

News Release

Random Farms Kids Theater Performs Anti-Bullying Musical for DFMS 6th and 7th Graders

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. January 24, 2014-- The Random Farms Kids Theater (RFKT) is returning to Dobbs Ferry Middle School on Friday, January 24th to perform an anti-bully musical called “The New Kid” for 6th and 7th grade students. The show begins at 8:45 am and will be held in the High School/Middle School Auditorium.

The musical, which is performed entirely by a group of talented kids, ages 11-13, deals with the themes of peer pressure, being true to yourself and standing up for what you believe in. “This is a very impactful presentation and supports our school’s character education program,” said 7th and 9th grade School Counselor Sandra Hacker. “The show helps students see the dangers of bullying, teasing, cliques and hazing. It is so important for schools to send positive messages about healthy relationships, as well as strong anti-bullying messages like the ones conveyed in this musical.”

“DFMS’s guidance program includes a variety of programs to promote a safe and positive school climate,” said Middle School/High School Counselor Rose Mittan. “Some of these initiatives are Stomp Out Bullying Month activities, Character Education, Rachel’s Challenge, the Friends of Rachel Club and psycho-educational groups that address social and emotional development. ‘The New Kid’ is another program we use to reinforce a positive culture in our school.”

Following the performance, which runs about 45 minutes, there is a post-show Q&A with an adult facilitator, the cast and the student audience. “The New Kid” facilitator and company manager is Ellen Flaks, who is also a Dobbs Ferry parent. She has been with Random Farms Kids Theater for the past six years and also regularly volunteers her time and expertise to help out on many of the District’s theater productions and advises the Middle School and High School Drama Clubs.

“Student audiences relate to the performers because they are the same age and experiencing many of the same situations,” said Ms. Flaks. “While the show is entertaining with memorable music and dance numbers, the message of being true to yourself and seeking help when needed, is clearly expressed in the show.”

According to the company’s website (www.randomfarms.com), The Random Farms Kids Theater, Inc. was created in 1995 by a then sixteen-year-old high school student, Anya Wallach, a resident of Random Farms in Chappaqua, New York, who hoped to form a local theater for neighbourhood children. Its first production, "A Broadway Musical Review" was performed at the Random Farms clubhouse and incorporated thirteen local children ranging in age from eight to twelve-years -old and an audience of proud parents.

Today, its productions have been professionally staged at theaters throughout Westchester County and members come from all over Westchester and Putnam Counties, New York City, New Jersey and Connecticut, and range in age from kindergarten through college. As of 2006, RFKT is the resident children's theater at The Tarrytown Music Hall. “The New Kid” has been touring the tri-state area for the past six years and is heading to the Bahamas in February as anti-bullying is a global concern.

For more information, please contact:

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