

Charlotte Performing Arts Center

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~ PRESS RELEASE ~

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Tickets are on sale now for CHS Drama production of *The Music Man*

The Charlotte High School Drama Department is hard at work rehearsing for its fall musical, *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*. When Harold Hill, a traveling con man, arrives in River City, Iowa, he convinces the locals to start a boy's band by purchasing uniforms and instruments from him. Librarian Marian Paroo suspects Harold is a fraud, but holds her tongue. As Harold begins to develop feelings for Marian, he faces a difficult decision about skipping town.

The Music Man features a cast of 58 students from 7th – 8th grades. CHS junior Jarrad Epkey is making his CHS Musical debut as Harold Hill. He was last seen in the CHS production of *M*A*S*H*. CHS junior Madison Auten plays Marian Paroo, Madison played Grandma (certain performance in the CHS production of *The Addams Family* last year. The quartet, made famous in the original movie by The Buffalo Bills, is played by Austin Williams (high tenor), Ryan Klann (low tenor), Kollin Gonser (baritone), and Parker Auten (bass). With tight harmonies and comedic timing, this barbershop quartet is sure to thrill.

Director, Hollie Auten, Technical Director, Amy Jo Parish, Music Director, Andy Schroetter, Orchestra Director, Jerry Rose, and Student Director, Kollin Gonser have been working with the students on all aspects of the show since early September. In addition to those onstage, the show will be supported musically by a pit orchestra of 19 student and 3 adult musicians under the direction of Mr. Rose. Ms. Parish also leads a group of 20 student stage crew, who will execute all technical aspects of the show from behind the scenes.

Performances of *The Music Man* are November 2 & 3 at 7:00 PM and November 4 @ 3:00 PM. Advance tickets are \$12.00 for adults, \$10.00 for seniors (62 & Up), and \$6.00 for students. All tickets are \$15.00 at the door on the day of the performances. Tickets can be purchased at the CPAC Box Office in person or by calling 517-541-5690. Box Office hours are 9:00 – Noon, weekdays. Tickets can also be purchased online, 24 hours a day, at www.charlotteperformingartscenter.com.

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