manager at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center, and has extensive directing experience working with The Revue Children's Theatre in Nashville, as well as directing the Summer Musical Theatre Camps in both Charlotte and for The Revue in Nashville. The production team also includes Ethan Oostdyk as vocal director, Kimberly Rodriguez and Amanda Macomber as choreographers, Jerry Rose as the orchestra director, and Lucas LaLonde and Jeffrey Hayes as technical directors. Performances are November 5, 6, & 7 at 7:00 pm at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center.

Featuring a cast, pit orchestra, and crew of more than 60 Charlotte Middle School and High School students, *Singin' in the Rain* is a story familiar to many people because of the 1952 movie which starred Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, and Donald O'Connor. The story is a spoof of the turmoil that afflicted the movie industry in the late 1920s when movies went from silent to sound. When two silent movie stars', Don Lockwood (Sam Sommer) and Lina Lamont (Kortney Manchip), latest movie is made into a musical, a chorus girl (Madelynn Hull) is brought in to dub Lina's speaking and singing. Don is on top of the world until Lina finds out. The stage version is nearly identical to the movie, and features the popular title song *Singin' in the Rain*, as well as favorites *Make Em Laugh*, *Good Mornin'*, *Fit as a Fiddle*, *Moses Supposes*, and many, many, more.

In addition to Sommer, Manchip, and Hull, the cast includes Jared Klann (Cosmo Brown), Noah Freiburger (RF Simpson), and Garrett Blocker (Roscoe Dexter). Others playing featured roles are Mark Dansereau (Rod), Keldon Wilson (featured dancer & sound engineer), Lexi Harris (featured dancer & Zelda Zanders), and Nicole Dugan (Dora Bailey). Rounding out the cast, playing numerous roles, are Quinn Campbell, Emily Whatley, Kimmy Leiby, Mackenzie Huffman, Kirsten Smith, Sara Smith, Hillarie Gibbs, Kaleigh Slot, Veronica Allen, Meghan Shepherd, Audrey Spitzfaden, Kollin Gonser, Chase Hull, Parker Auten, Adam Cates, Madison

Auten, Isabelle Whiting, Jillian Vara, Kyra Macomber, Nicole Pruden, Gabe Pruden, Arianna Line, Andra Barrientoz, Amber Duncan, Anna Rudnitsky, David Shafer, Katlin Medler, and Samantha Thurman. Featured in the pit orchestra are CHS students Bailey McDaniel, Audrey Lehman, Alyvia Bruce, Jonah Wojnar, Marlana Mix, Elijah Dangler, Peyton Smith, Lindsey Nichols, Claire Lupini, Adriana Sanders, and Jennifer Cook.

Advance purchase tickets, \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (62 & up), and \$6 for students, are available through the Charlotte Performing Arts Center box office at 517-541-5690 or online at www.CharlottePerformingArtsCenter.com. Ticket prices increase to \$15 for all seats if purchased at the door on the night of the performance.

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For Additional Information Contact: Hollie Auten at 517 541-5692