

Twelfth Night



Friday March 13 at 7:00

*A Musical Adaptation of William Shakesphere's
TWELFTH NIGHT*
conceived By Kwame Kwei-Armah & Shaina Taub
Music & Lyrics by Shaina Taub

A Note from the Director

Dear family and friends of Bigelow Drama,

Welcome to Bigelow Drama's production of The Public Theater's adaptation of Twelfth Night! I'm thrilled to have had the opportunity to direct my first show at Bigelow, after 8 years of assistant directing and choreographing here. During my time at Bigelow, I've seen 5 directors, many technical updates, a new carpet (!!), and the same exact warm-ups done by hundreds of students. When Ms. Alberts told me she needed a director for the musical, I jumped at the chance- because I love working with these kids!

Twelfth Night is one of Shakespeare's most famous comedies, with delights such as hilarity, confusion, and gender-fluid romance. While both Shakespeare's original texts and this adaptation highlight the importance of being who you truly are without disguise, this version also features, in its closing song, an anthem of empathy for others. In this current national and international climate, we would all benefit to "see through the eyes of another" and "open our hearts to each others' beat." "What a better world it could be," indeed.

Enjoy the show,
Olivia Moriarty

Twelfth Night Ensemble

Varied Varlets:

Maya Lucas.....	Viola
Charlotte Davis.....	Olivia
Parker Mace.....	Orsino
Megan Corr.....	Toby
Reya Schmidt.....	Maria, Flirtgill Section Leader
Ruby Metcalf.....	Feste, Varlets Section Leader
Jonathan Santos.....	Malvolio
Molly Morrison.....	Antonio, Flirtgill Section Leader
Arnav Travers.....	Sebastian
Eliza Kane.....	Andrew
Maya Macomb.....	Fabian

Orsino's Newsmongers:

Kendall Labrache.....	Officer #1, Newsmonger 4,
Nicole Richmand.....	Officer #2, Newsmonger 8
Bronte Gow.....	Officiant, Newsmonger 15
Elizabeth Qian-Tsuchida.....	Newsmonger 1
Maialen Alawa.....	Newsmonger 10
Luci Yang.Schmidt.....	Newsmonger 7
Alana Marre.....	Newsmonger 14, Featured Dancer, Section Leader
Ella Waldman.....	Newsmonger 17, Featured Dancer, Section Leader
Rhiannon Esposito.....	Newsmonger 9, Featured Dancer
Anna Scales.....	Newsmonger 5, Featured Dancer
Liam Sweeney.....	Newsmonger 12, Featured Dancer
Beckett Freid.....	Newsmonger 6
Cliodhna O'Dwye.....	Newsmonger 11,
Eva Hautefe.....	Newsmonger 13
Noam Izha.....	Newsmonger 16
Caitlyn Wheeler.....	Featured Dancer

Twelfth Night Ensemble

Orsino's Newsmongers Continued:

Jordana Blankstein.....	Newsmonger 3
Cliodhna O'Dwyer.....	Newsmonger 11
Sadie Mulligan.....	Newsmonger 2
Eva Hautefeuille.....	Newsmonger 13
Noam Izhar.....	Newsmonger 16
Paul Milliken.....	Newsmonger 18
Bae Derby.....	Newsmonger 19
Eliana Blankstien.....	Newsmonger 20
Jordana Blankstien.....	Newsmonger 3
Natalie Greenwood.....	Newsmonger 22

Olivia's Flirtgills:

Leah Ziskin.....	Olivia's Horn Trio, Flirtgill 13 and Section Leader
Maya Solomon.....	Olivia's Horn Trio
Lauren Zweibach.....	Olivia's Horn Trio
Sonny Smyth.....	Attendant
Nehmi Marrero Derose.....	Mailman
Camille Mizell Share.....	Flirtgill 4
Olivia Mizell Share.....	Flirtgill 5
Alexis Van Buskirk.....	Flirtgill 9
Edward Tang.....	Flirtgill 11
Charlotte Morin.....	Flirtgill 7
Shayna Wong.....	Flirtgill 6
Ivy Smith.....	Flirtgill 1
Annabel Shaw.....	Flirtgill 12
Arlo Figueroa.....	Flirtgill 8
Kylie Mok.....	Flirtgill 10
Carmen Matos.....	Flirtgill 3
Brianna Milliken.....	Flirtgill 2
Carina Grossman.....	Flirtgill 14

Twelfth Night Ensamble

Production Staff:

