

Royal Oak High School Drama Club

*Little
Women*



March 25-27, 2011



The Royal Oak High School Drama Club
Presents:



Little Women

A Comedy in Four Acts

Written by: Marian De Forest

Adapted from the story by Louisa May Alcott
By Arrangement with Jessie Bonstelle

Published by Samuel French, Inc.
45 West 25th Street
New York, NY 10010-2751

Synopsis

LITTLE WOMEN tells the much-beloved story of the four March girls, Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy, as they grow to adulthood in 19th-century New England. At the start of the play, pretty, practical Meg, rebellious, head-strong Jo, shy, hardworking Beth and spoiled little Amy are faced with the prospect of a dreary Christmas the year their father is away at war. Money is tight, and what they do have the family shares with their even poorer neighbors. But the girls are resourceful, and they can never be really poor when they have each other.

As the year progresses, the girls have many domestic adventures. They meet Laurie, "that Lawrence boy," who lives in the immense house next door. He and his grandfather become good neighbors and friends, and Laurie seems to be falling for Jo. Meanwhile, Jo embarks on a writing career, publishing a story in the local newspaper. The girls all experience social triumphs and disasters as they try to find their place in the world.

Tragedy strikes the family when Mr. March is struck ill in Washington and Mrs. March must fly to his side. Left to fend for themselves the girls learn much about responsibility. While nursing sick neighbor children, Beth contracts scarlet fever. She recovers, but the disease leaves her permanently weak. Act one ends with the joyful return of Mr. March, and the surprising engagement of Meg and John Brook, Laurie's tutor. Exactly one year has gone by.

Act Two opens several years later and covers a much longer time period, as the girls are now grown up. We witness Meg's marriage to John Brook. Jo leaves Concord for New York because she fears Laurie has feelings for her that she can't return. There she meets kindly Professor Bhaer. Amy travels to Europe with Aunt March, where she meets a despondent Laurie, come abroad to drown his sorrows over Jo's rejection.

Jo returns home to find Beth dying. When the inevitable happens, a hole is left in the family that can never be filled. But happiness is still in store. The news of Beth's death, when it reaches them in Europe, brings Amy and Laurie together and allows them to discover feelings other than friendship. They return to Concord as man and wife. It begins to look as if Jo is destined for spinsterhood, but her friend Professor Bhaer pursues her to New England and offers himself to her. The play closes with the whole family together in warmth and love.

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Letter From the Superintendent

It is interesting that the use of the "focus group" was employed as far back as 1868 to determine the possible success of a literary work. Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, found it difficult to produce the chapters of a book intended for young girls. During the production of *Little Women* Alcott writes in her diary, "I plod away although I don't enjoy this sort of thing." At the conclusion of the writing of the book both Alcott and her publicist, Thomas Niles, judged *Little Women* "dull."



However, Niles young niece, Lille Almy, found the chapters most enjoyable and the book was then provided to a group of Lille's young friends for age testing. The girls found the literary work delightful. Validated by a focus group of young girls, the stories of Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy (*Little Women*) went to press and became an international best seller for decades thereafter. Today, the book and the stage production delight people of all ages.

There is no need to test the appeal of Royal Oak High School Drama Club presentations. Year after year, our drama students produce some of the best theatre in the City of Royal Oak. Relax, sit back and prepare to be entertained! And don't forget to provide ample applause for the efforts of our young entertainers.

Sincerely, *Dr. Thomas L. Moline*, Superintendent

For the Audience

CELL PHONES and PAGERS: Please turn off (not just mute) all cell phones and pagers before the play begins. Our sound system is challenged and these devices interfere with the sound transmission.

SMOKING: Smoking is not permitted on school property.

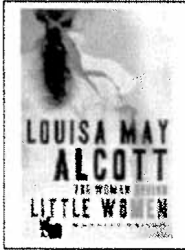
WATCHES: Please turn off hourly chimes as not to disturb those around you.

