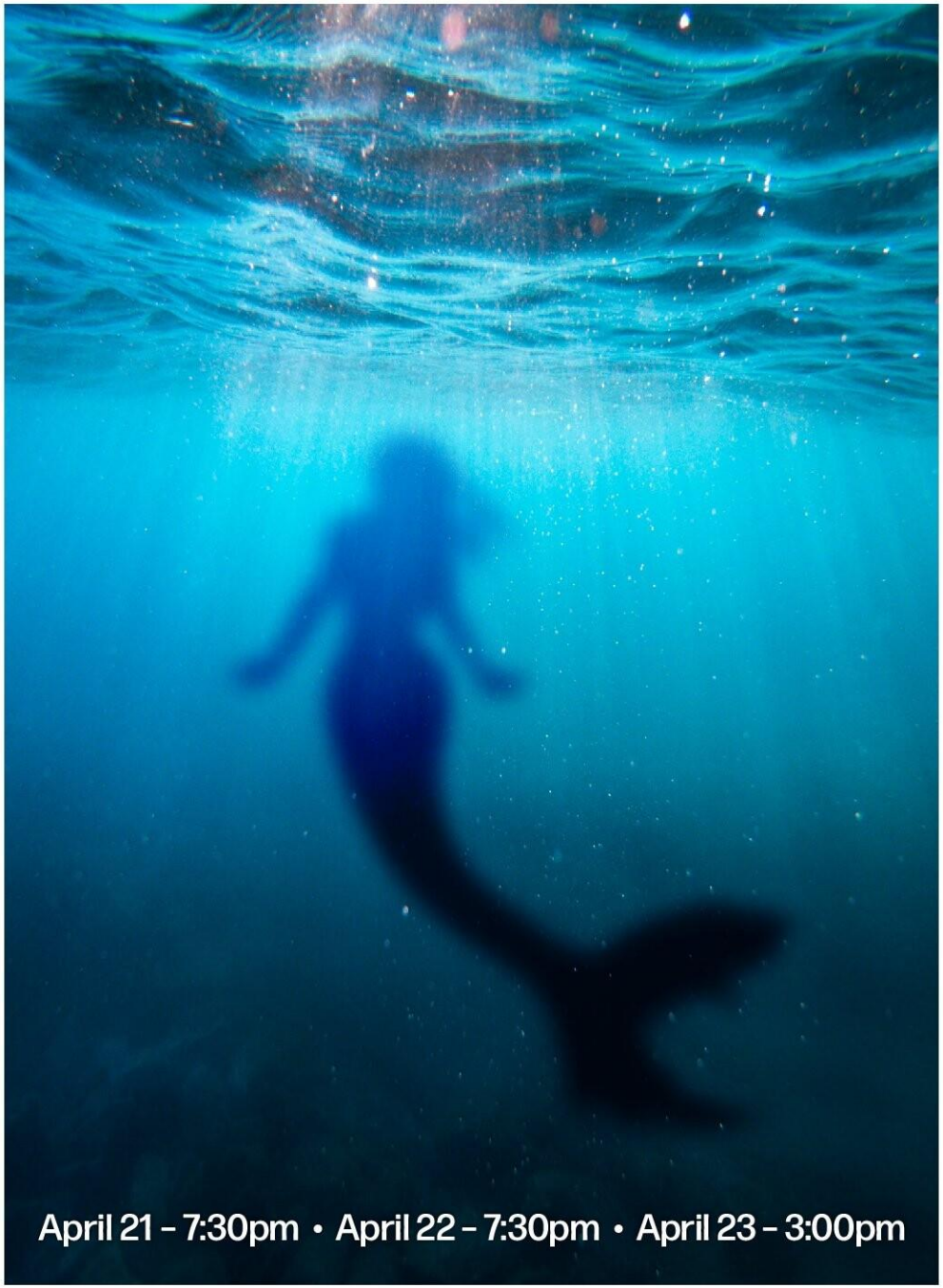
Disney's

Nordonia Drama

THE LITTLE MERMAID



FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Far out in the ocean the water is as blue as the petals of the loveliest cornflower, and as clear as the purest glass…It is down there that the sea folk live." So begins Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*.

