

BEHIND-THE-CURTAIN NEWSLETTER



A HUGE "THANK YOU!" TO ALL WHO ATTENDED WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S INFORMATION MEETING. IT WAS SUCH A PLEASURE TO SEE SO MANY NEW FACES AND RETURNING PARENTS. THIS IS A MASSIVE PRODUCTION AND WILL TAKE EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. DIRECTOR TYLER HERMAN SPOKE ABOUT THE PLAY CHOICE, SIGNIFICANCE, AND MESSAGING. AND STRESSED THE IMPRESSIVE COOPERATION, TEAMWORK, AND PROCESS THAT GOES INTO PUTTING THE ENTIRE SHOW TOGETHER. HERE IS A QUICK RECAP OF SOME OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED, PLUS SOME NEW INFO!

LEGALLY BLONDE FUN FACTS!

Production Staff & Assistants: 26 Tech Crew Members: 70 Cast: 27

> Drumline & Cheer: 20 Pit Orchestra: 45

Freshmen: 28 Sophomores: 58 Juniors: 48 Seniors: 49

TOTAL: 183 students!

TECH-PERFORMANCE WEEK ALERTS!



- There are final "tech and performance weeks" starting around 2/12, during which there are long days and late nights for everyone.
- Time management is important as students balance school work and show commitments. Students are encouraged to consider mentioning their participation to their teachers if they are stressed. Some teachers have been known to give extensions if asked (but not all!). Students are encouraged to bring homework to tech weeks as there will be down-time!
- There is a Saturday Matinee performance at 1pm and an evening performance at 7pm...the students will most likely be required to remain at school from call time before the matinee all the way through the end of the final performance. If so, then a dinner meal will be provided between the two performances.
- There are a lot of "traditions" practiced within the individual teams and the full company. These are purely organized by the students. Activities may include team bonding, gift exchanges, dinner after Friday night's performance, senior speeches on the final day, and lots more we've heard. 😱

Reminders from the Student Producer!

- Parent, Student Participation and Bio Forms should be completed ASAP.
- "Shout-Outs" for student(s) are available for purchase in the full-color show Program.
- All forms are at whitmandrama.com, under "Forms & Fees".
- We are using "REMIND" to alert/remind students about changes or other important updates.

Please have your student text their respective codes to the number "81010":

Actors/Drumline/Cheer - "@wdactors" Pit Orchestra - "@wdpit" Tech - "@techblonde"

• Tickets will be available for sale about two weeks before the show. <u>TICKETLEAP</u> is the online ticket service Whitman Drama uses. Priority ticket purchasing will be given to those who have paid their participation fee. Tickets are sold as Reserved, General, and General Student.



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-SIGN-UP GENIUS E-MAIL

...IN THE WORKS...

• Tech team

schedules available

to parents

Carpooling network



WE NOW HAVE AN AMAZON WISH LIST!

CLICK HERE FOR THE WISH LIST



--ANOTHER PARENT SUGGESTION FROM THE MEETING!-WE'VE LISTED SOME OF OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS FROM
SNACKS FOR THE STUDENTS DURING REHEARSALS TO HANGERS
FOR OUR COSTUME SHOP. CLICK THE LINK ABOVE AND YOUR
CHOSEN ITEMS GET SENT DIRECTLY TO US! (MAKE SURE TO
CHECK THAT THE "WHITMAN DRAMA ADDRESS" IS SELECTED
UPON CHECKOUT.) FEEL FREE TO CHECK BACK OFTEN AS NEW
ITEMS WILL BE ADDED.
ANY/ALL SUPPORT IS MUCH APPRECIATED!!



ALL FORMS FOUND AT: <u>WWW.WHITMANDRAMA.COM</u>

PARENT FORM & STUDENT FORM:

 PLEASE SUBMIT REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS. THERE IS A LOT OF INFO THAT IS NEEDED FROM THESE FORMS->FOOD SENSITIVITIES (FOR ORDERING MEALS & SNACKS), SWEATSHIRT SIZES, BEST CONTACT INFO, AGREEMENTS, AND WAIVERS.

PARTICIPATION FEE (\$150):

 PARTICIPATION FEE COVERS MEALS PROVIDED DURING THE FINAL WEEK OF REHEARSALS, SHOW SWEATSHIRT, POST-SHOW AFTER-PARTY, POSTERS, PROGRAMS, END-OF-SEASON PARTY, PURCHASE AND/OR RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER MATERIALS THE SCHOOL DOESN'T COVER. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO EMAIL IN CONFIDENCE, AT <u>WHITMANDRAMABOOSTERS@GMAIL.COM</u>.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT CONTRACT:

• A SEPARATE "PARTICIPANT CONTRACT" IS REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED BY BOTH STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN AND ELECTRONICALLY UPLOADED.