RESTROOMS: Restrooms are located on either side of the auditorium. Women's room to the on the east side of the auditorium and men's room on the west side of the auditorium.

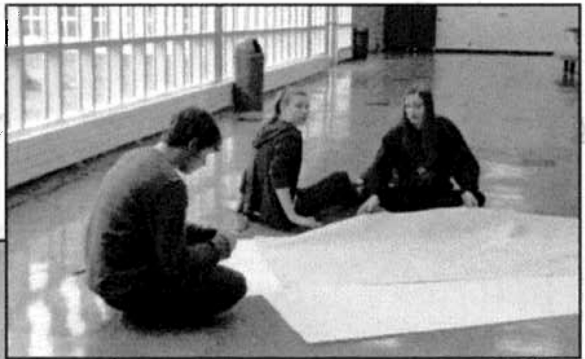
PHOTOS: No flash photography allowed for safety reasons.



Ms. Claire-it has been an absolute joy watching you in all your plays going way back to when you started as a little girl. Enjoy your final run at ROHS as Jo- "*the writer*", and your new role in...



"Blue is True"--Wishing you an adventurous future!
Congratulations from all of your family



Director's Notes

Little Women, the novel, is too much story for one play. This timeless classic is so interwoven into the fabric of our memories that no one can put it all onstage at one time. We can't show every nuanced narrative that Louisa May Alcott expressed in her quintessential American work, so we should not try. Instead, we have tried to bring you the heart of the story: the tale of love and learning, of loss, and of the redemption of time that comes through the lives of the indelible March family.

I guess I got lucky when I found a very well-crafted play by Marian De Forest that was a hit on the Broadway and London stages, 100 years ago. That told me a lot, because none of the newer stage versions you can find out there ever made it to Broadway. And it also struck me that that particular production was "arranged" by the most famous stage actress of her day, Jessie Bonstelle. Yes, Bonstelle. That's the same lady who, legend has it, still haunts the Bonstelle Theatre at my alma mater, Wayne State. And, since this high school is also my alma mater, I thought maybe Jessie could borrow our theatre to haunt with her blessings of talent.

But mostly, I knew of some deeply talented students here at Royal Oak who were ready for the serious ensemble work this play calls for. Not just onstage, but the light crew, sound crew, stage crew and stage managers, props and costumes crews too. I know I speak for all the students when I give special thanks to Drama Club teacher adviser Noelle Ochoa for her steadfast support and educational guidance.

And I know I speak for Ms. Ochoa when I tell you that these Drama Club students make me proud. I'm sure they'll make Jessie Bonstelle proud.

And now, watch them make you proud too.

Ed Nahhat



The **Royal Oak High School Drama Club** is a self funded organization. Our budget for sets, costumes, props, publicity, etc is based on revenues from ticket sales, advertisements, and donations. We appreciate your support, and we hope you enjoy our work. We thank our program advertisers for their generous support, and hope that you will patronize these community-minded companies and mention that you saw their advertisement in our program.

Cast

Meg	Meta Stange
Jo	Claire Holloway
Beth	Alex Dulin
Amy	Jill Giordano
Mr. March	Jesse Guest
Mrs. March	Bonnie Harris
Aunt March	Anna Marek
Mr. Laurence	Connor Valone
Laurie	Branden Lykins
Professor Bhaer	Bill LeAnnais
John Brooke	Chris Wagman
Hannah Mullett	Sami Garret

 THE BALDWIN THEATRE • ROYAL OAK, MI http://www.stagecrafters.org/	Now Showing: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Mar 18-20, 24-27, 31-Apr 3, 8-10, 2011
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Crew

