For Immediate Release: Contact: allstateproducers@ihstf.org
Date: 9/25/2022

PRESS RELEASE

The 2023 All-State Company* of *Shrek the Musical

Presented as part of the 2023 Illinois High School Theatre Festival

In January, the 2023 Illinois High School Theatre Festival (IHSTF), the largest and oldest non-competitive high school theatre festival in the nation, is proud to feature Broadway's smash hit, *SHREK THE MUSICAL* , as its 2023 All-State production. *SHREK THE MUSICAL* features a select ensemble of high school performers and technicians from throughout the state of Illinois.

Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, Shrek The Musical is a Tony Award-winning fairy tale adventure, featuring all new songs from Jeanine Tesori (Thoroughly Modern Millie; Caroline, or Change) and a side splitting book by David Lindsay-Abaire. Shrek brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears.

"Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek...." And thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a short-tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand... and his name is Shrek.

Shrek presents a treasure trove of creative opportunities, including costumes, sets, puppets (there is a fire-breathing dragon after all) and more! Irreverently fun for the whole family, Shrek proves that beauty is truly in the eye of the ogre. (Musical Theatre International)

The All-State cast, crew, and pit orchestra are comprised of top student performers, musicians, and technicians from Illinois.Numerous students from across the state of Illinois auditioned for *SHREK THE MUSICAL*. **125 were selected for the final production Company from 60 high schools. The Director for this year's production is Michelle Bayer (Oak Park and River Forest HS).**

Rehearsals for *SHREK THE MUSICAL* take place over several long weekends during the Fall of 2022, with final rehearsals occurring the last few days before the actual performances. **This year's performance venue is the Tyron Festival Theatre at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.** This is a closed event for participants of the Illinois High School Theatre Festival. There are no public tickets available for these performances.

About the Illinois High School Theatre Festival

Now in its 48th consecutive year, the Illinois High School Theatre Festival (IHSTF) is the largest and oldest non-competitive high school theatre festival in the world, and is produced by the Illinois Theatre Association. Over 3,500 teachers, university representatives, exhibitors, and volunteers come together to put on theatrical workshops and various high school productions. The IHSTF organizes over 150 workshops, whose topics range from acting, musical theatre, auditions, improvisation, technical theatre, directing, stage management, make-up and costumes, lighting and special effects, to name a few. In addition, more than 25 high school productions, both showcases and full-length, from around the state are selected to perform at the IHSTF each year.

This year's Festival, themed "Are you Living or Just Existing?" is led by IHSTF Executive Director Ryan Lambert (Farmington Central High School) and features *SHREK THE MUSICAL* as its All-State production. The All-State cast, crew, and pit orchestra is composed of the top student performers, technicians, and musicians in the state of Illinois. *SHREK THE MUSICAL* will be performed throughout the Festival.

***- SHREK THE MUSICAL* COMPANY LIST ON NEXT PAGE -**

Shrek Company List

All-State 2023

Production Team

Michelle Bayer	Director	Oak Park and River Forest High School
Katherine Apperson-Skobel	Co-Producer	James B. Conant High School
Tom Skobel	Co-Producer	Lake Zurich High School
Connor Cornelius	Choreographer	Oak Park and River Forest High School
Hannah Drake	Vocal Music Director	Harrisburg High School
Lisa Garza	Pit Director	Bolingbrook High School
Jack Micetich	Costumes	Coal City High School
Hunter Evans	Scenic Designer	Downers Grove South High School
Ron Bowden Jr.	Technical Director	Grayslake North High School
Michael Clack	Asst. Technical Director	Deerfield High School
Hector Hernandez	Properties	Streamwood High School
Anthony Bartucci	Sound Design	AB Production Associates
Ian Garrett	Sound Design	AB Production Associates
Noah Record	Light Design	Protolight
Teslen Sadowski	Asst. Light Design	Leyden High School
Alex Holod	Special Effects Designer	Addison Trail High School
Sue Aldridge	Local Arrangements	Centennial High School (Retired)
Lou Williams	UIUC Production Coordinator	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Jimmy Chrismon	ISU Intern Coordinator	Illinois State University
Lorelei Wernecke	ISU Intern	Illinois State University
Hailey Bonk	ISU Intern	Illinois State University
Dilan Gursoy	ISU Intern	Illinois State University
Julian Fonseca	ISU Intern	Illinois State University
Hannah Brigham	ISU Intern	Illinois State University

