

PUTTING ON A SHOW

STUDENTS IN PERFORMING ARTS CLASSES HONE THEIR CRAFT

BY AJ CORLESS, JOEY MASON & TAYLOR YUAN

WHETHER IT WAS THE RESOUNDING CRACK OF A SNARE DRUM, the peculiar chant of the choir performing "Nyon Nyon," or the comedic scene of an awkward first date, students spent hours under the blinding lights of the theater to master the art of performance. They stood on the tiers of the band room, the choir room and the green room, repeating every chord, every movement, and every word. They went from rehearsing in class to rehearsal... to another rehearsal. They memorized, revised, re-memorized and re-revised to perfection. Whether it was the shrill cry of a trumpet, the harmony of a massive whole-choir chord, or the heart-warming ending to a play, performing arts students shared the stage, working tirelessly to entertain and express.



4. TRYING TO STAY IN CHARACTER, JACKSON MCNURLEN, 09, AND HAKU HAYSTEAD, 12, converse during an acting exercise at rehearsal. The cast was taking the first steps in preparing for the Drama Club production of *The Phantom Tollbooth*. "I never really had the courage to audition for a show until School of Rock last year. It was something I really wanted to do but didn't have the confidence. It's so cool to be able to be another person," Haystead said. Photo by J. Mason. 5. LINED UP IN MATCHING SWEATERS AT SOUTHGLENN, THE ARAPAHOE SINGERS perform Christmas carols. Kaitlyn Tejero, 12, was among the choir as they ventured into stores and restaurants to sing for patrons. "Choir gives me something to look forward to every day. Being a part of singers is even more special because we get to go caroling and bring other people joy," Tejero said. Photo by D. Arora. 6. DURING A BLOCKING REHEARSAL FOR THE UPCOMING SHOW *THE PHANTOM TOLLBOOTH*, ASHLEY MOWLE, 12, AND ARIANA "ARI" CRUZ, 12, are delighted as they oversee an acting exercise. Cruz was chosen as the student director for the drama club production. "It's been kind of weird having these talented actors coming to me and asking me how they should say a certain line or if I'm happy with their character, but working with everyone is such a blast. It's really rewarding seeing things coming together," Cruz said. Photo by J. Mason.

CHOIR STUDENTS PERFORMED FOR GROUPS OF SECOND GRADERS

EARLY RECRUITS

"Seeing the joy and seeing the impact that singing has on them is so amazing. It's wonderful knowing that we helped them realize how many options they can have in high school and that choir is something that is fun and exciting and can be more than just singing a bit in music class."

-CAMBRIA BARTLETT, 11



1. DURING THE WINTER CHOIR CONCERT, ETHAN VAHLE, 12, performs a solo in the song "City Called Heaven." Vahle described the experience of taking his solo. "I'm no stranger to performing in front of crowds, but there's something about solos that is so different. When everyone is listening to you and silently enjoying - or critiquing - your execution, you can get nervous and your emotions take over. You need to be well prepared and confident," Vahle said. Photo by D. Palmer. 2. FOCUSED ON HIS MUSIC, JADYN DAVIS, 12, plays his french horn during dress rehearsal for the February band and orchestra concert. He switched from trumpet to french horn in middle school and stuck with the instrument ever since. "I was a major introvert before I joined the program. When I did join, everyone was so friendly and accepting to me as a person," Davis said. Photo by J. Mason. 3. COMMANDING THE DIMLY LIT STAGE, COLBY KENNEY, 12, performs a comedic monologue during company. He was preparing to perform the monologue at the Thespian Convention in Denver. "I was performing as a very outgoing, very ridiculous, very drunk guy at a party telling a story to his friend about someone at the party who has Kurt Cobain's pancreas. It was a very fun piece to do and I got a lot of laughs when I performed it," Kenney said. Photo by L. Mack.



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"The opportunities. Mr. Schjodt pushed me to audition for all state twice and for ACDA National Honor Choir. Those were the greatest three experiences I've had."

-ETHAN VAHLE, 12

"Being able to sing for two hours of my day. It relieves a lot of stress, and it's always something to look forward to."

-KAITLYN TEJERO, 12

It's such an open and welcoming community. Everybody is friendly and accepting of everyone else. You can enter anyone's random conversation any time."

-CALEY SERVIN, 11

When performing, I have developed a very good work ethic. Doing what I love and aspire to do has helped me understand and prioritize myself first."

-JULIA JUERGENS, 10

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