The story we all know and love…a young mermaid falls in love with a human prince and is willing to give her life for just a chance to be with him…originally had a much darker ending. It wasn't until 150 years later that Disney transformed it and took us "Under the Sea" with new characters and an unforgettable score by Alan Menken. I was three years old when the Disney movie originally came out, and it has always been one of my favorites. Its story, music, colors and characters make it a timeless classic. What makes it timeless all comes back to Andersen's very first words. In those few sentences you lose yourself in an underwater world as your imagination takes flight, or in this case, dives on in.

Ariel's quest for love in the world above does not come easy. She is met with prejudice and an unwillingness to look past the differences on the surface. It is her bravery to embrace and explore those differences, and overcome fear that brings the two worlds together in the end. She has to discover for herself that home is not always where you are from, but rather where you can be who you are truly meant to be. It is through all of this that she and Eric are able to overcome all the obstacles in their way to find in each other, their very own part of their world.

To my cast and crew, you have worked so hard and it absolutely shows! It has been one crazy ride as we swam "Fathoms Below," we found out that "She's in Love," and we waited to see if Eric ever would "Kiss the Girl." Thank you all so much for your time and talent you shared with our production.

To the class of 2023. It has been an eventful four years to say the least. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to Drama as we have navigated our way back on stage these last couple years. I am so immensely proud of the young adults you have all become. I hope to be able to swim with you all again!

Thank you all so much for your continued support of the arts at Nordonia. Enjoy the show!

Chris Simmons

Director of Drama

WHO'S WHO - SENIORS AND LEADS

Loghan Alexander (Jetsam) is a senior. She has appeared with Nordonia Drama in our productions of *No Day But Today* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. Loghan plans to pursue a degree in nursing, with a minor in performing arts, and would love to continue acting. Her favorite colors are blue and purple, she loves Beyoncé and would like to design her own house. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13.

Caeden Bolling (Scuttle) is a sophomore. He has previously appeared in *Five By Ives, Once Upon a Mattress* (Wizard) and *Puffs* (Wayne Hopkins) for Nordonia Drama. He also did Drama at the middle school. Caeden is the current Treasurer for Drama and is also involved with Synergy, NST3, NHSDEIC and KnightsTV. After high school, he plans to study Education and Music in college. Caeden would like to take a moment to thank all the directors (especially Ris) for giving everyone their wings to fly!

Ella Bozan (Ariel) is a sophomore appearing in her third production with Nordonia Drama. She has previously appeared on the Nordonia stage in *Five by Ives* and *Once Upon a Mattress* (Minstrel). Ella has also appeared in productions of *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Belle), *Willy Wonka Jr.* (Charlie) and *Little Women* (Jo) with Phoenix Performing Arts in Akron. In addition to Drama, Ella is involved in Choir and takes private vocal lessons. After high school, she plans to major in Psychology. This is the most excited Ella has even been for a role, she cannot wait for the show!

Emily Codner (Ensemble) is a senior this year. She has previously appeared in *Seussical* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. She has also worked on crew for Nordonia Drama. Outside of Drama, Emily is involved in Colorguard and Art Club. She is also active with Skills USA and Autoservice at CVCC. Emily really enjoyed working with our younger performers during Drama Summer Camp and plans to begin her studies in Early Childhood Education this fall.

Gaby Curcic (Flotsam) is in the twelfth grade this year. This is her fourth production with Nordonia Drama, following performances in *Seussical, Five By Ives, Once Upon a Mattress* and *Puffs* (Harry/Susie). She is the Drama co-Secretary and is a member of National Honor Society. Gaby is currently unsure of where she will continue her education after high school, but she plans to study History and/or Political Science. Once again, she is NOT Kate or Grace, but she is a supporter of Everton FC and her favorite Mario Kart track is Maple Treeway.

