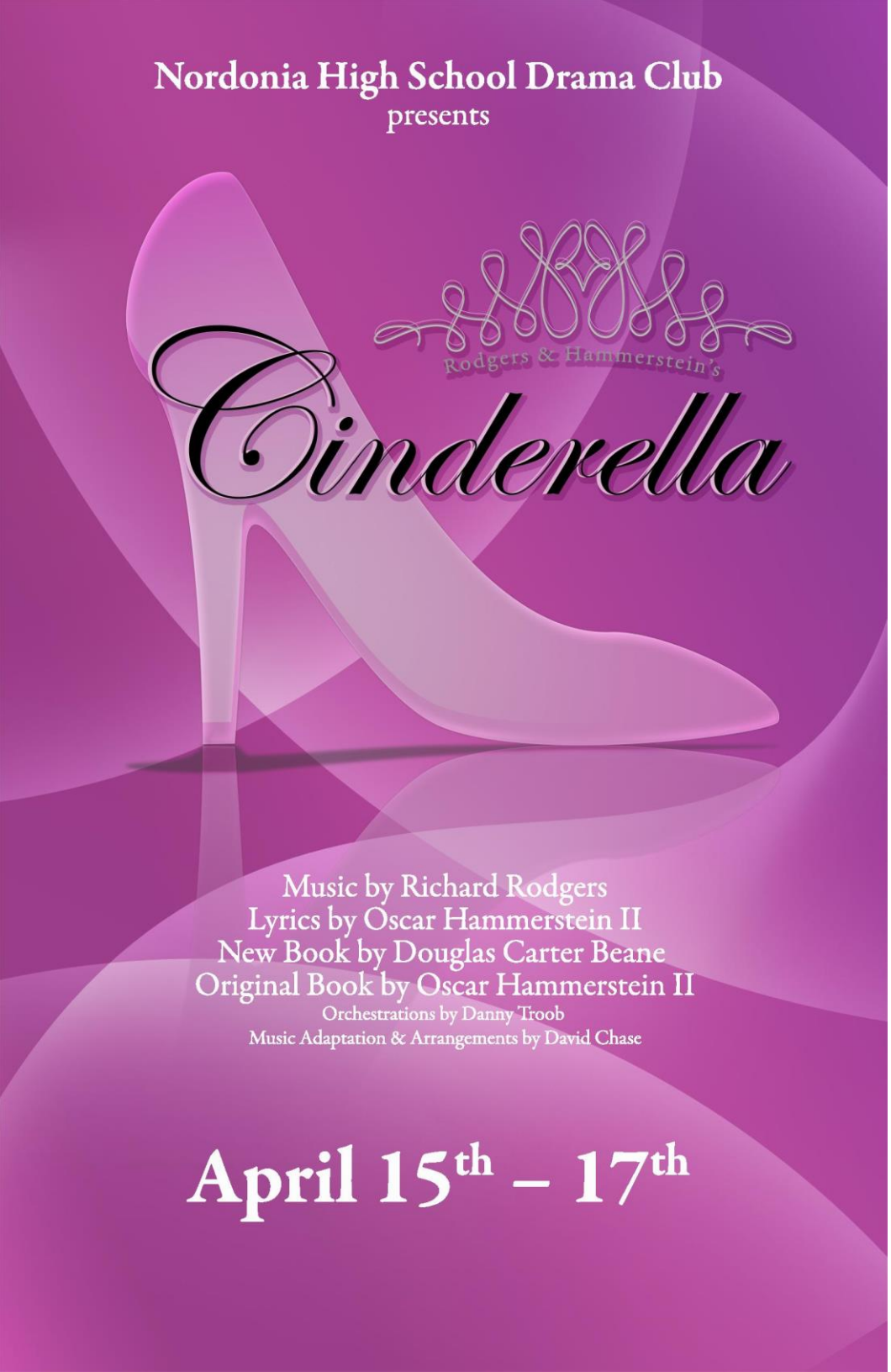
Nordonia High School Drama Club
presents



Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
New Book by Douglas Carter Beane
Original Book by Oscar Hammerstein II
Orchestrations by Danny Troob
Music Adaptation & Arrangements by David Chase

April 15th – 17th

Director's Notes

Coming into this year, I wanted to do more of a classic show. A little change of pace from what we have done the last couple years. Megan and I saw *Cinderella* when it came through Cleveland last summer. The eternal story, the iconic music, the fantastic character roles…we were hooked! Putting our own spin on this musical fairy tale has been a bit of a challenge, but so much fun!

Rodgers and Hammerstein are pretty much synonymous with classic American musical theatre. Their *Cinderella* has gone through several evolutions since its debut in 1957 as a made for television special starring Julie Andrews. This year, we are so excited to be bringing the most recent adaptation to the Nordonia stage. This version ran on Broadway in 2013 and while it is still the same story we all know and love, it features some surprising plot twists, a few new characters, and plenty of onstage magic.