Director/Choreographer.....	Ms. Olivia Moriarty
Musical Director.....	Ms. Jaime Alberts
Technical Director.....	Ms. Hannah Merchant
Assistant Director.....	Ms. Erin Wilson
Pit Band Director.....	Arthur Motoyama '16
Pit Band.....	Jun Moon; Tenor Sax, Sam Fasciano; Cello, Ms. Emma Campell; Piano, Arthur Mo- toyama; Bass
Stage Managers.....	Sonia Murthy, Rachel Miller, Danielle Henry, Lilah Freedman
Student Producers.....	Josie von Rekowsky, Susan Azad, Edith Harrington
Props.....	Louisa Matos, Henry Monahan Carson Kelley Vanessa Forsythe
Costumes.....	Julia Chavez-Dwyer, Meeghan Gallant, Evvie Mace, Amelie Raynes, Bobby Strickland, Chloe Lyons
Hair/Makeup.....	Matilda Leighton, Hannah Sender, Eva Grzegorczyk, Ashley Plummer
Lighting.....	Nick Kelly Caputo, Alexander Toossi Zacarias, Tyler Crane
Sound.....	Mia Chavez-Dwyer, Elizabeth Gallant
Set Design.....	Ms. Jaime Alberts, Ms. Olivia Moriarty
Set Build.....	

Synopsis

Act 1

The musical begins with Olivia, a wealthy countess, attending her brother's funeral. Viola, the lone survivor of a shipwreck, enters and questions Feste, Olivia's fool, about where she is. She asks if anyone has seen her twin brother, who was also on the ship, and is presumed dead. In order to get a job, she dresses as a man and meets Duke Orsino (Play On). Meanwhile, Andrew and Toby, friends of Countess Olivia, joke around with each other. Toby and the Flirtgills tease Andrew into performing a dance solo for them (Let Us See the Caper). The Newsmongers then rush onstage to tell the audience about what is going on in Illyria (Word on the Street). Orsino tells Cesario to inform Olivia that he still loves her (Tell Her). Cesario enters and Olivia falls for him. Later, she sends Malvolio with a ring to give to Cesario, and the newly formed love triangle sings of their love for one another (If You Were My Beloved). The scene shifts to Sebastian, Viola's twin brother, and his rescuer, Antonia. They discuss going to Illyria and privately Antonia confesses her love for Sebastian (If You Were My Beloved Reprise). Viola contemplates the implications of the ring she has received from Olivia and the nature of her disguise (Viola's Soliloquy). Following this, Toby and his drunk friends gather together to roast their friends (You're the Worst). Toby, Mariah, and Andrew come up with a plan to prank Malvolio, by making him think that Olivia is in love with him. Next, Feste sings a ballad, addressed to the audience, clarifying Viola's feelings for Orsino (Is This Not Love). Mariah gives Malvolio a forged letter that she claims is from Olivia, but that she actually wrote herself. Malvolio takes this to mean Olivia is in love with him, and sings of how his life will be better when he is married to Olivia (Count Malvolio). A lovestruck Olivia professes her love to a bewildered Cesario (I Am She). The Newsmongers then reclaim their spots onstage to summarize the events of Act I (Word on the Street Reprise).

Synopsis Continued

Act 2

The act begins with the Newsmongers reinforming the audience of what they learned in the first act of the musical. The scene transitions to Olivia's court, where Malvolio arrives dressed in the outfit "Olivia", actually Mariah and Toby, told him to wear in the letter. Olivia is shocked by Malvolio's craziness and tells Mariah to take care of him, Malvolio thinking Olivia wants to marry him rejoices. (Count Malvolio reprise) Mariah and Toby promptly ridicule Malvolio and lock him into a madhouse, they then plot with Andrew and plan to have a fight between Andrew and Cesario. This prompts a rousing number about the fight (What kind of man are you gonna be?). Cesario can't hold his own in the fight and he is saved by Antonia, who is quickly arrested for fighting with Orsino. After this Sebastian begins to meet those Cesario has been interacting with in Illyria, Toby, and Andrew attack Sebastian, because they believe that he is Cesario, Olivia puts a stop to it and escorts Sebastian back to her house. The audience's viewpoint is shifted to where Malvolio is locked up in the madhouse, he is made a fool of by Toby, Mariah and Feste, and then he sings a beautiful power ballad about how great he is. (Greatness). The audience is then transported to Olivia's where she is eloping with Sebastian, who she believes to be Cesario. (Sebastian's Soliloquy) Antonia is taken to Orsino, who commands that she is taken to jail, Olivia then storms in, accompanied by the Horn Trio, who she has grown tired of now that she is not grieving her brother. She dismisses them and confronts Cesario about being her husband, Cesario does not know what she is talking about and denies the accusation. Sebastian then rushes in and meets Viola again, they reconcile, (Viola's soliloquy 2nd reprise), after learning Cesario's truth, Viola and Orsino plan to marry (Tell her). Olivia tells Sebastian that she is happy with their relationship and that she wants to be with him (I am She reprise). Malvolio storms in demanding Olivia tell hbetrayed him, he quickly learns it was all a prank and runs off (Malvolio's exit). Orsino and Viola get married! (Is this not love reprise). The newsmongers, flirtgills and every other resident of Illyria gather to rejoice in their newly

Synopsis Continued

Act 2 Continued

Orsino and Viola get married! (Is this not love reprise). The newsmon-gers, flirtgills and every other resident of Illyria gather to rejoice in their newly married happiness (eyes of another).