Stage Manager	Freida Blostein
Assistant Stage Managers	Max Sanders, Courtney Stockman
Tech Director	Keegan Murphy
Costume Crew Leader	Ellen Stachowicz
Costume Crew	Chelsea Criger, Madison Hulswit, & Julia Sager
Lights Crew Leaders	Madison Ozdych, Zach Zatina
Lights Crew	Brendan Hunter, Jacob Metcalf, Taylor Moreland, Ariana Quesada, & Sam Scislowicz
Make-up/Hair Crew Leader	Kelsey Hoey
Make-up/Hair Crew	Mia Gallucchi, Geena Karsama, Catherine Morrow Lauren Peetz, Kelly Welch, & Pierce Weislogle
Program Editor	Elena Yarmy
Props Crew Leader	Hannah Hilzinger, Catherine Hubanks
Props Crew	Calvin Brown, Victoria Curtis, Taylor Gibson, Janel Gorman, Brianna Paquette, Lucas Valone, Kiera Wheatley, & Clint White
Publicity Crew Leader	Cassie Haglund, Kate Pilcher
Publicity Crew	Codie Archambault, Alyson Geboski, Janet O'Leary, Ashley Pliskow, Camille Primeau, Megan Ross, Bridget Vial, & Hannah Wielgat
Set Artwork	Emma Green
Set Construction Leader	Josh McGrath
Set Construction	Jenny Burke, Chelsea Criger, Katie Elkins, Catherine Gray, Laura Griffin, Abby Harbourne, Madison Hulswit, Brendan Hunter, Geena Karsama, DJ Martin, Jacob Metcalfe, Taylor Moreland, Catherine Morrow, Janet O'Leary, Madison Ozdych, Iris Partlan, Camille Primeau, Ariana Quesada, Sarah Rusinowski, Julia Sager, Sam Scislowicz, Joey White, & Zach Zatina
Sound Crew Leader	Christain Bastian
Sound Crew Assistant Leader	Chad Bateman
Stage Crew Leader	Nathan Foerg
Stage Crew	Leanna Beatty, Jenny Burke, Katie Elkins, Laura Griffin, Abby Harbourne, DJ Martin, & Joey White

Congratulations to the cast and crew of

Little Women

from

Edward Nahhat
and the attorneys and staff of

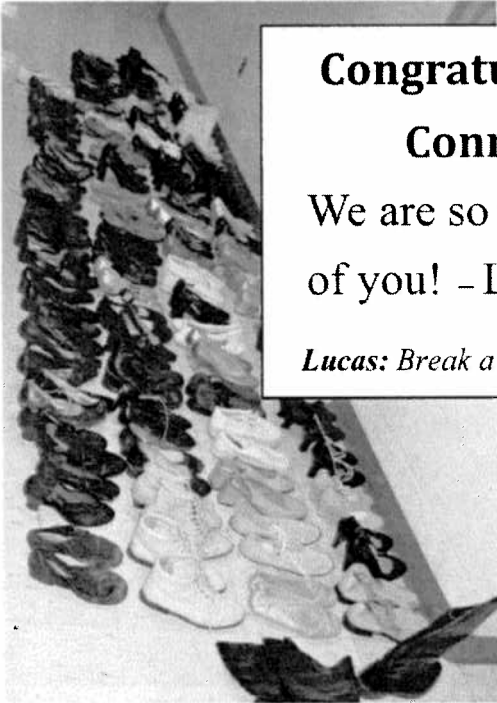
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Congratulations Connor!



We are so proud
of you! - Love, Mom and Dad

Lucas: Break a leg (oh, you already did that!)

Special Thanks

The Royal Oak High School Drama Club would like to thank all of the shows advisors. Without their help and guidance, the show couldn't go on!