Cast

Luke	Ahlquist	Oswego East High School	Pied Piper/Guard
Elena	Akerberg	Prairie Ridge High School	Fiona
Ella	Anello	Addison Trail High School	Dragon/Fairy Tale Character
Grace	Arnett	Carterville High School	Dulocian
Kaitlyn	Bavirsha	Lincoln-Way West High School	Villager
Fiona	Bilkey	Glenbard East High School	Villager
Joshua	Bonds	Oak Park and River Forest High School	Donkey

Nevaeh	Bos	Lake Zurich High School	Dulocian
Natalie	Brodsky	Harold L. Richards High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Mitchell	Brown	Carbondale Community High School	Farquaad
Stephen	Byers Jr.	Coal City High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard
Camani	Campbell	Romeoville High School	Villager/Guard
Juliana	Canastra	Deerfield High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Derek	Carlson	Coal City High School	Captain of the Guard/Dulocian/Guard
Graham	Carlson	Lockport Township High School	Baby Shrek/Baby Bear
Sallee	Collins	Pinckneyville High School	Villager
Molly	Czechanski	Lincoln-Way East High School	Villager; Teen Fiona Understudy
Alex	Day	Adlai E. Stevenson High School	Pinocchio
Blake	Donalson	Oak Park and River Forest High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Violet	Easley	Farmington Central High School	Villager
Bryson	Edwards	Carterville High School	Thelonius/Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard
Brayden	Follett	Jacobs High School	Knight 1/Villager
Lilly	Fujioka	Adlai E Stevenson High School	Villager
Armani	Gennell	West Leyden High School	Pig 1
Charles	Howerton	Carterville High School	Papa Bear/Papa Ogre; Shrek Understudy
Stella	Hoyt	Homewood Flossmoor High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Victoria	Hutson	Oak Park and River Forest High School	Blind Mouse- Fairy Tale Character
Josh	Jaffe	Mundelein High School	Shrek
Claire	Jansen	Prairie Ridge High School	Sugar Plum/Gingy
Jersie	Joniak	Lockport Township High School	Humpty Dumpty
Justin	Katin	Adlai E Stevenson High School	Wolf; Farquaad Understudy
Olivia	Konstantelos	Naperville North High School	Elf
Felisa	Lascano	Hampshire High School	Villager
James	Leonardi	Fenwick High School	Pig 3
Ameriah	Lockett	Urbana High School	Villager
Lily	Mace	Adlai E Stevenson High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Melodi	Magluyan	Lake Zurich High School	Villager
Katie	McCormick	Lake Zurich High School	Greeter/Villager/Guard
Gabriel	McKinney	Homewood Flossmoor High School	Ugly Duckling; Donkey Understudy
Athiana	Moran	East Leyden High School	Tweedle Dum
Jayla	Morgan	Glenbard South High School	Tweedle Dee

Daniel	Moshi	West Leyden High School	Pig 2
Mason	Natyshok	Coal City High School	Speaking Guard/ Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard
Maren	Nazar	Maine South High School	Peter Pan
Jonathan	Protus	Vernon Hills High School	Knight 3/Dwarf/ Villager
Finley	Pullano	Maine South High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Dylan	Rhodes	Amos Alonzo Stagg High School	Queen Lillian/Villager
Kaitlyn	Rose	Kankakee High School	Blind Mouse- Fairy Tale Character
Abigail	Sanford	Lockport Township High School	Blind Mouse/Bluebird; Fiona Understudy
Mary Kate	Schoessling	St. Charles East High School	Mama Ogre/Mama Bear
Tyler	Schorsch	Palatine High School	Knight 4/Villager
Andrew	Schulien	Warren Township High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard
Arjun	Shah	Hinsdale Central High School	Bishop//Guard
McKenna	Sharkey	Cary Grove High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Teagan	Sharkey	Cary Grove High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Zoe	Shores-Navata	Wheaton North High School	Dulocian
Cydney	Thomas	Bolingbrook High School	Fairy Godmother
Samuel	Tichenor	Edwardsville High School	Knight 2/King Harold/Villager
Joseph	Timberlake	Crystal Lake South High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard
Cameren	Truelove	Oak Park River and Forest High School	Dulocian
Zach	Ulmer	Huntley High School	Mad Hatter; Pinocchio Understudy
Audrey	Wagner	Hampshire High School	Teen Fiona/Fairy Tale Character
Amy	Wang	Neuqua Valley High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer
Jack	Winkelhake	Burlington Central High School	White Rabbit
Jessica	Wolthusen	Oak Park and River Forest High School	Wicked Witch
Roya	Zaucha	Bolingbrook High School	Dulocian/Tap Dancer/Guard