Note from the Music Director

Last spring, the Bigelow choruses decided to focus a concert on women composers. As a result, we discovered many largely unsung (pun intended) but outstanding composers, including Shaina Taub. Through Shaina Taub, we found this marvelous, musical adaptation of *Twelfth Night*, which debuted in Central Park in 2016.

Twelfth Night is already among the most modern of Shakespeare's plays- it features a gay character, Antonio, and a heroic female lead, Viola, unafraid to challenge gender roles. This version adds songs that make some of that subtext into actual text- as Viola asks, "Why has this power in me never been given a chance? Is it as simple as putting on a pair of pants?" That's a question as relevant today as it was in Shakespeare's time.

One of the best parts about Bigelow Drama is giving all students a chance to find that power in themselves and watch it grow- sometimes for far longer than their time in middle school. Our pit band director, Arthur Motoyama Bigelow '14, was last seen on this stage singing and pretending to play the trumpet in *Band Geeks*. Our lighting was programmed by Chloe Trepanier, Bigelow '10, last onstage at Bigelow in *Guys and Dolls*. And Ms. Moriarty, our director, started as a college junior, assistant directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It is powerful to see our alumni return to give back and feed our current students' dreams.

Though everyone loves a Broadway classic, this is a chance for our students to bring something fresh, fun, and very much of the moment to our stage. It's incredibly exciting to be one of the first schools in the country- and almost certainly the first in Massachusetts- to bring this timely show to life. Play on!

-Jaime Alberts

Updates to the Auditorium

If the last time you were in the auditorium was last June, you may have noticed some changes! The new house lights (the ones above you as you read this) were so much brighter than the old ones that all fall, teachers asked me if we had repainted. The answer was no... but now it is yes, as over December vacation we got a whole new (much classier) coat of paint! The carpet arrived over February break- it makes the room much cozier! As of last Thursday, ten of the lights on stage are new, state of the art, eco-friendly LED's. Those new lights are possible because of our new light board, installed and in the booth behind you. And what's NOT behind you matters too- the set pieces all have a new, much more appropriate home in a storage container behind the school. Still to come are four more LED's, and a blue curtain to replace the (let's just say it) ugly yellow one.

If this seems like a lot of improvements at once, it is! But this has been many years in the making. We are so fortunate that NPS facilities has made this investment in our auditorium's future. A huge thank you to David Stickney, head of facilities, for making this all happen, to Emilie Tucker, chorus parent, for expert paint consultation, and to the Parents of Performing Arts Students (POPS), Bigelow PTO, and their joint Committee to Improve the Auditorium. Most of all, this is due to the persistence, patience, and vision of Mr. Harrison, who has been unrelenting in his quest to improve our performance space. The auditorium is becoming an environment much better suited to teaching, learning, and performing- a true performing arts center- and I hope you enjoy it tonight!

Thoughts On Being In the Play

This was my first time being a featured dancer in any of the musicals. I had so much fun learning the dances, especially when i couldn't figure out how to do the lift. Ella and I had a lot of trouble, to say the least, to get the lift down. When we got even moderately close, everyone cheered us on. I don't think i have ever laughed as hard in my life as when Ella dropped me and continued to fall on top of me. I have had so many amazing memories from this show.

-Alana Marre Featured dancer, section leader, newsmonger

Thoughts On Being In the Play

I loved being a part of Twelfth Night! I met so many new people and got to know many of my classmates. I loved how many of the actors came to hang out with the other student producers and I. It was so interesting how so many students wanted to know more about my role. They loved to help with tickets and sit with us during their downtime.

-Josie von Rekowsky, 8th Grade, Student Producer

One thing I learned from being in the play was learning how to change to be more like my character. My character was very out of my comfort zone because he is a drunk crazy man who really says or does whatever he wants to. I spent a lot of time making character choices that would make me act more like my character. This play taught me that theatre can bring you way out of your comfort zone based on the character you are cast as. I learned just to adapt to my character. I had so much fun acting and just overall participating in this musical. I don't have a set in place favorite scene that I am in, but I really enjoy count Malvolio because I get to sit in the back with Reya (Maria), Eliza (Andrew), and Maya (Fabian). We all sit in the back and laugh the entire time. It's a really fun scene to be in the background in because there is just so much going on and we get to just watch from the background.

