

RUPERT A. NOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

MUSICAL THEATER DEPARTMENT 2018 - 2019

Dear Nock Community,

It is with great excitement that we announce auditions for this year's Musical Theater production of the immensely moving epic ***THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME***.

With music and lyrics by the legendary and countless Award-Winning team of Stephen Schwartz and Alan Menken this colossal and timeless story examines the nuances of human emotion, the warm kindness and cold cruelty we are capable of, and asks us all to look within ourselves on how we treat each other and what we can do to better the world we live in. Along with an array of ensemble roles, the featured characters include the persecuted but ever optimistic gypsy Esmeralda, the cruel and conniving Dom Claude Frollo, the heroic but flawed soldier Phoebus, and of course the shy and deformed title character Quasimodo.

The production is an amalgam of the 1831 epic novel by Victor Hugo and the 1996 Walt Disney film. While retaining the musical and character material of the film, it contains the darker more challenging real world of the novel. Though the production has not yet had an official Broadway run it was conceived and premiered in 1999 in Berlin Germany under the title "*Der Glocken von Notre Dame*", a lauded 2014 premiere and successful run at the prestigious La Jolla Playhouse in San Diego, and has gone on to be performed around the world by School, Community, Amateur, and Professional theater companies.

With this production our central mission remains to highlight the talents and presence of our students. We will provide the opportunity for the involvement of as many students as we can safely manage both on stage and off. An additional highlight of the show is the immense set to be built; a scaled replica of the interior of the breathtaking Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France. Additionally, we will be constructing several working Cathedral bells that will be fully mechanized and featured throughout the performance. We will also be collaborating with area theater artists and lingual scholars to design and coach various forms of stage combat, and teach students the languages used in the production including Latin and Ancient Romani.

As the stage set for this show is massive and quite intricate we are looking for parent volunteers (particularly with carpentry experience). We are also seeking aide in costume and set construction, helping with marketing, assist on show nights, and much more. Please contact the director if you can lend any services.

There will be a \$50 production fee for each cast member. These funds cover expenses such as set & costume materials, specialist workshops, props, and show marketing. As it is the mission of the Theater Dept. to provide an opportunity for any student who is cast to participate in the show, please contact the director if there are any financial constraints.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE NO ABSENCES, LATE ARRIVALS,

OR EARLY DEPARTURES DURING THE FOLLOWING DATES:

TECH WEEK *Saturday March 30th 9:00 - 5:30 Monday April 1st & Tuesday April 2nd 2:15 - 7:30*

SHOW DATES: *Wednesday April 3rd at 6:00 Thursday April 4th at 7:00*

Friday April 5th at 7:00 Saturday April 6th at 2:00 (strike & cast party to follow)

Rehearsals will be on **Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 2:15 - 5:30**. Not all students will be needed at all rehearsals. Students will be asked to list conflicts at the audition. While we will be understanding of occasional conflicts we are working around schedules of both school and non-school personnel so please be sure you can give an overall commitment to this rehearsal schedule. See our website for full information, a rehearsal schedule, and more. (**nockhunchback.weebly.com**)

***** **AUDITION INFORMATION** *****

Auditions will be on **Monday December 3rd & Tuesday December 4th** from **2:15 - 5:00**. Students may sign up for a 10-minute time slot sign on the Theater Wall outside the Band Room.

All students are asked to be prepare a **16-measure section from a musical theater song**. There will also be a small dance portion so dress to move!

STUDENTS MUST HAVE PIANO MUSIC FOR THE AUDITION ACCOMPANIST

PLEASE DO NOT SING A SONG FROM THIS SHOW

Call-Backs will be held on **Thursday December 6th** beginning at 2:15. Not all students will have to attend these but it is suggested to leave the date open should you be called back. If a student does not receive a call-back **it does not mean they will not be cast.**

Sheet music can be purchased, downloaded, and printed from Musicnotes.com or Sheetmusicplus.com. Parents are encouraged to help students find a song appropriate for their vocal range. Avoid overly high (often pop) songs as they are less appropriate for young developing voices. If you need help selecting a song or finding sheet music, please see the Director **at least 1 week before audition** to ensure ample preparation time.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at any time!

~Brian Nickerson, *artistic and musical director*