

RACHEL FORBES | the broadview

Annie Oakley gets her Broadway musical debut

During a rehearsal for *Annie Get Your Gun*, junior Erica Mateo, junior Ceci Brown, senior Caroline Servat and junior Jacob Park sing "You Can't Get a Man With a Gun". Mateo, Brown and Park play three of Annie's siblings. Servat plays Annie Oakley, a champion sharpshooter whose shooting skills astound the American Wild West in a time when women were expected to devote their time to their appearance, children and taking care of the household.

The story of a champion rodeo girl in the spring musical may be more similar to a CSH girl's own life than one might expect.

"*Annie Get Your Gun* interests me because it is the story of a girl who is at first a confident tomboy, but as romance comes through her life, she questions her current identity," said chorus member Gracie Hays. "I think that everyone, including myself, can relate to this story in one way or another because we all question our identity at some point."

Annie Get Your Gun will amuse the student body with its comical twists and humorous references, according to SHHS senior Sascha Flandrich, who plays Frank. Frank is Annie's love interest but a member

of a rival company. "The musical is funny and full of teenage jokes that any person our age would find entertaining," said Flandrich.

Director Miriam Czech said the play includes two contrasting types of love: love between people and love between people and their professions.

"The idea of the love of the show, especially the seedy romance of old-time traveling shows, is charming and attractive," said Czech.

The combination of singing and acting is what brings the musical to life, said sophomore Kaitlin Van Zandt, a dancer.

"The script is very corny and cliché so the dancing and singing is what makes the play entertaining," said Van Zandt. "The dancing and singing makes the audience feel hopeful

and allows them to easily relate to the character because many of the love songs represent true feelings."

The traditional plotline of forbidden love draws actors to the musical.

"The idea of loving someone and being completely unable to say or do the right thing is one that I relate to immediately," said junior Tiffany Melvin who plays Annie's sister.

Senior Caroline Servat, who plays Annie, said that the emotional change her character undergoes is similar to that of a teenage girl.

"I'd relate to her free spirit, and I think a lot of girls identify with that and the competitive edge in general," said Servat. "She learns to change in the end by achieving her goals through being less stubborn."

The musical's lively content will uplift the audience's experience, said Czech.



"There is fabulous music that is familiar," said Czech. "Such songs include 'There's No Business Like Show Business' and 'Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better.' It is also a wonderfully ridiculous and silly story to contrast with the heavy tragedy of the fall [Theban Plays]."

The musical is an opportunity for actors to explore different roles and take on new responsibilities.

"This is the first time that I have had a major role," said Flandrich. "I love acting, being on stage and entertaining people. I have a big enough ego that I can say that I love the attention too."

Performances are March 2 and 3 at 7 p.m. and March 4 at 2 p.m. in Syufy Theatre.

Reviews in the News Learning continues outside the classroom

reviewer		
	Alex Sierra, freshman	Sarah Roggero, Spanish
'How Many Times' by Zack Hexum		
music style	"It sounds like Country because it sounds smooth and easy going and soft to the ears."	Alternative rock. It's not classical and not pop. It's semi-vocal, instrumental, plus a little bit of electronic instruments.
overall opinion	"It's not the kind of music that I would listen to. If people like to listen to something more relaxing and laid back, then this song would probably be a good choice for them."	"It's easy to listen to song, something between Jack Johnson and U2. It sounds like a romantic ballad, but with a catchy chorus."
likely to be heard	"It's a song that someone would hear during the previews at a movie theatre."	"I can definitely see it being listened to on a radio station for young to middle-aged women who want to relax but are still interested in getting jazzed up for something." — Compiled by Amanda James

Celebrating its 25th year, City Arts & Lectures continues to offer a broad range of lectures and onstage conversations allowing an opportunity for the public to listen to important figures speak about their experiences.

"They're bringing major writers and thinkers to the Bay Area not just for students, but for everyone to listen to," said junior English teacher Karen Randall.

City Arts & Lectures invites a broad range of people to speak, ranging from authors to photographers.

Many students who attend City Arts & Lectures events find information relevant to classes they are currently taking.

Senior Morgan McGovern, who attended an event with Supreme Court Justice Breyer, found his conversation particularly relevant.

"Understanding how he reasoned different important cases was incredibly interesting, especially since we just studied the judiciary in AP American Government," said McGovern.

Senior Bailey Douglass, who attended

Amy Tan's lecture, found that listening to the author of *Joy Luck Club's* speech helped her better understand the book.

"Hearing Amy Tan speak gave me a new perspective on her writing," said Douglass. "Before I heard her, I understood a lot of the symbolism and serious messages in her writing, but after I heard her I got a better grasp of her sense of humor."

Sophomore English teacher Anna Challet, who attended City Arts & Lectures as a CSH student recommends her classes attend lectures that relate to the subject material being studied.

"It's great for the students to go to the lectures because getting an author's perspective on their own work will give the student in turn a different perspective on what she's reading," said Challet

City Arts & Lectures usually takes place at Civic Center's Herbst Theater. Tickets are provided free for CSH/SHHS students attending Supper Club functions. Otherwise, tickets can be bought at the door 90 minutes before the show, or at <http://www.cityboxoffice.com>.