knightwatch weekly



mlc-wels.edu

September 8, 2023

Hello, Dolly!

The cast for the first show of the Forum season has been chosen! We know some of you might wonder what musical auditions are like at MLC—and also which of your friends (and *future* friends!) made the cut! So we asked Director **Erin Laabs** *MLC* '08 to fill us in.

Mrs. Laabs had students audition in pairs this year. They came prepared with lots of material from the show: two different scenes, a monologue, part of a song, and some choreography. As she and her staff made their choices, they considered students' singing, dancing, and acting talents—and more.

"The staff and I think a lot about who will be the most successful in certain roles," Mrs. Laabs says, "how each person will impact the overall vision of the show, and how different characters work together. With casting, it's not as simple as who's 'the best.'

There are many directions we can go, and it's quite the interesting process to figure out how all those pieces will interact together."

Everyone is already hard at work, putting on their "Sunday Clothes" and reaching for "Elegance"—all "Before the Parade Passes By." The show will run November 3-5.



The Hello, Dolly! Student Staff: Ass't Music Dir. Joe Panning (Litchfield HS / St. Paul-Litchfield MN), Producer Katie Rosenau (Lake County Virtual School / St. Mark-Leesburg FL), Ass't Choreographer Katie Gilkey (LPS / The Springs-Sparks NV), Box Office Manager Madelyn Fischer (MVL / St. John-New Ulm MN), Ass't Director Jeff Heyer (FVL / Immanuel-Greenville WI)

"We just finished the read-through of the show Wednesday night," Mrs. Laabs says. "This cast is a really unique combination of different personalities, different ages, and different backgrounds. *Hello, Dolly!* is a very exciting, glamorous, and entertaining show, and I can't wait to continue bringing all of the pieces together over the next eight weeks!"

Cast

Mrs. Dolly Gallagher Levi: Isabel Monday

(LPS / St. Peter-Appleton WI)

Ambrose Kemper: Noah Uhlenbrauck

(FVL / St. Peter-Appleton WI)

Horace Vandergelder: Ethan Cloute

(LPS / St. Luke-Watertown WI)

Ermengarde: Anastasia Alexandrowicz

(LPS / Grace-Crivitz WI)

Cornelius Hackl: Ryan Boggs

(LPS / St. Luke-Watertown WI)

Barnaby Tucker: Jacob Bergstrom

(West LHS / King of Grace-Golden Valley MN)

Minnie Fay: Ella Bergemann

(LPS / Good Shepherd-Downers Grove IL)

Irene Molloy: Brooke Flunker

(Winneconne HS / St. Paul-Winneconne WI)

Chorus

Sam Hansmann (Winnebago LA / St. Paul-Brownsville WI)

Jason Horn (LPS / Reformation-San Diego)

Benjamin Loescher (KML / David's Star-Jackson WI)

Zachary Maedke (FVL / Trinity-Coleman WI)

Lucas Prange (LPS / New Life/Bethany-Kenosha WI)

Joseph Schultz (LPS / Zion-Rhinelander WI)

Eric Smith (MVL / St. Paul-New Ulm MN)

Micah Vanderhoof (KML / Pilgrim-Menomonee Falls WI)

Morgan Glowicki (MVL / St. Paul-Jordan MN)

Patricia Leckwee (KML / St. Luke-Watertown WI)

Elise Nolte (FVL / Riverview-Appleton WI)

Emma Pufahl (Wisconsin LHS / Emmanuel-Tempe AZ)

Olivia Robinson (LPS / St. Paul-New Ulm MN)

Zoe Scharf (LPS / St. Paul-New Ulm MN)

Nicole Schumann (MVL / St. Mark-Mankato MN)

Katie Ungemach (Manitowoc LHS / First German-Manitowoc WI)