

Do you hear the people sing? This April, the Nordonia High School Drama Club will present the internationally acclaimed *Les Misérables School Edition*. It is an abridged version of the musical by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg, based on the epic novel by Victor Hugo. Set against the backdrop of 19th-century France, *Les Misérables School Edition* is an unforgettable story of heartbreak, passion, and the resilience of the human spirit. Trimmed to a little over two hours, the school edition still maintains the integrity of the original with all the storylines intact. It features a timeless score and such songs as "I Dreamed A Dream," "On My Own," and "One Day More."

Leading this year's cast are junior Brad Zinn and senior Dakota Pugh as Jean Valjean and Javert. The cast also includes: Sam Fujikawa as Marius, Rachel Kidd as Éponine, Rachel Hayes as Fantine, Abby Posar as Cosette, Nolan Tater and Lexi Majoros as the Thénardiens, and Hunter Daniachew as Enjolras. Another 30 actors make up the ensemble of townspeople, factory workers, sailors, "lovely ladies", prisoners, and students. In addition to the high school cast, the Drama Club also welcomes three young actors this year. Jacob Filisky takes on the role of street smart Gavroche, while Ellie Amorino and Sally Kress share the roles of Young Cosette and Éponine.

In addition to the cast, offstage there are another 50 students working tirelessly as members of the crews, running tech, and playing in the orchestra, without whom there would be no show. This year's production will also be participating in the 2nd annual Dazzle Awards at Playhouse Square! The Dazzle Awards are high school musical theatre awards for Northeast Ohio and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase the incredible talent at Nordonia! *Les Misérables* is easily looking to be one of the Drama Club's largest productions yet!

Helming this year's musical production is Nordonia High School's Director of Drama, Chris Simmons. Megan Gargano serves as Assistant Director and Choreographer while Bill Shaffer serves as Musical Director. Dane Leasure will also be returning as Fight Choreographer and Acting Coach.

Performances of this year's production of *Les Misérables* will be Friday and Saturday, April 21st and 22nd at 8 PM and Sunday, April 23rd at 3 PM. There will also be a free preview performance for senior citizens on Thursday, April 20th at 4 PM. Tickets will go on sale on March 13th. Reserved seating is \$15 a ticket and General Admission tickets are \$8 for students, \$10 for senior citizens, and \$12 for adults. Please visit www.nordoniadrama.com for more information on the show and to reserve your tickets!

Les Misérables is rated PG13 for language, adult themes, and simulated violence. Any questions on the show can be directed to nordoniadrama@gmail.com.