



Press Release for The Wizard of Oz

Sponsored by Wilmette's Youth Connection

For distribution 10/19/11

Youth Connection's Theatre Experience at Highcrest Middle School in Wilmette, Illinois this year will be "The Wizard of Oz," a new adaptation of the classic story by L. Frank Baum. The show performs for two nights only, Friday, November 4, and Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 7:30p.m. at the Highcrest Middle School Auditorium at 569 W. Hunter, in Wilmette, Illinois. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold general admission at the door on the nights of the performances and also during lunch periods in the school cafeteria on November 1st thru 4th.

This modern re-telling was written, directed, and produced by Mary Kay Dreyfus. This new adaptation is set in the present day in Wilmette, Illinois, and touches on some relevant middle-school-aged themes, including bullying and acceptance. There is a cast of 15 students and 6 crew members made up of 5th and 6th graders from Highcrest.

Mary Kay Dreyfus, a Youth Connection board member and President of Consultarts.com, wrote the script, directed, and designed the costumes, sets, and sound. Charles W. Jolls is the production's lighting designer. Also, Youth Connection board members and local parents are helping with rehearsals, stage management, and marketing.

Youth Connection is a 501-C 3 charitable organization that provides social, service and educational opportunities to Wilmette-area 5th-8th graders. For more information about this production, contact Mary Kay Dreyfus at mkdreyfus@consultarts.com.

Cast List

Zak Belahmira	Wizard of Oz	Morgan Hardin	Narrator/Masha/Ensemble
Marc Birge	Narrator/Middleton/Ensemble	Amelia Kittle	Munchkin/Ensemble
Zach Blickstein	Narrator/Melvin/Ensemble	Isis Seppelfrick	Lion
Stella Boeckman	Narrator/Mabel/Ensemble	Sarah Shapiro	Ashley/Ensemble
Hannah Borushek	Glinda	Elaine Sowlat	Dorothy
Liesel Dolce	Aunt Emily/Ensemble	J.P. Tucker	Tin Man
Hannah Fergus	Wicked Witch		
Ana Georgescu	Scarecrow		
Elaina Gupta	Mary Kate/Ensemble		