

Cast of Beauty and the Beast

FOURTH YEAR



Jamie Falkovich (Beast) is in his fourth year of high school and is very happy to be in Brighton High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. He has been participating in Musical Theatre since he was in 6th grade and has loved every moment. Favorite past roles include Mr. Banks (*Mary Poppins Jr.*), Scar (*Lion King Jr.*), Tinman (*Wizard of Oz*), Mr. Borden (*Blood Relations*), and Chad (*High School Musical*). Outside of musical theatre, he takes vocal lessons with Deborah Conquest, is part of two a Capella groups at the high school and is a member of Rochester City Singers run by Judith Ranaletta. While he won't be pursuing musical theatre in college, he hopes to be able to do it on the side. He would like to thank his parents for running lines with him, friends for being so supportive, and especially his production crew for giving him the opportunity to play this role.



Hugh Finnigan (Gaston) is a Senior at Brighton High School. He can be seen performing in high school, community and professional theater throughout Rochester. His past favorite roles include Jack Kelly (*Newsies*), Horace Vandergelder (*The Matchmaker*) and Captain Von Trapp (*The Sound Of Music*). This past summer he studied acting at the University of Michigan's summer program, MPulse. Outside of musicals, he enjoys performing with his regional show choir, the Roc City Singers. Hugh hopes to study acting in college, as well as political science. He would like to thank the directors of *Beauty and the Beast*, his family, friends and all the directors, teachers and mentors who have helped him along the way. Special thanks to Deborah Conquest, Judith Ranaletta and Skip Greer.



Rita D'Agostino (Lefou) is a senior at Brighton High School who is planning on majoring in math and political science. Rita has been a part of the Brighton theater department since she was eight years old, participating in the Brighton Summer Arts program. Rita's favorite show at the high school was *Newsies* her Freshman year. Rita's favorite role was Mrs. Borden this fall in *Blood Relations*. Rita wants to thank her family and friends for their support for her shows throughout the years.



Sarah Ellis (Narrator, Ensemble) is a 4th year (senior). She has been doing shows since 7th grade. She has been in *Sleepy Hollow*, *Mary Poppins*, *Newsies*, *High School Musical* and now *Beauty and the Beast*. She loves how welcoming and accepting the theatre program at Brighton High School is. She loves taking on any role and loves performing on stage. In *Beauty and the Beast*, she plays the aristocratic lady and spoon and the narrator for the Thursday/Friday cast. These roles have challenged her to learn her character. Theatre has allowed her the opportunity to explore a creative and expressive outlet. After high school, Sarah plans to study physics at SUNY Oswego. Though she will not be a theatre major, she does plan to participate in theatre as much as possible. Sarah will miss the environment that the Brighton theatre program has created.



Zoe Nipe (Narrator, Silly Girl) is a senior at BHS, and has been a part of the theatre program since freshman year. She has been in several productions such as *Mary Poppins*, *Newsies*, *High school Musical*, and now *Beauty and the Beast*. She is involved in many music groups, such as Brunettes, Vocal Jazz, Bella Voce, Chorus, and Orchestra, and takes private voice lessons with the Eastman School of Music. Zoe is interested in pursuing a career in Music therapy. She would like to thank her friends, family, and members at the Brighton theatre program for supporting her love of music. performance!

FOURTH YEAR



Jac Burch (Crony2, Wolf, Esemble) 4th year, has been apart of the Brighton performing arts community since 8th grade. They have had the pleasure of being in Mary Poppins, Newsies, 45 Seconds from Broadway, High School Musical, and now Beauty and the Beast. When they graduate they are not majoring in theater but rather film. He does plan on doing theater in college.



Jordyn Chalmers (Mrs. Potts) is a senior at Brighton Highschool and will be playing the role of Mrs. Potts. Jordyn has had a joy being able to share her passion for the arts with everyone and wants to continue her love for music and the arts in the future.



Kristen Waltz (Wolf, Ensemble) is a 4th year student at Brighton high school. She is every excited and glad to be able to be back on stage for her final year. She plans on attending Nazareth for physical therapy .



Sydney Zobel (Lumiere) is a Senior at Brighton High. She is thrilled to be working with the cast of Beauty and the Beast. She has been in many stage productions in the past, including Newsies (Newsie), Mamma Mia (Sophie), Be more Chill (Jenna Rolan), Blood Relations (Emma). Off stage she loves spending time with her friends, family and her two cats, Liz Lemon and Goku.



