'Alice in Wonderland' set for the BHS stage
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- School News -- Burnsville-Eagan-Savage

The Burnsville High School (BHS) theater department is sticking with the children’s theme for its second production of the school year.

Following this fall’s production of “Seussical,” the beloved Lewis Carroll literary classic, “Alice in Wonderland,” debuts on the Mraz Center stage on Friday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

“This is definitely a fun and friendly play,” said junior Leah O’Fallon, who is one of three who will play Alice. “We are going to have a lot of fun with it, and I’m sure children will enjoy it.”

O’Fallon’s role of Alice will be a little different than her counterparts’, sophomore Katie Dennis and junior Jessi Grittner of Savage. O’Fallon is the narrator, so she won’t have direct connections to the rest of the cast. Her connection will be to the audience.

BHS has put on many different musicals and plays during the last five years – four each school year – and none have had a narrator. O’Fallon and director Terry Walters felt a narrator would help children better understand the story.

“This play is geared toward children, but ‘Alice in Wonderland’ can be tough for children to wrap their mind around,” O’Fallon said. “So we thought the use of a narrator would be easier and help explain things that happen better.”

For O’Fallon, being a narrator is significantly different than character acting. She’s still acting – still playing the part of Alice – but she’s not sharing emotions and events of the play with her fellow actors.

“You still take your cues from the other actors, but you are not reacting to what they say or do,” she said. “So it’s different in that respect.”

“Jordyn Lehmann: as the Mad Hatter.”

"Alice in Wonderland" is full of imagination. The audience will follow Alice along in her “madcap” adventures, which include a host of curious characters.

The play features a three-faced Humpty Dumpty, played by junior Adam Haverkamp and sophomores Kyle Strand of Savage and Nathan Landauer. (Haverkamp also plays the walrus). The play also has a cross-dressing queen played by senior Nyles Breecher and the King of Hearts is played by sophomore Kristina Hall of Savage.
There are also more popular characters from the play including: White Rabbit (played by junior Brian Pricco), the Mad Hatter (sophomore Jordyn Lehmann), Tweedledee (sophomore Trey Glover) and Tweedledum (sophomore Matt Harwick of Savage).

Other roles in the play went to sophomore Shelby Johnson as Edith, sophomore Jade Johnson as the cook, senior Sean Fisher as White Knight, sophomore Anna Nadon as Dormouse, senior Mike Deaven of Savage as Caterpillar/Knave, sophomore Rachael Barker of Savage as Duchess, sophomore Lia Enger as Frog Footman, sophomore Christy Holen of Savage as Fish Footman, sophomore Emily Duea of Savage as Cheshire Cat, sophomore Laura Bogenschutz as March Hare and sophomore Samantha Blakeley of Savage as the carpenter.

It’s: Tweedlede and Tweedledum

Tickets are $5 each. Go to www.mrazcentertickets.com or call (952) 707-2320.