Crew

Drew	Bagby	Edwardsville High School
Joseph	Begley	Deerfield High School
Robby	Boucher	Downers Grove North High School
Chelsea	Broeker	Edwardsville High School
McKenzie	Bruce	Streator TownshipHigh School

Rachel	Burton	Burlington Central High School
Caidyn	Crouch	Edwardsville High School
Eric	Curran	Mother Mcauley Liberal Arts High School
Jenna	DuMelle	Burlington Central High School
Rory	Dwyer	Grayslake North High School
Oliver	Fisher-Rohde	Deerfield High School
Natasha	Fugate	Downers Grove North High School
Nikolai	Gadomski	Downers Grove South High School
Hannah	Garmon	University High School
Graham	Gatewood	Grayslake North High School
Eduardo	Hernandez	Reavis High School
Maggie	Hershey	Maine South High School
Julia	Howard	Deerfield High School
Addison	Kamilis	Grayslake North High School
Ian	Kedrowski	Oak Park and River Forest High School
Chloe	Kovacevich	East Leyden High School
Ellen	Krivak	Riverside Brookfield High School
Talia	Lasky	Maine East High School
Victoria	Liokumovich	Adlai E. Stevenson High School
AJ	McAndrews	Downers Grove South High School
Sean	McNicholas	Grayslake North High School
Charlie	O'Connor	Deerfield High School
Zoe	Petro	Downers Grove North High School
Ava	Petrowski	Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School
Ilex	Rosen	Adlai E.Stevenson High School
Keegan	Sampey	Addison Trail High School
Vera	Soberg	Walter Payton College Prep
Megan	Sowa	Addison Trail High School
Elizabeth	Steele	Glenbard South High School
Jannelle	Steger	Nazareth Academy
Zach	Stutland	Deerfield High School
Aidan	Sullivan	Downers Grove South High School
Emma	Swiersz	Huntley High School
Michelle	Torishnyak	Lake Zurich High School
Rodolfo	Torres	West Leyden High School

Kaitlyn	Urbanowicz	Glenbard South High School
Olivia	Virgilio	Lake Zurich High School
Aurora	Wilke	Edwardsville High School
Isabella	Wilson	Bolingbrook High School

Orchestra

Sarah	Ballenger	Streamwood High School	Violin
Stanica	Butnariu	Reavis High School	Clarinet/Bass Clarinet
Ciara	Carroll	Lake Forest High School	Drum Set
Kayla	Connelly	Coal City High School	Alto Saxophone
Analisa	Cress	Warren Township High School	Horn
Allison	Dennison	Harrisburg High School	Tenor/Bari Sax
Aldre	Delos Santos	Prairie Ridge High School	Trumpet
Matthew	Derong	Bolingbrook High School	Guitar 1
Trini	Feng	Crystal Lake High School	Keyboard
Caleb	Gumminger	Vernon Hills High School	Cello
Tawney	Kellogg	Oswego High School	Flute/Picc.
Matthew	Kohl	Glenbard South High School	Keyboard
Gabriel	Koppel	Bolingbrook High School	Percussion
Ananya	Maddulapalli	James B. Conant High School	Clarinet
Liam	Mulroe	Lake Zurich High School	Guitar 2
Addison	Paunan	Buffalo Grove High School	Violin
Sam	Rutledge	West Chicago High School	Flute
Sarah	Walser	Bartlett High School	Bass
Blake	Whattcott	Bolingbrook High School	Trombone

-- END --