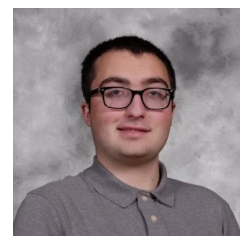
Katlyn Zimmerman (Wardrobe) is a senior at Brighton High School. She has participated in only a few shows, Sleepy Hallow and Marry Poppins in middle school, and Brighton's production of Newsies. Although she will not be continuing theater in college, she is so glad to have had the chance to participate through Brighton.



Ella Dunning (Ensemble)



Logan Laird (Crony1, Ensemble)



Henry Paskell (Ensemble)

THIRD YEAR



Sophie Hilger (Belle) is a junior and is so excited to be back on stage at Brighton High School! More than two years have passed since Brighton has been able to perform a musical in the auditorium, and Sophie is more grateful than ever to be back. Most recently, Sophie was a part of JCC Summerstage's production of *Something Rotten!* Sophie is a member of Bruinettes, Bella Voce, A Choired Taste and Vocal Jazz at Brighton, and plays percussion in wind ensemble. She takes voice lessons with Hannah Harrow at Eastman Community Music School, where she received the Renee Fleming Scholarship in May 2021. Theatre is where Sophie feels most herself, and she is extremely excited to share her love of performing with all of you. She plans to pursue Musical Theatre in college and is eager to see where her passions take her. Sophie thanks the incredible cast, crew and creative team for making this show possible. Enjoy the show!



Lea Mancarella (Belle) is an eleventh grader at Brighton High School. Her previous roles at BHS include Sharpay (*High School Musical*) and the Actress (*Blood Relations*). Outside of theater, Lea is a director of the acappella group *Crazy Pitches* and is a member of Bruinettes. Prior to high school, some of her favorite experiences have been in *A Christmas Story* (National Tour), *A Christmas Carol* (Geva), and *Chasing Rainbows* (Goodspeed Opera House and Broadway Producer's Lab). Lea is thrilled to be back on stage to perform as Belle, and would like to thank the wonderful cast, crew, and creative team for making this show possible!



Gracie Conn (Lumiere) is a junior and is so excited to be able to be back on stage! She has been doing theatre for eleven years at school and community theaters. Most recently, Gracie was Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* at OFC Creations Theatre Center and a part of JCC SummerStage's production of *Something Rotten*. Gracie is involved in A Choired Taste, Bruinettes and Bella Voce at Brighton. She is constantly training in voice, dance and acting. She is thrilled to be telling this Tale as Old as Time. There is nowhere Gracie feels more alive than on stage and feels that theatre is pure magic. She hopes to help everyone in audience experience that same magic with this incredible show! The theatre community at Brighton means the world to her and has fueled her passion for performing even more. She plans to pursue musical theatre beyond high school and is eager to see where her dreams take her. Gracie thanks the cast, crew and directors for making this amazing show possible. Now, please sit, back, relax and BE OUR GUEST!



Zoe Dale (Cogsworth) is in her third year at Brighton High School and is very excited to be playing the role of Cogsworth with the Thursday/Friday cast! She is so happy to be back on the Brighton stage! Some of her favorite roles she has been were Sky in "*Mamma Mia*", Fantine in "*Forbidden Broadway*", a Featured Dancer in "*Phantom of the Opera*" and much more! She hopes you'll love the show!!



Lily Fitzpatrick (Enchantress, Babette) is an aspiring lawyer who loves musical theatre. Her favorite roles have been Amber in *Hairspray Jr.* and Ali in *Mamma Mia*. Passionate about music, she sings with the Eastman Young Chamber Singers, takes private voice and piano lessons with Susanna Adams, and writes her own songs. She also loves dance, especially ballet. Here at BHS, she is junior director of Bruinettes and a third-year member of AChoired Taste. She is so excited to be a part of *Beauty and the Beast* and hopes you are *enchanted* by tonight's performance!

THIRD YEAR



Tyler Goerlich (Ensemble) is a junior with 10 years of Irish dance experience. He is glad to be returning to BHS shows after the coronavirus pandemic. It's been 3 years since he's been in a Brighton show, Hairspray, but he isn't feeling that rusty. He would like to thank his family for accommodating the schedule for the musical practices. He hopes everyone will enjoy the show, especially his favorite song, the Mob song.



Cecilia Samper (Chip) is a junior and is very excited to do her first show at Brighton. Cecilia has been acting since she was six and wants to continue for as long as she can. Some of her most recent acting credits include ensemble in Annie and Oliver at RAPA, In the Heights (Bartender) at OFC, and The Three Musketeers (Constance) at ORT. You can see her this spring as Susan in the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe at ORT. She is thankful to get to work with an amazing cast and crew on this production and hopes to work with them again in the future. Cecilia wants to thank her family and friends for sparking her interest in acting and encouraging her to do her best in every way.