To my cast, it has been one crazy ride. From the parade of costume fittings to the never-ending waltz rehearsals, you have all been wonderful to work with. As hectic as it was at times, you met this year's challenges head on and in the end, you have created a show that you should all be proud of. I hope you all look back on this fairy tale world we have created with only the fondest of memories, for I know I will!

To my parents, thank you for the support year after year after year. I promise I will let you retire from my shows soon…probably. And to my friends who always accept "sorry, I am at the high school" or "I just left the high school, I am exhausted" as excuses to not see them nearly as often as I would like, I cannot thank you all enough for being so amazing. I do not know what I would do without you.

Thank you for coming to support the arts at Nordonia. I hope you enjoy the show as much as we have come to love it!

Chris Simmons
Director of Drama

Senior and Lead Bios

Jack Buddenhagen (Backstage Crew) is a senior. He is working on the stage crew for *Cinderella*, his first musical at Nordonia.

Sam Fujikawa (Topher) is a junior and is appearing in his seventh musical on the Nordonia stage. He has previously appeared in: *Aida* (Zoser), *The Wedding Singer, Joseph, Beauty and the Beast* (Chip), *Seussical* (Jojo), and *South Pacific*. Sam has seasonal allergies.

Emma Gabor (Ella) is a senior this year and this is her fourth NHS musical. Before tackling this year's title role, she had also appeared on stage in the ensemble in *Joseph, The Wedding Singer*, and *Aida*. Emma has also performed in *Zombie Prom* and *Curtains* at Chanel High School in Bedford. In addition to drama, she is also a member of Band, playing flute and bassoon, is an avid aquatic billiards player…in her dreams, and way way back many centuries ago was a Storn extraordinaire, not long after the Bible began. Emma plans to pursue a career in Biomedical/Biomechanical Engineering after high school.

Hannah Gelfand (Pit Orchestra) is a senior this year and is playing in the orchestra for her second Nordonia musical, having also played in the pit for last year's *Aida*. This year, she plays the flute, piccolo, and alto flute. Hannah has been a member of the band for eight years playing the flute and bassoon. After high school, she plans to attend Ashland University to major in Nursing.

Brandon Harvey (Backstage Crew Manager) is a senior and is working on his third production as a member of the Backstage Crew. This is his first year managing the crew. In his spare time he like to sleep. Brandon also makes YouTube videos with his friends (YouTube.com/Bloodelf941, check it out!). After graduation, Brandon plans to attend Cleveland State University to pursue a career in Computer Technology.

Becca Jarden (Marie) is a senior this year and this is her fourth Nordonia musical. She has also appeared on stage in *Joseph, The Wedding Singer*, and *Aida*. Becca has also performed in the fall play and in other theatrical productions in the community. When not on stage, she is a member of Choir, Yearbook Staff, and the St. Barnabas Life Teen Retreat Team. She has taken vocal lessons for eight years and way way back many centuries ago was a Storn extraordinaire, not long after the Bible began. Becca plans to attend Kent State University and double major in Music Education and Theatre. She would like to thank God for her family, friends, and all the amazing gifts and opportunities He has given her. Psalm 139:14.

Madison Krempec (Ensemble) is a senior at Nordonia this year performing as the "Lady of the Court with 2 left feet". Favorite other credits include: *And Then There Was One* (the dead body), *My Fatal Valentine* (Mitzi, the dumb blonde), *The Wedding Singer, Aida*, and *The Wedding From Hell* (the drunk and honorable Judge Emilia). She also worked backstage on *Joseph*. Madison also prides herself on being a professional sibling annoyer, is an active member of the Goofer Goobers Club, and for three years has earned the prestigious title of "Yearbook member who deliberately forgets Chris Simmons's name". She plans to further her education at The Ohio State University where she will study Computer Engineering and join the free pizza club. Whether in the deserts of Egypt, at a trashy 80s wedding, the seas of Nubia, or on the palace floor, this club is forever in her heart.

Karoline Kress (Ensemble) is a senior appearing in her fourth straight musical at NHS. She was also on stage in *Joseph, The Wedding Singer*, and *Aida*. When not on stage, Karoline is captain of the Golf Team and is a member of St. Barnabas Life Teen and Nordonia Caring for Knights. She is the current Secretary of the Drama Club and the President of National Honor Society. Karoline wants to thank the Drama Club and her friends for the memories, and her family for the love and unconditional support!

Thomas Mackerty (Pit Orchestra/Pit Liaison) is a senior serving as the Pit Orchestra Liaison this year, as he has been for two years. He enjoys long walks on the beach and Taco Bell meals. Thomas plans to attend Kent State in the fall for Meme Studies. After college, he has also mentioned continuing his quest to ascend to the next echelon of existence beyond this mortal world. Thomas holds the rank of Lord Bishop of The Internet and is the overseer of this realm in which we live. He has often been described as "heroic," "cool," and "totally not lame."