Adult Advisors

Club Advisor..... Noelle Ochoa
Director..... Ed Nahhat
Acting Coach Frannie Shepherd-Bates
Costumer Holly Holloway
Costume Assistance..... Dolly Scheilbelhut
Costume Loan Royal Oak Stagecrafters
..... Grosse Pointe Theater
Lights & Sound Tom Niemkiewicz
Publicity..... Becky Stange, Beth Valone
Set Design and Construction Todd Holloway
Set Construction Teri Garret, Rick Hahn, Rick Valone
..... Jim Harris, Kerry Hunter, Fred Klein, Ray Litwinowicz, Scott Stange
Supporting Player Gayle Marek



Who's Who



Christian Bastian Sound Crew Leader, Junior
Christian is "Mr. Sound" having participated/led the sound crew for three years. Outside of the sound booth, Christian likes tennis, guitar, and being *The Last Airbender*. His favorite part of drama club is the fun people he meets and the free food. "I'm always thinking one step ahead like a carpenter...who makes stairs." - Andy Bernard

Chad Bateman Sound Crew Leader, Junior

For the past couple of years, Chad has been an invaluable part of the sound crew. He is Christian's right hand man. When he isn't hanging around the auditorium on Saturday mornings, he enjoys tennis and swimming. "There is such a thing as good grief, just ask Charlie Brown." - Michael Scott



Freida Blostein Stage Manager, Junior

A bit of a drama club connoisseur, Freida has done it all in her six shows; from sound, lights, and stage manager, even acting in *Midsummer Nights Dream* as Peaseblossom. To keep busy outside, Freida participates in Model UN, NHS and her favorite sports, soccer and tennis. Her favorite part of drama club is that one night something almost goes wrong, but then doesn't! "Best of luck to Jú and Tin-Ting, best friends and stars."

Alex Dulin as Beth, Junior

Alex is a drama club veteran, having participated in six productions in three years! She also plays soccer and softball; is a member of A Cappella, Band, and Marching Band, and enjoys being human. Her favorite part of drama club is hanging with friends and being on stage. "Tin-Ting and Schlappo are muy fabuloso and I love them long time."



Who's Who

Nathan Foerg Stage Crew Leader, Sophomore

This is Nathan's second show with the drama club. He worked on set construction and stage crew for "Cinderella". He likes playing sports, especially the Ping Pong club. His favorite part of drama club is building the stage. "Have you heard about the game?"



Sami Garret as Hannah Mullett, Senior

Sami is a seasoned actress at ROHS. She has had roles in the past five plays produced by the drama club. At Addams Middle School, Sami performed in "Pirates of Penzance". When she isn't performing, Sami is a choir member, knits and loves music. Her favorite part of drama club is the costumes, rehearsals, fun and friendship. "We have worked long hours in hot costumes, under hot lights to make this wonderful show. I will miss you all and I want to thank you for four great years."



Jill Giordano as Amy, Senior, Drama Club Secretary

Jill is a big, blast of talent in a tiny package. She has used her unique skills and talents to operate a man eating plant, dance through the woods, advise storybook characters, and operate a radio. For "Cinderella", Jill took over behind the set as the Stage Manager. Jill enjoys playing monopoly, listening to Weezy, me gusta hablar espanol, the Tigers, and Elly. Her favorite part of drama club is M.S. "Now it's really going off, fireworks."



Jesse Guest as Mr. March, Senior

Jesse is a 4 year veteran of drama club, never missing an opportunity to participate. His interests include A Cappella choir, Wind Ensemble and being kidnapped to play Monopoly. His favorite part of drama club is Alex Dulin's random hugs, Dixon Ticonderoga #2 pencils, walls that are 40 different colors, being married to Bonnie Harris, "memorizing lines", and his chair. "This is my quote. I said it. At sometime. During my life. I couldn't think of anything so this is my quote. You're welcome. Oh, and thanks Mom!"



More Who's Who

Cassie Haglund, Publicity Leader, Sophomore

Cassie is one of the cornerstones of the publicity crew. Her "get it done" attitude has gotten the crew through some tough deadlines. Outside of drama club, Cassie enjoys reading. She is also a member of Business Professionals of America and Knitting Club. Her favorite part of drama club is hanging out with friends. She loves doing something on Saturday's instead of being bored at home. "Once you choose hope, anything is possible." - Christopher Reeve



Bonnie Harris as Mrs. March, Senior

Bonnie is relatively new to the drama club but an experienced performer. She is a 3-year member of A Cappella and a current member of Chamber Singers. Her favorite part of drama club is backstage antics, the friendships—and Anna Marek. "Butters, you gotta learn to chill. Life goes by pretty fast. If you can't stop and look around once in a while, and do whatever you want all the time, you could miss it."