FOR THE PROGRAMS....

- SHOUT-OUTS: PARENTS CAN PURCHASE FOR THEIR STUDENT(S). IT USUALLY INCLUDES A CUTE
 PICTURE(S) AND SOME TEXT. COST IS DETERMINED BY THE SIZE YOU CHOOSE.

 EXAMPLES CAN BE SEEN WITHIN THE FORM.
- ADS/SPONSORSHIP: PARENTS/COMMUNITY BUSINESSES CAN PLACE AN AD IN THE PROGRAM -SIZE AND PLACEMENT DETERMINE THE COST.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- A SIGN-UP GENIUS WILL BE EMAILED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS BY PARENT VOLUNTEER, ELIZABETH BENTON, TO START SOLICITING VITAL HELPERS TO ORGANIZE AND SERVE MEALS, SELL TICKETS, AND HELP WITH THE "AFTER PARTY" (HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LAST PERFORMANCE).
 IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING MORE INVOLVED PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL.
 WE ALWAYS NEED MORE HELP!!
- STAY CONNECTED: CHECK OUT THE WHITMAN DRAMA WEBSITE FOR FORMS, PAYMENT SITES, CALENDARS, NEW LISTSERV JOIN LINK, AND MORE! ALSO, KEEP AN EYE ON WHITMAN DRAMA ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK.

PARTICIPANT COMMUNICATIONS:

ALL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PRODUCTION MUST JOIN A "REMIND" TEXT GROUP IN
ORDER TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION. "REMIND" IS A TEXT
MESSAGING SERVICE (SIMILAR TO WEATHER ALERT TEXTS). STUDENTS DO NOT NEED TO
DOWNLOAD AN APP TO USE REMIND. SEE STUDENT PRODUCER REMINDERS (PAGE 1).





WD PARTICIPATION IN THE CAPPIES AND BVD AWARDS:

BECAUSE LEGALLY BLONDE IS SUCH A BIG SHOW WITH EVERYONE PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO MAKE SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL, WHITMAN DRAMA IS PARTICIPATING IN TWO AWARDS PROGRAMS TO HAVE EVERYONE'S HARD WORK RECOGNIZED AMONGST AREA HIGH SCHOOLS.

WE ARE EXPECTING OVER 75 CAPPIES REVIEWERS TO ATTEND LEGALLY BLONDE.



WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE CAPPIES PROGRAM, WHICH EDUCATES HIGH SCHOOLERS ON HOW TO VIEW AND REVIEW THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS. THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER IS THE LARGEST IN THE COUNTRY, ENCOMPASSING AROUND 45 HIGH SCHOOLS. EACH SCHOOL SENDS REVIEWERS TO OTHER SCHOOLS TO SEE ONE SHOW IN THEIR SEASON AND REVIEW THEM. SHOWS WITH DISTINCTIVE HONORS. INCLUDING ALL ASPECTS OF THE PRODUCTION, MAY BE INVITED TO RECEIVE AWARDS AT THE **KENNEDY CENTER** IN THE SPRING. OUR TEAM OF REVIEWERS WILL BE SEEING SHOWS AROUND THE AREA ALL SPRING. IT'S AN AMAZING WAY TO **NETWORK WITH OTHER HIGH SCHOOLERS** AND SEE A LOT OF GREAT THEATRE! BE ON THE LOOKOUT THIS SPRING FOR YOUR STUDENT TO SIGN UP TO BE ON NEXT YEAR'S REVIEWING TEAM!

FOR MORE INFO, <u>CLICK HERE</u>.





WE ARE ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE **BRANDON VICTOR DIXON (BVD)** AWARDS, WHICH IS THE DC CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL JIMMY AWARDS WHICH RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN ACTING. PARTICIPATION IN THE BVD AWARDS ALLOWS US THE POSSIBILITY TO PERFORM ON THE STAGE OF THE **NATIONAL THEATRE** WITH OTHER AREA HIGH SCHOOLERS AND PROVIDES ACTORS THE OPPORTUNITY TO WIN UP TO \$3,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TOWARD THEIR FUTURE EDUCATION. SELECT NOMINEES ARE SELECTED TO PERFORM IN NEW YORK CITY TO VIE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS OF UP TO \$25,000. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF WHITMAN DRAMA AND THESE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE A PART OF THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE SCENE.

FOR MORE INFO, **CLICK HERE**.

