



NEWS RELEASE

O'Gorman High School Presents Beauty and the Beast in 2011

Timmins, June 16, 2010: O'Gorman High School's Drama Department is already busy planning for the 2010-2011 school year. Lauri-Ann Loreto Neal, head of the Arts program at OHS, announced that next year's musical production will be *Beauty and the Beast*.



Lauri-Ann Loreto Neal noted that when choosing a production there are a few main factors that play an important role in the decision making:

1) The story line. Will it win over the audience? *Beauty and the Beast* will reach and relate to both young and old audience members. There is a great deal of humour, some mystery, there is a tragic character, it tugs at the heartstrings and has a happy ending.

2) The music plays a huge role. Can the students learn it, and perform it well? The music in *Beauty & the Beast* is definitely familiar. The music is catchy and identifiable. The orchestration is very interesting so it will require a number of musicians. "We've already had musicians from within the school as well as many from the community expressing their interest in being part of the pit orchestra." commented Lauri-Ann

3) We try to choose a show that is very different from our last production, to show our versatility. *Footloose* (OHS last musical production in 2009) and *Beauty & the Beast* are polar opposites.

4) We try to do musicals that have not been done at O'Gorman in the past. We also try to avoid shows that other local schools have done.

5) The set plays another huge role. We have a very difficult space for staging shows. With each show, we look for a challenge. We also look for ways to wow the audience with the set. A big part of the thrill for our team is the brainstorming and creation of the set. "We put a great deal of thought into how the stage will transform from scene to scene, making the set changes smooth yet exciting." noted Lauri-Ann.

Lauri-Ann Loreto Neal, went on to comment "We are all very exciting about this new musical production. Auditions will take place at the end of next September or the beginning of October with *Beauty and the Beast* set to hit the stage in the first or second week of May, 2011. We expect approximately one quarter of the entire school population to be involved in some aspect of this production."

For more information, please contact:
Andrew Marks, Community Relations Officer
(705) 268-7443 ext. 3213