Hunter Gabel (King Triton) is a freshmen this year appearing in his first musical with Nordonia Drama. He also appeared onstage this past fall as A Certain Potions Teacher in *Puffs*. He is also a member of the Robotics Team and plans to pursue robotics in college.

Kate Gentile (Mersister Allana) is a senior, and this is her eighth Drama production at Nordonia. She has appeared in *Much Ado About Nothing, Seussical, The Importance of Earnest* (Lane), *No Day But Today, Five by Ives* (Dr. Fritz), *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Puffs* (Narrator). She has also been in Choir for seven years, is a member of the robotics team, is the current Drama co-Secretary and studies voice with Vicki Lester. Kate plans to attend The University of Akron to study Chemistry. She likes long walks on the beach and would like to reiterate that she is not Gaby or Grace.

Grace Guy (Ensemble, Windward) is in the twelfth grade. This is her fourth consecutive musical with Nordonia Drama. She also participated in the Nordonia Drama summer camps for four years. In addition to Drama, Grace is involved in Marching Band and Bowling, and works at Handel's. She has also been a member of the Girls Scouts for eleven years, earning her Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Grace plans to attend The University of Findlay this fall to double major in Pre-Veterinarian Medicine and Equestrian Western Studies.

Sarah Hermann (Ensemble) is a senior this year, and is appearing in her fourth consecutive musical at NHS. She also participated in Drama at the middle school. In addition to Drama, Sarah has been in Band for four years and the Girl Scouts for nine years. After high school, she plans to attend The University of Akron to study Biochemical Engineering.

Jillian Kaminsky (Ensemble) is a member of the Class of 2023, and this is her fourth musical production with Nordonia Drama. She has previously appeared on stage in *Seussical, No Day But Today* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. She also participated in Drama with the middle school. Jillian is currently serving as the President of Nordonia Drama. In addition to Drama, she is involved with Golf and National Honor Society, and is a Kent State Early Admission student. After graduation, Jillian plans to continue her studies at Kent State University to finish her degree in Aeronautics, so that she may work as an air traffic controller.

Evan Kvach (Pit Orchestra – Keyboard) is a senior this year, and this is his first production playing in the Pit Orchestra for Nordonia Drama.

AJ Lardomita (Grimsby) is a senior. This is his fourth production with Nordonia Drama following performances in *Seussical*, *Once Upon a Mattress* (Sir Studley) and *Puffs* (Ernie Mac). He is also active in Choir and Momentum. After high school, AJ plans to begin voice acting while preparing to attend Film College. He would like you to know he thinks Chris is awesome! (The feeling is mutual!! ☺)

Grace Magistrelli (Tech Crew) is a member of the Class of 2023. This is her first year with Drama, and this is her first production working with the Tech Crew. She is also involved with Varsity Swimming and Chess Club. Grace will be attending Kent State University this fall to major in Education, either Art of Spanish. She is also an avid blood donor to the American Red Cross.

Jack Malloy (Pit Orchestra – Alto Saxophone) is a senior this year, and this is his first production playing in the Pit Orchestra for Nordonia Drama.

Claire Marchant (Ursula) is a junior at Nordonia, and this is her third production, having appeared in *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Puffs*. She has also appeared in productions with Phoenix Performing Arts including, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Mrs. Potts), *Little Women* (Marmee) and *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins). Claire takes voice lessons and plans to pursue theatre and art in college after high school. She loves singing, making art and spending time with all of her wonderful Drama friends!

Adam Mericka (Tech Crew) is a senior, and last year he appeared on stage with Drama in *Once Upon a Mattress*. He have also participated in our Summer Drama Camps and is a member of the LGBTQ Club at Nordonia.

Richie Nyce (Eric) is a senior at Nordonia. His role as Eric marks his seventh role onstage with Nordonia Drama, having previously appeared in *The Wizard of Oz, Seussical, Much Ado About Nothing, Five By Ives, Once Upon a Mattress* (King Sextimus) and *Puffs* (Cedric/Mr. Voldy). He has also appeared in productions at Aurora Community Theatre and the middle school. In addition to his roles at Nordonia, Richie also helps run tech, oversees our social media accounts and is the current Vice President of Drama. He is active with KnightsTV, participated in Momentum and works at Chick-fil-A. Following graduation, Richie will continue his education at Kent State University studying Digital Media Production, and will hopefully continue to assist Drama with our social media.