Hannah Hilzinger, Props Leader, Senior

Hannah discovered ROHS Drama Club last year and hasn't missed a show yet. She has considerable theatrical experience though, having participated in plays either as an actor or behind the scenes since preschool. Hannah is passionate about the environment and the arts. She spends her free time creatively expressing herself by drawing, painting, or just doing crafts.



Kelsey Hoey, Hair & Make-up Leader, Senior

Kelsey was the hair and makeup crew leader for "Cinderella" and set construction for "Little Shop of Horror". She likes to read! Kelsey always has a book with her. That's what she does when she's not working at Harlan Elementary. Her favorite part of drama club is just talking to people that she might not normally talk to. During "Cinderella" she reconnected with some people that she hadn't talked to in a really long time. "You only live once, but if you work it right, once is enough." and "Live laugh Love"

More Who's Who



Claire Holloway as Jo, Senior, Drama Club Treasurer
Claire has participated in every ROHS drama club presentation during her four years in high school. Her talents don't stop at the school doors. She has shared her passion with the Birmingham Community House Theater, Stagecrafters, and the Cranbrook Theater School. Claire is Editor in Chief of Noesis. She also writes and enjoys watching movies. Her favorite part of drama club is opening night. "Not with a fizzle but with a bang!"

Catherine Hubanks Props Leader, Senior

Catherine is a full time performer. She was involved in four shows at ROHS, always creating wonderful props. In addition to drama club, she's a choir officer, a member of Chamber Singers and is in a band at her church. Her favorite part of drama club is making new friends and experiencing the rush of show life. "Don't mess with my props! Please. Haha, and I'm super glad I was involved in Drama Club these past two years, and met all you fabulous people"



Bill LeAnnais as Professor Bhaer, Senior

Bill's acting career began with his outstanding performance as King Max in "Cinderella". He may be new to the stage, but he's very involved in many school activities. Bill is the Treasurer of Interact, President of the combined Choirs, Vice President of the National Honor Society, and Treasurer of the Senior Class. (It's amazing he could find time to memorize his lines!) Bill's favorite part of drama club is watching everything come together - sometimes at the last minute.

Branden Lykins as Laurie, Senior

As a freshman, Branden was the Salt Shaker in the drama club production of "Beauty and the Beast". After taking a couple of years off to enjoy other activities (playing guitar, singing, painting and spending time with friends and family) Branden returned to the stage with several roles in "Cinderella", including an unforgettable performance as one of the white horse. Branden's favorite part of drama club is the people and the chance to perform. "Thank you to everyone who supports me and what I love."



Who's Who Cont'd



Anna March as Aunt March, Junior, Drama Club VP
Anna is a true thespian, both on stage and behind the scenes. She frequently lights up the ROHS drama club stage, as well as the Motor City Youth Theater and the Birmingham Village Players. In the spring, Anna will grace the Baldwin Theater playing the part of Penny in the Stagecrafters presentation of "Hairspray". Anna also enjoys playing the piano and hanging out with cool people (like Bonnie). Her favorite part of drama club? Meta!

Josh McGrath Set Construction Leader, Sophomore
Josh has a wide range of theater experience including Reader's Theater at both the Royal Oak Public Library, and the Troy Public Library. He is a member of the Ping Pong Club and is interested in filming and watching movies. His favorite part of drama club is building the sets.
"I lost the game."



Keegan Murphy Technical Director, Sophomore
Keegan began his acting career as a waif in Kimball's production of "Les Miserable's". Since then, he's been perfecting his behind the scenes skills. Keegan enjoys playing soccer, PC games, cards and board games. He also likes to read. Keegan's favorite part of drama club is using power tools. "A man never made a fool of himself by keeping his mouth shut." - Jim Butcher

Madison Ozdych Lights Leader, Freshman
In her first year of drama club, Madison has already become co-leader of lights. Her interests in Choir, softball and science make her the well rounded person that she is. Her favorite part of drama club is meeting new people, learning new things and blinding people with spot lights during rehearsal.



