

NEWS RELEASE

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Arlington (October 9, 2015) - Arlington High School's drama department has surely gone wild this year! With witchcraft and manipulation, Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* is full of jaw dropping moments and scandalous relationships. The show premieres on November 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7PM at the Byrnes Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$10 for adults.

This play is steeped in historical facts, as it is based off of actual events from Salem, Massachusetts, in the year 1692. Actors are hard at work, studying and developing a better understanding of their character's historical significance. At the start of the play, the audience can begin to sense how the societal tensions have greatly affected the characters. Throughout the performance, the audience will witness the tensions as they ratchet up and reach a breaking point in the final scene.

Seasoned performer of Arlington High School, Josh Basher, believes, "This show does such a great job of keeping the audience guessing how they feel towards the characters; in some instances, the audience feels sympathy for my character, John Proctor, due to the false accusations towards his family; while in other situations, they despise him for his short temper and the way he treats several characters in the play. These were real people, and our goal is to portray them in the most accurate light possible."

Emily Hawks, another familiar face to the Arlington High School stage, thinks "*The Crucible* makes people question how it applies to their lives. The hysteria and group panic that occur really happened at more than one time in history, and the really terrifying thing about the play is how my character Abigail is able to manipulate the town to the point of killing innocent people without any concrete evidence." The relationship of characters of Emily and Josh is extremely convoluted and toxic to both themselves and others.

Tickets can be purchased online at byrnesperformingarts.org as well as at the door on show nights beginning at 6:00 pm.

Please contact Scott Moberly to arrange for interviews or photograph a rehearsal: (360) 618-6300 ext. 3117, or smoberly@asd.wednet.

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