Maria Maggard (Madame) is in the twelfth grade this year and this is her fourth musical on the Nordonia stage. She has also appeared on stage as a member of the ensemble in *Joseph, The Wedding Singer*, and *Aida*. She also appeared as Judge Emilia/Boffo the clown in last fall's *The Wedding From Hell*. Maria is the current Vice President of the Drama Club and is a member of Choir and Color Guard. After graduation, she plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University to study Theatre Stage Management and Arts Management.

Amanda Pace (Ensemble/Dance Captain) is a senior this year appearing in her fourth musical at NHS. She has previously appeared in *Joseph* (Soloist), *The Wedding Singer*, and *Aida* (Nehebka). Amanda is the current President of the Drama Club and is also very involved her church choir, National Honor Society, and Teen Institute as a member of the Youth Staff. She has also worked as a member of the Zoo Crew for four years. Amanda will continue her education this fall majoring in Communications and Musical Theatre.

Alexander Posar (Sebastian) is a freshmen taking on his first role in a Nordonia musical. He appeared as Bruce Montgomery in last fall's *The Wedding From Hell* and has also performed in *Judgment House*. Alexander also enjoys playing paintball, running, and has played baseball for nine years.

Dakota Pugh (Jean-Michel) is a junior and this is his fourth Nordonia musical. He was previously on stage in *Aida, The Wedding Singer*, and as Asher in *Joseph*. Dakota has also performed in other theatrical productions in the community. Outside of Drama, he is also a member of Marching Band, Choir, Tech Crew, and Winter Drumline. After high school, Dakota plans to study Astrophysics and Mathematics while also continuing to perform when he can.

Summer Sanders (Ensemble) is a senior this year. She performed in some plays in middle school, but this is her first show with the high school Drama Club. Summer is a member of Teen Institute and plans to attend Bowling Green in the fall to study Child Psychology. She has had the best time working on *Cinderella*, it was so much fun!

Hope Schmeiser (Makeup Crew Manager) is a senior this year and is working on the makeup crew for her third straight year, having also worked on *The Wedding Singer* and *Aida*. This year Hope is serving as Co-Makeup Manager with her best friend, Shayla! In addition to Drama, Hope has also been a cheerleader for the last four years, and has competed in gymnastics for two years. After high school, she plans to attend Kent State University, where she will pursue a degree in Visual Communication Design.

Lizzy Stokes (Ensemble) is a senior appearing in her first musical at Nordonia. Last fall she took on the role of Jackie Fitzhugh in the murder mystery *The Wedding From Hell*. After high school, Lizzy plans to juggle running "Jackie's House o' Gags" with attending Bowling Green State University to study Criminal Psychology.

John Turley (Lord Pinkleton) is in the twelfth grade this year and is performing in his first theatrical production ever this year in *Cinderella*! He is also actively involved in Band, Choir, and Science Olympiad. John plans to further his education this fall pursuing a degree in Music Education.

Shandrea Veal (Charlotte) is a senior and is performing on stage in her fourth straight musical at Nordonia. She was previously on stage in *Aida, The Wedding Singer*, and as a wife in *Joseph*. When not on stage, Shandrea is also a member of Synergy, Teen Institute, National Honor Society, R.E.S.P.E.C.T., and is a section leader for Color Guard. She has also been with Pro-Model and Talent for the last year. Shandrea will study Communications after graduation at either Spelman College or FAMU.

Shayla Vo (Makeup Crew Manager) is in the twelfth grade and is doing makeup for her third musical. This is her first year as a manager of the crew. Shayla is a member of Glass Ceiling, has attended CVCC for two years in the Health Careers program, and is in the National Technical Honors Society. She will be attending The University of Rhode Island to major in Cell and Molecular Biology.

Amberlynn Williams (Ensemble) is a senior this year. While she loves musicals, this is her first time on stage! She is also a member of Teen Institute and plans to continue her education this fall at Shawnee State University where she will study Pre-Veterinarian Science. She is thrilled to have been able to share this experience with her best friend Summer!

Kayleigh Wisniewski (Gabrielle) is a sophomore appearing in her second musical at Nordonia. She appeared as a Nubian on stage in last year's *Aida* and last fall she took on the role of Tina Fitzhugh in *The Wedding From Hell*. She has also performed in a number of shows at St. Barnabas and with the Garfield Players. Kayleigh is also a member of Choir. She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant support!

Amanda Yokiel (Pit Orchestra) is a senior this year and is playing in the orchestra for her second Nordonia musical, having also played in the pit for *The Wedding Singer*. She has been a member of Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and Chamber Ensemble. She works at Brecksville Animal Hospital, volunteers at Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter, and enjoys binging shows on Netflix. Amanda will attend Tri-C to study Veterinary Technology.