Who's Who Cont'd

Kate Pilcher, Publicity Leader, Sophomore

During her time in ROHS Drama Club, Kate focused her efforts on publicity and became crew lead. She is an avid dancer involved in ROHS dance company, Borgo Sisters Dance Studio and Works-Dance. Her other interests include photography and Business professionals of America. Her favorite part of Drama Club is hanging out with old friends, meeting new ones and having something to do on Saturday. "The best part of Drama Club is Ellen Stachowicz"



Max Sanders Asst. Stage Manager, Freshman

Max started his ROHS theater career onstage in "Cinderella". He is now learning the ropes behind the scene. Max has musical interests in marching band, jazz band, bass trombone, bass guitar, ukulele, and a particular interest in hats! His favorite part of drama club is the people! (and seeing the finished show).

Ellen Stachowicz Costume Leader, Sophomore

If you need to find Ellen, look in the costume room! This is her fourth ROHS drama club production working with apparel. Ellen can also be found at the Ridgedale Players, as she is a regular there as well. She is a member of InterAct, Model UN, and choir. Ellen enjoys listening to KISS and watching TMC "Ellen = God, or awesome, I haven't decided yet".



Meta Stange as Meg, Senior, Drama Club President

Meta has appeared in multiple shows at ROHS. When not at rehearsal for drama club, she is usually busy with choir. In her limited time spent away from the school, she enjoys eating, developing super hip dance moves, playing badminton like a champ, and slurpin' on slurpies. Her favorite part of drama club is hanging out people that make her feel awesome because they are so weird... (shout out to Jill and Bill!) "It's been real..."

Who's Who

Courtney Stockman Asst Stage Manager, Senior

Courtney started her drama club experience on the light crew for "Cinderella" and "The Man Who Came to Dinner". When she isn't managing production details, you'll find her with the Marching Band or at NHS. She enjoys being the total boss. Her favorite part of drama club is all the shenanigans that go on behind the scenes.

"Oh no! I am a stick o' dynamite!"



Connor Valone as Mr. Laurence, Junior

Connor is making his stage debut. For three years, he has worked countless hours on sound, lights and as stage manager. He enjoys road trips, making tea and incense, sleeping in, and making music. His likes drama club because of the parties with Frosty, backstage shenanigans and gummy bears. "A very special thanks to Alex Dulin, Ed Nahhat, Freida Blostein, Bonnie Harris, Branden Lykins, Frannie Shepard-Bates, Mommy & Daddy, Keila, Anna Shwik, Randy Wade for being so supportive of me!"



Chris Wagman as John Brooke, Sophomore

Chris is relatively new to the theater, but his unique talents have landed him roles in all three drama club production since his arrival at the high school. When Chris isn't learning lines he likes to write stories, play video games, and hang with his friends. His favorite part of drama club is all of the new people, and the fact that you can be yourself. "I love my very best friends, Jú and Schloopo. Till death do us all part."



Elena Yarmy Program Editor, Junior

Elena made her stage debut last fall in "Cinderella" and now she's lending her talents to the publicity crew. Elena has a wide variety of interests including choir, spirits club, lawnmowing and jellyfish. Her favorite part of drama club is taking pictures of the gorgeous Meta Stange from afar. "Drama Club has been an influential time in my life because I have been able to observe the wonderful, talented, inspirational Meta Stange, even though she didn't know I was watching her."



