

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CAST ANNOUNCED FOR PHHS PRODUCTION OF *ONCE UPON A MATTRESS*

PLEASANT HILL, MO – Pleasant Hill High School departments of theatre and music will be bringing the Broadway classic *Once Upon a Mattress* to the Pleasant Hill Performing Arts Center November 12-14 as the 2009 Fall Musical Production.

An off-beat re-telling of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale “The Princess and the Pea,” the production focuses on a royal family whose matriarch, Queen Aggravain, has ruled that no one in the kingdom may marry before her son, Prince Dauntless. She keeps the kingdom single by foiling every marital candidate the prince entertains.

When the noble Sir Harry and Lady Larken learn they are about to become parents, however, they set out to put an end to the queen’s tyranny so their baby may be born in wedlock. Sir Harry finds the perfect candidate for Prince Dauntless’ bride in Princess Winnifred (“Fred” to her friends), an uncouth woman from the “wrong side of the swamp.” With the help of Sir Harry, the Minstrel and the Jester, she sets out to overcome Queen Aggravain and win her true love’s heart.

During its original Broadway run, the play made Carol Burnett a household name as Princess Winnifred. Years later, she brought the production full circle with a turn as the Queen. You may never look at fairy tales the same way again.

The very talented cast of young performers includes

Cast

Character / Position	Student
Minstrel	Alyssa Lally
Princess #12 / Female Ensemble	Mysti-Ane Pearce
Male Ensemble	Nick Glendenning
Wizard	Brandon Alesi
Female Ensemble	Elisabeth Mansfield
Lady Larken	Jamie Spencer
Queen Aggravain	Cheyann Dillon
Male Ensemble	Andrew O’Neill
Prince Dauntless	Corey Todd
King Septimus the Silent	Daniel Kiger
Jester	Noah Dayson
Female Ensemble	Sarah McCoy
Sir Studley	Lonnie Yost
Sir Luce	Eric Carter
Female Ensemble	Ashley Leirer
1 st Knight / Male Ensemble	Dalton Rucker
3 rd Knight / Male Ensemble	Patrick Shands

Male Ensemble	Cole Watson
Lady Rowena	Katie Lane
Lady Merrill	Brianna Jackson
Lady Lucille	Summer Kirchhoffer
Sir Harry	Jesse Yost
Kitchen Wench / Female Ensemble	Jamie Kelly
Princess Winnifred	Evelyn Wouters
Emily / Female Ensemble	Tasha Finnegan
Lady Mabelle / Female Ensemble	Rachel Lauve
1 st Lady / Female Ensemble	Julianne Smith
2 nd Lady / Female Ensemble	Jamie Kelly
3 rd Lady / Female Ensemble	Cassidy White
Nightingale of Smarkand / Harold / Male Ensemble	Adam Reeves