-Megan Corr, 8th Grade, Sir Toby Belch

I have loved being in Twelfth Night, it was so fun to learn and develop the character of Olivia because she is so different from myself. Growing up nobility drastically changed the way she relates to people, specifically those of a lower social class than her. I started the show with one idea of what this character needed to be, but as the rehearsal process continued I saw how she had much more depth than being the slightly crazy countess who saw herself as much better than everyone around her. It's been really fun growing with this character and getting to goof around onstage with my friends. Specifically, Reya, Megan, Eliza and Jonathan, whenever I had a scene with them I knew that I would have a great time, maybe not the most productive time, but still fun. I am so grateful that I was able to be in this show, it has been an amazing experience.

-Charlotte Davis, 8th grade, Countess Olivia

Thoughts On Being In the Play

A fun experience I've had from being in this show is that I get to be lovers with my friend Megan who plays Sir Toby Belch! It's really funny when we have to flirt with each other because we always have to stop ourselves from laughing. It's also really fun because Eliza (who plays Sir Andrew) has to be a third wheel in almost all of the scenes that the three of us have together! This has been such a fun experience, and I love seeing the different relationships my character has with the other characters!

-Reya Schmidt, 8th grade, Maria

I loved being in 12th night because it was so fun getting into character because my character is serious and never laughs but that is the complete opposite of me in real life. I may even laugh too much and in you're the worst I could not stop laughing. Overall it was an amazing experience and I hope next year's musical will be just the same!

-Jonathan Santos, 7th grade, Malvolio

Being on Twelfth Night has taught me a lot of what it's like being in a play. I have even made new friends a grade or two above me. My favorite scene is You're the Worst, because I liked that the fact where it's like a scene where you can just be yourself, same thing goes for Eyes of Another. Overall I think the play was amazing. I'm looking forward to the musical next year!

- Shayna wong, 6th grade, Flirt Gill 6

My favorite parts of being in twelfth night are meeting other students that are in different grades and hearing parts of the production and wondering how they all fit together this production has been so fun and tech has made Mondays slightly bearable. - Edith Harrington, 7th grade, Student Producer

This was my first time being a part of a musical. I thought it was very fun. The best part was when props got to do makeup and when we built a ramp that people dance on. One thing that I learned was to stay hydrated so you don't pass out on stage. My favorite part of the musical is "you are the worst". Something that you may not know is there are lots of tech members doing something backstage. This is why I thought being in the musical was so much fun.

-Carson Kelley, 6th grade, tech crew, props

Being in the musical has been so much fun. The best part of it was when we learned Is This Not Love and Viola's Soliloquy. We had so much fun and it was extremely funny when Ella kept dropping Alana while we were trying to learn the lift! And the choreography is so cool and fun to do. It's been super

Thoughts On Being In the Play

awesome to be in such a great production and I have made some very great memories with everyone. -Caitlyn Wheeler, 6th grade, featured dancer, news-monger

Being in Twelfth night has been such an amazing experience for me. Although it is not my first show in Bigelow it is my first show as an eighth grader. I love being a section leader because throughout the past two months I have gotten to know so many seventh and sixth graders so well! It is also really fun being a featured dancer because although some of the dances are really slow they are also really fun. My favorite rehearsals were the featured dancers rehearsals because it is such a small group(only six people). These past two months have been so much fun and I wish I had another year at Bigelow so I could do another musical!

-Ella Waldman, 8th grade, Featured Dancer, Section Leader, News monger 17

Wow, I can't believe this show is already over! I had so much fun putting it together, and learned a lot of new things along the way. Among these things was my newfound ability, or attempted ability to dance. For this show, I had to learn how to dance the moonwalk and the coffee grinder. That person who you see almost fall on their face on stage trying to dance, yes, that's me, however know that I am not angry or sad about that at all, in fact, I am falling with joy. I think this really proves how positiveve this experience has been and how great the attitude I have come to associate with it is. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have!

-Eliza Kane, 7th grade, Sir Andrew

This musical was my first ever to perform, and it was a blast to do! Everything as my favorite part but my most favorite would have to be performing in What Kind Of Man R U Gonna Be? Every newsmonger (Orsino's Gang) had to learn this really cheesy dance that took way over 2 weeks to learn. Walking on with a very fake, bulky look is sure to make some of the ausience break. Every tech crew member backstage is working really hard to make sure that the actors/actresses look good and get the right props and costume changes that that actor/actress need. I really can't believe its over, and next year will be even more fun with knowing what happens! This was a great musical!

Noam Izhar, 6th grade, Newsmonger 16

Special Thanks to...

Chloe Trepanier
The Custodial staff
Mr. Harrison
Mr. Mogenson
Ms. Raso



Newton North High School's Working and Teaching Theatre

www.theatreink.net

**Congrats to the cast &
crew of "Twelfth Night"**

We can't wait until you join us at North!

SAVE THE DATE:

Tues. May 26th, 7:00pm at NNHS Theatre Wing
8th Grade Student & Parent Ice Cream Social

come learn all about our program & the opportunities for students & parents to get involved