Who's Who



Zach Zatina, Lights Leader, Sophomore

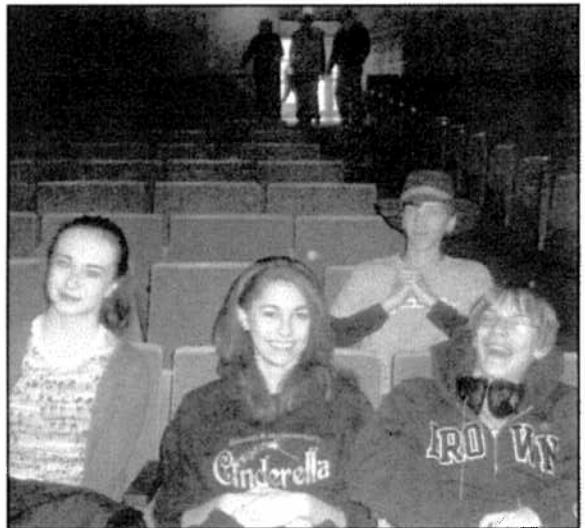
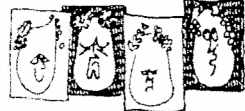
This is Zach's second drama club production. His theater resume starts in kindergarten where he played a stick house in "The Three Little Pigs" at Parker Elementary School. Zach is on the ROHS Varsity swim team. He really enjoys hanging out with his drama club friends.

"I'm an F-16 brah!" - Charlie Sheen

Presenting:
The Scarlet Pimpernel

May 8-21, 2011
<http://gpt.org>

Grosse Pointe Theatre
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Officer's Message

Hello all...

...And welcome to our production of "Little Women"! This show has truly been a journey, from auditions to tech week, and we have enjoyed it every step of the way. We have gotten the opportunity to challenge ourselves and each other in ways that we never thought would be possible. Our talented director, Mr. Nahhat, is to thank for our success; his hard work and dedication to our club has allowed us to learn, grow and evolve, and for that, we are incredibly grateful. Drama Club would be impossible without our incredible teacher sponsor, Mrs. Ochoa. Her love and support is the glue that bonds us all together, without which, we would inevitably fall apart. THANK YOU AND WE LOVE YOU! Other people we love include our parents, who truly are the unsung heroes of Drama Club. From driving us to rehearsal to dedicating time and energy to our sets, costumes, and programs, and finally just supporting our ambitions and coming to watch us perform, our parents make our club great. To the cast and crew— we appreciate all of your hard work. It's been quite an experience, and we will never forget all of the rehearsals and Super Saturday's, working hard onstage and memorizing lines (or goofing off) back stage. Although this is a show with a very small cast, Drama Club member's have still come out in droves to help out in any way they can, and for that, we are incredibly proud of everyone who has put in effort to make our club great. Finally, to our audience, thank you so much for taking time out of your busy lives to come support us; we hope you like what you see enough to come back for another show in the future, because Drama Club really would be nothing without you! Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,
2010-2011 Officers

{Meta Stange, Anna
Marek, Jill Giordano,
Claire Holloway,
Christian Bastian}





A special "Thank You!"

To **each and every** student, teacher, director, sound and lighting folks, musician and especially the parent volunteer who assisted with the last four years of ROHS plays, hats off to you--- you provided much Theatre enjoyment for our family and friends.....