Jackie Paster (Makeup Crew) is a member of the Class of 2023. This is her second year as a member of the Makeup Crew for Nordonia Drama's spring musical productions.

Alex Picoult (Ensemble) is in the twelfth grade this year. She has appeared onstage with Nordonia Drama in *No Day But Today, Once Upon a Mattress* and *Puffs*. She has also worked on the Stage Crew for other Drama productions. Alex is active in Band, Girl Scouts and NREMT. She is a nationally registered EMT and plans to attend Hiram College for Nursing after graduation. Alex loves to read, sing, dance and draw, and is a HUGE musical fan!

Meg Picoult (Ensemble) is in the twelfth grade. She appeared onstage last spring in *Once Upon a Mattress* and has worked with Nordonia Drama as a member of Makeup and Stage Crews. Meg has also performed with Drama at the middle school and at UMCM. She has also participated in Cross Country and Science Olympiad, and has been involve with the Girl Scouts for thirteen years. After high school, she will be attending Bowling Green State University, studying Art Education and Psychology

Ezekiel Rayle (Sebastian) is in the ninth grade this year and this is his second production with Nordonia Drama, following his role as J Finch in *Puffs* last fall. He has also performed with Drama at the middle school and the Nordonia Drama summer camps. Offstage, Ezekiel participates in Track, Cross Country and Acapella. He has been performing since he was six years old and plans to pursue Theatre after high school.

Isabella Schuster (Ensemble, Leeward) is a senior. She has performed onstage for all four musicals at Nordonia, and has worked on the Tech Crew for our fall productions. Isabella has also been playing Tennis for ten years, playing Varsity for four years at the high school. She is the current Historian for Nordonia Drama. After graduation, Isabella will continue her education by studying Genetics at John Carroll University.

Nick Spinetti (Tech Crew) is a senior. He appeared on stage as Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* in 2019. He has been in Synergy for four years and will be seen on the Akron Civic stage this summer as Judy Fry in the Akron All-City production of *Oklahoma!*. After graduation, Nick plans to take a Pre-Law path, studying Political Science and Psychology.

Hayley Springer (Ensemble) is a senior. She has been participated onstage in Nordonia Drama's productions of *No Day But Today, Five by Ives* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. She has also assisted on crews for Drama. When not working on productions with Drama, Hayley is also active with Colorguard and Choir. This fall, Hayley plans to attend Tri-C to start her studies to become a Veterinary Technician.

Toni Trecarichi (Pit Orchestra – Clarinet) is a member of the Class of 2023, and this is her first production playing in the Pit Orchestra for Nordonia Drama.

Kenadie Trehan (Mersister Aquata) is a senior this year. This is her fourth Nordonia Drama musical as a member of the cast. She has also worked on Tech for the fall productions, serving as Tech Manager this year. She also did shows with Drama at the middle school. Outside of the auditorium, Kenadie was also a member of the Golf Team and has worked with KnightsTV. Following high school, Kenadie will attend Kent State University to major in Sign Language Interpreting.

Grace York (Flounder) is a senior this year, appearing in her seventh Nordonia Drama production. She has also been onstage in *Seussical, The Importance of Being Earnest*, *No Day But Today, Five by Ives, Once Upon a Mattress and Puffs* (Megan Jones). She is the Costumes Manager for Drama and helped create a lot of costumes you see onstage! Grace is also involved in Yearbook, Spanish Club and National Honor Society. After high school, she plans to attend The University of Dayton studying Business and Media, and will continue to keep theatre a part of her life. Grace still gets mixed up with Kate and Gaby…and yes, the paint stains.

John Zuchinski (Pit Orchestra – Soprano Saxophone) is a senior this year, and this is his first production playing in the Pit Orchestra.