

NCHS Drama Club to Present *Ghost the Musical* for 2019 Spring Production

A new production of ***Ghost the Musical***, inspired by the 1991 blockbuster hit '*Ghost*', which starred Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore and Whoopi Goldberg, is coming soon to North Central. ***Ghost the Musical, School Edition***, will be presented May 3-5 by the NCHS Drama Club. The show is based on the film produced by Paramount Pictures. The book and lyrics are by Bruce Joel Rubin with music and lyrics by Dave Stewart and Glen Ballard. ***Ghost the Musical, School Edition*** is presented through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

Ghost the Musical, School Edition is a timeless fantasy about the power of love. Longtime couple Sam (Michael Cummins) and Molly (Trystan Yoder) are happily in love and beginning a life together in Brooklyn. Sam's best friend Carl (Hayden Haas), who is also another high rolling banker, works with Sam at the same bank and life is looking good for all. However, walking back to their apartment one night, Sam and Molly are mugged by street punk Willie (Levi Williams). Sadly at such a young age, Sam meets his untimely death. However, Sam is trapped between this world and the next as a ghost and is reminded compassionately by Hospital Ghost (Chloe Baker) that it is time "to let go". Yet Sam learns how difficult it is to watch life from his new ghostly world, especially as the minister (Manny Cruz) presides over his funeral while Carl consoles his grief stricken Molly. Sam refuses to leave Molly, who he quickly learns is in grave danger. Sam discovers a storefront psychic, Oda Mae Brown (Emilie Eustace), who is putting on quite a show, with the help of her three sisters (Morgan Mitchell, Eryn Shaw, Kimmy Knepper), in communicating with spirits for Mrs. Santiago (Taylor Fenicle). Sam realizes that Oda Mae is the only living person he can communicate with so he convinces her to communicate with Molly in the hope of protecting her. Sam eventually gets some much needed help to focus from Subway Ghost (Evan Livengood). As the suspense grows, Sam soon realizes who is behind his demise and retaliates by using Oda Mae to fool banker Furgeson (Leynes Wandrey) into a transaction that eventually leads to the person responsible for Sam's death.

Cameo roles and other ensemble parts are covered by Addie Elser, Sidney McKarns, Alex Lehsten, Makayla Brown, Jack Bailey, Brenna White, Makayla Meyers, Maizie Zimmerman, Kristen Hickman, Kendee Hollstein, Kyleigh Westfall, Emily Lehsten, Hayley Wehrle, Riley Brown, Kaitlyn Stenbridge, Baylee Joice, Gracy Livensparger, and Alexia Miller.

Student directors are Derek Morris and Josh Wehrle. Student production managers are Colton Schmunk, Nathan Stenbridge and Tyler Cheesbro (lead videographer). All five students also oversee the production team of Payton Taylor, Travis Schmunk, Blake Sakos, Branden Baker and Josh Budd who together cover programs, public relations, all technical aspects of the show and manage the stage.

Each year these shows come together only through the help of the following adults who give so generously of their time. The pit band consists of Terry Krause on percussion. Returning again are Paul and Joy Gruetter on guitar along with David Deetz. Sharon Deetz will cover keyboard and is the director of music. Other adults helping with the overall production, ticket sales, programs, costumes, concessions and technical aspects are Marcia Geiser, Travis Creek, Julie Taylor and Linda Cochran. Doing hair and makeup are Ashley Kimpel, Pat Lashaway, and Jaymie Lashaway. Set design, construction and the securing of props is handled by David Deetz and Rich Meyers. The cast and crew pictures are provided by Lori Moore. Without the support of these amazing adults along with the parents of the cast and crew, this musical journey would not be possible.

Ghost the Musical will be presented in the NCHS Auditoria at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4. On Sunday, May 5, show time is 2:30 p.m. Doors open an hour in advance of each show. Presale tickets are available now. Tickets will also be available at the door. For prices or more information, check the school website, email MGeiser@NorthCentralSchool.org or call 419-737- 3403 / 419-737-2581.

We invite you to come along and relive this unforgettable story that has been etched into the hearts and minds of all who saw the movie but is now being told with a new approach and the addition of over 15 beautiful songs. Featuring such popular songs as "With You" and the Righteous Brothers' classic "Unchained Melody," this powerful story is sure to become one of your favorites! However, we do give advanced warning.... in addition to the many humorous moments throughout the show, you may also be moved to a few heartfelt tears!