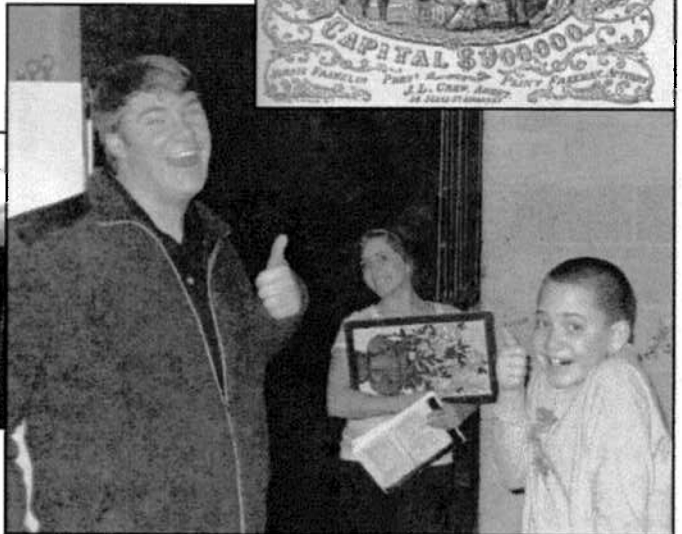
Parents-You have **great kids.**

Kids-You have **great parents.**

With much appreciation and fond memories,

Todd and Holly Holloway





TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW, YOU WILL BE MORE DISAPPOINTED IN THE THINGS YOU DID NOT DO THAN THE ONES YOU DID. SO THROW OFF THE BOWLINES. SAIL AWAY FROM THE SAFE HARBOR. CATCH THE TRADE WINDS IN YOUR SAILS.

EXPLORE.

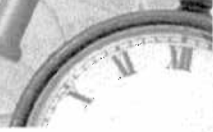
DREAM.

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- JACK TWEAN



2011



Love~ Dad, Mom, Hugo, and the Black Pack

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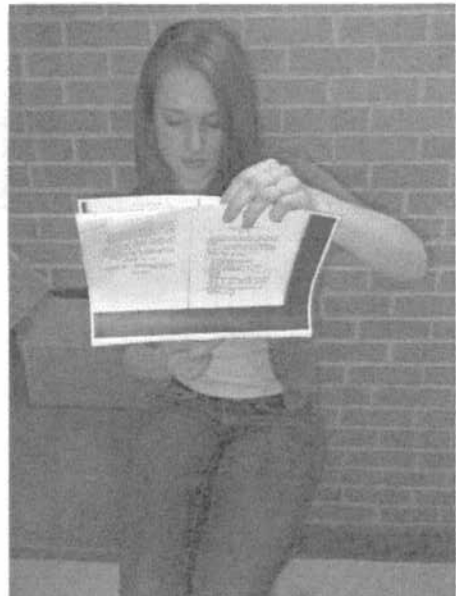
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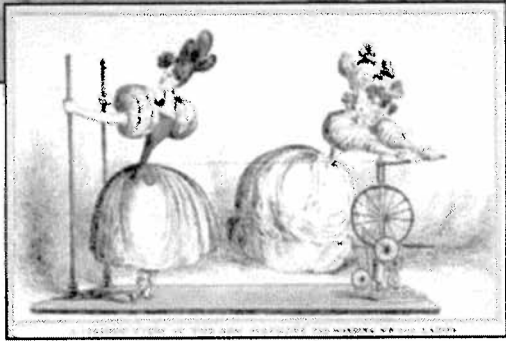
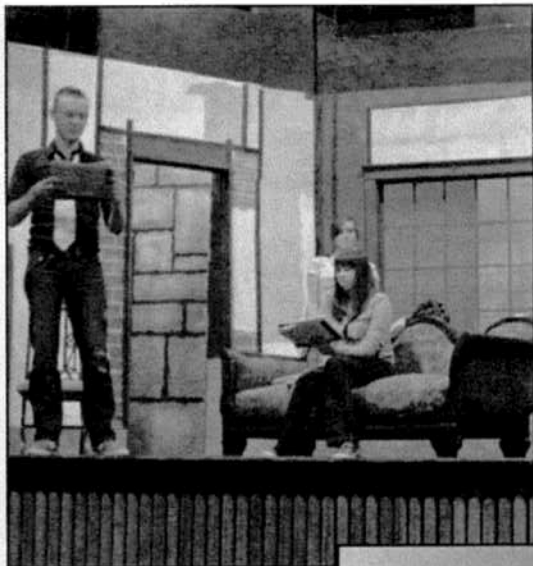


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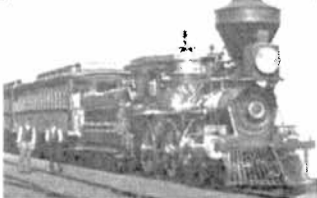
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