

# EXIT...STAGE LEFT

## THE LAKE BRADDOCK THEATRE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Number Five

### Shakespeare Champion Crowned

On Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, English teachers selected this year's Lake Braddock Shakespeare Champion. Sophomore **Anna Coughlan** won the right to represent Lake Braddock at the metro Competition in DC this March. The competition was open to students in grades 10, 11, and 12 at Braddock. Students competing must enact a monologue of approximately 20 lines from one of Shakespeare's plays and recite from memory one of his sonnets. Joining Anna in the competition was senior **Elena Dominguez** and sophomore **Andie Powers**. Below are the previous LBT Shakespeare Champions:

*Before 1994, Fairfax County did not participate*

1994 David Burns (D. C. Metro Champion)

1995 Silvija Ozols (D. C. Metro Finalist)

1996 Chris Koch

1997 Michael Patrick

1998 Chris Koch

1999 Matt Continetti

2000 Roya Zarrinnahad (D. C. Metro First Runner-up)

2001 Roya Zarrinnahad

2002 Roya Zarrinnahad

2003 Kerry Kaleba

2004 Kathleen Mason

2005 Adam Ressa (D. C. Metro First Runner-up)

2006 Stephanie Ramsey (D. C. Metro Finalist)

2007 Stephanie Ramsey (D. C. Metro Finalist)

2008 Stephanie Ramsey

2010 Rachael Ulmer

2011 Rachael Ulmer

### Do You Hear the People Sing?

January 26 – 28, 2012, The Lake Braddock Musical Theatre presents the Smash Broadway Hit Musical **Les Misérables**. Since the inception of The Lake Braddock Musical Theatre (which combines the Performing Arts resources of Lake Braddock High School and Middle School Orchestra, Band, Choir, and Theatre Arts Departments) in 2003, LBT has participated in various LBMT productions technically and artistically. \$13.50 tickets are onsale online at [www.lbmusical.webs.com](http://www.lbmusical.webs.com) for the following performances:

Thursday, January 26, 2012 7:30 pm

Friday, January 27, 2012 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 28, 2012 2 and 8 pm

Previous LBMT productions:

*Bye, Bye, Birdie* (2003)

*Hello Dolly* (2004)

*Into the Woods* (2005)

*Oklahoma* (2006)

*The Sound of Music* (2007)

*High School Musical* (2008)

*Thoroughly Modern Mille* (2009)

*Guys and Dolls* (2010)

*Annie* (2011)



### Storybook Theatre's *Substitute Fairies*

In March 2011, Lake Braddock Theatre staged **Little Red Riding Hood and the Power Mutants** for the highly acclaimed and richly rewarding Lake Braddock Storybook Theatre. The program's goal is to give all participants a low-stress/fun theatrical experience. Auditions were open to all, however, due to time and commitment restraints, those with large roles in mainstage shows did not expect large parts in Storybook. Sophomore **Anna Coughlan** has agreed to direct Storybook Theatre's latest production, **Cinderella and the Substitute Fairy Godmother** by LBT second most produced playwright - Ed Monk. Production dates for Cinderella are: Friday February 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### THE LAKE BRADDOCK THEATRE 2011 – 2012 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## LBT to Host District and Regional One-Act Play Festivals...Again

On Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Lake Braddock Theatre will host its eleventh Patriot District One-Act Play Festival. Overall, it marks the 16<sup>th</sup> Virginia High School League theatrical event held at the Lake since the building opened in 1973. The old Fairfax County Short Play Festival was a three-day event that saw performances from all twenty four high schools in Fairfax County as well as T. C. Williams High from Alexandria, was held here in 1983, 1984, 1992 and 1993. Since the Patriot District was created in 1995, Lake Braddock has been the host for the festival in 1995, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. The supposed "home field advantage" has been a mixed bag of results for LBT as they have advanced to the Regional festival just five times while only winning the Patriot title twice (2000 and 2011) when hosting. LBT's two other Patriot District titles occurred on the road at T. C. Williams in 1996 and South County in 2006. A week later, LBT will host the Regional festival in which the Patriot and three other districts (National, Liberty, Concorde) will send their top two finishers to perform. This will be the seventh Northern Region Festival held at Lake Braddock, the others taking place in 1996, 1999, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Below is a list of previous Patriot District Champions and runner-ups:

	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CHAMPION</u>	<u>RUNNER-UP</u>
<b>1995</b>	Lake Braddock	T. C. Williams	Annandale
<b>1996</b>	T. C. Williams	Lake Braddock	Hayfield <sup>2</sup>
<b>1997</b>	West Potomac	James Robinson	West Springfield
<b>1998</b>	West Potomac	West Springfield <sup>1</sup>	Hayfield
<b>1999</b>	Lake Braddock	West Springfield	Lake Braddock
<b>2000</b>	Lake Braddock	Lake Braddock	James Robinson
<b>2001</b>	T. C. Williams	West Springfield	West Potomac
<b>2002</b>	T. C. Williams	West Potomac	West Springfield
<b>2003</b>	Lake Braddock	West Potomac	Hayfield
<b>2004</b>	Lake Braddock	Hayfield	Lake Braddock <sup>2</sup>
<b>2005</b>	Lake Braddock	Annandale	Lake Braddock
<b>2006<sup>3</sup></b>	South County	Lake Braddock	West Potomac
<b>2007</b>	South County	West Springfield	Lake Braddock
<b>2008</b>	Lake Braddock	South County	Lake Braddock
<b>2009</b>	Lake Braddock	Hayfield	South County
<b>2010<sup>4</sup></b>	Lake Braddock	Annandale	T. C. Williams
<b>2011</b>	Lake Braddock	Lake Braddock	West Springfield

<sup>1</sup>Went on to become State Champion

<sup>2</sup>Went on to become State Finalist

<sup>3</sup>James Robinson left the Patriot District and was replaced by Robert E. Lee and South County

<sup>4</sup>Hayfield left the Patriot District and was replaced by W. T. Woodson

# SENIOR-ITIS

A MONTHLY COLUMN FROM THE THEATRE'S SENIORS

## DARRYL MASON

"I have done my best to sprinkle my flaming fabulosity, undeniable fierceness, and glittering flair unto you cherub-like underlings during these past 3 1/2 years of my blossoming into a beautiful butterfly." This is it. I've given my first and last senior circle speech, I've given my last main stage performance, I'm now writing my first and last senioritis, and pretty soon I'll be giving my last performance on the LBT stage. Time has flown by so quickly, and if there's one thing in my high school career that I've been so thankful that I stuck with, its theatre. I was born with several developmental disorders. My childhood was filled with speech therapy, occupational therapy, every sort of IQ test possible, the works. I had no self confidence as a kid, and I still am one shy kid. My parents thought it'd be a good idea for me to take theatre in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, to boost my self confidence and help me enunciate my words. Six years later, it's given me so much more. It's given me an outlet to express my creativity, friendships to last a life, and a Puerto Rican man who, like wine and cheese, gets better with time. One of my favorite memories of this program was sophomore year on the bus to VTA. I went on the trip merely to skip school. I didn't know anyone, and I sat in front of the bus...alone. These two girls, Ilana and Nicole, somehow figured out my name and asked me if I wanted chocolate chip pancakes. Being the shy boy that I am, I politely declined. Chocolate chip pancakes are my favorite, damn my shyness. This little event is the epitome of what theatre is. It's a program where you can be the awkward loner and people still accept you, they still want to be your friend. The friends I've gained through theatre are truly amazing, from my dreamy bromance beau, to the Sara(h)s, to the spectacular Haley who does everything. You all mean the world to me. You've given me 5 years (ohhh the days with Mizzo and Jesus) of support, love, and pure fun. I will never forget you guys. Theatre has given me one hell of a ride. One thing I truly wish I did more...was act. I've only been a part of two mainstage shows, one as a fairy and the other as an old man flooded with hair gray. I hate auditioning, once again...little self-confidence, auditioning in front of Mr. Mirabal made me want to pee my pants. Mr. Mirabal is perhaps the most ridiculous, intimidating, and bipolar man I've ever met. But I hold him in the highest respect and truly do love him. Freshman year I hated him, I thought he was a man that hated children, and took up teaching to punish random kids. It took till senior year to realize that he is passionate about what he does, supports everyone in the program, and will have your back 100%. I've come to appreciate his singing, his cheesy jokes, his unknown references, and most of all his friendship. He truly sees the best in everyone, and brings it out. He looks past all the mistakes and appreciates the hard work and effort. To all you freshman, he's a great guy... it just takes some time, and maturing on your part, till you realize that. To all you underclassman, appreciate your time in the theatre. It still hasn't hit me that I will no longer build a set for the theatre, let alone have another hell week. This art is something else, it eats away at you. It engulfs your soul and fills your heart. It is one of the most amazing things in the world. I wish I did so much more for this program, but at the same time I'm glad I did so much. I truly love every single one of you, but my time is over. It's time for the rest of you to put on some damn good shows, and give Mr. Mirabal a hard time. My heart will always be in this program, and I promise I'll visit, and watch as many shows put on by this program as possible. Thank you LBT, for giving me confidence, giving me friendships, giving me memories, but most of all thank you LBT for giving me an outlet to be me; nothing more nothing less.