Aidan Austin (Ensemble) I recently moved back to NY after living for the last 8 years in the Florida keys. I am in 11th grade at BHS. I have been around music my entire life. My father is a musician who performs at various places as a guitarist. I began singing with him at a very young age, and often performed with him at gigs by singing with him. In 8th grade at my old school, I was in a play called Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat at Coral Shores High School, in Tavernier Florida. The next year when I had made it into high school I was in little shop of horrors. But sadly, we were one week from showtime when the show was cancelled due to COVID. I'm looking forward to everything we do in Beauty and the Beast!



Chad Asante (Cogsworth)

SECOND YEAR



Callan Comeau (Maurice) is a sophomore and is thrilled to be a part of this production of Beauty and the Beast. His favorite past roles include Matt in Bare: A Pop Opera, Chip in 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and Utterson in Jekyll and Hyde at OFCreations. Callan takes voice lessons with Elizabeth Lind.



Aurora Cabral (Caryatid, Wolf, Ensemble) is a sophomore and is very excited to be a part of Beauty and the Beast! This is her first high school show and Aurora is so grateful she is able to be a part of it. Aurora is a member of Bruinettes and Drama Club at BHS. Other shows she has been in are Mary Poppins, Hairspray and High School Musical 2! Aurora takes voice and piano lessons outside of school and dances at Ashford Dance Company. Aurora is so excited to be in this show and so grateful to everyone who made it possible and happy she gets to work with such an amazing cast!



Renata Corrado-Green (Monsieur D'Arque) is in their sophomore year, and they are very glad to be back on the stage after missing a year. Funny enough, this is Renata's second time playing Monsieur D'arque! the first time was several years ago when Brighton Summer Arts did B&B, so you could say they've got special experience for this role.



Hope Galloway (Mrs. Potts) is very excited to make her BHS debut this year as Mrs. Potts! Last year with COVID, she wasn't able to perform in school so this year she was ecstatic to receive this wonderful opportunity. She would like to thank her directors, family and friends who support her every day.



Kayla Harvey (Ensemble) is a girl who loves to act and who loves musical theatre. This is her first time being in a musical and she loves it. Passionate about music, she also loves horseback riding. Kayla loves to sing and dance. Kayla is a sophomore at BHS. Kayla is so excited to be a part of Beauty and the Beast. She is also excited to perform in front of an audience, not for the first time, but for the first time doing something different. Kayla would like to thank her mom, Destini, Cemre, Lena, Andre and all her friends and family who helped her get to this point. She hopes you will have a lovely evening.

SECOND YEAR



Ava Mendler (Lefou), a second year BHS student, is very excited to be in this production of *Beauty and the Beast*! When not acting, she enjoys being on the swim team, being on the Nordic ski team, eating Chipotle, and roasting her own coffee beans. She would like to thank the directors, her family, and friends for making this show a fun experience. Specifically, Ava would like to thank her sister Megan for being a very convincing “Gaston” when helping her practice lines. Enjoy the show!!



Aubrey Wilbanks (Ensemble) is a sophomore who loves Disney and is extremely excited to make her musical debut in *Beauty and the Beast*. She first entered the world of theater by participating in plays and comedy improv with *I Sognambuli* and *Festa* in Florence, Italy. She is currently part of the Treble Concert Choir at Brighton High School. Aubrey has also performed with the BHS show choir, *A Choired Taste*, and enjoys writing song lyrics. She hopes you enjoy the performance and wants to thank her family, friends, and directors for supporting her with this production.



Delaney McGowan (Director's Assistant) is a sophomore and is very excited to be a part of her first high school production! She is so happy to start her high school theater career with a bang with the huge production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Delaney is involved in the Drama Club, *Achoired Taste*, and the Morning Show at the high school! Outside of school Delaney goes to dance classes at Dance Connection and has taken dance classes since she has been 5 years old while building up a wide variety of different styles of dance. She has been in *Tarzan* and *Hairspray* when she was in elementary school and middle school, and now she is so thrilled to be the Student Director of *Beauty and the Beast*! Delaney loves the feeling of performing in theater for her peers and family, and she hopes you enjoy Brighton High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*.



Ionna Vaughn (Ensemble)



Natalie Derthick (Ensemble)



Liam Markham (Ensemble)

FIRST YEAR



Ellie Cady (Silly girl, Wolf , Ensemble) is a 9th grader and is thrilled to be a part of her first production here at Brighton High School! She has been in many musicals including High School Musical (Sharpay), The Lion King (Rafiki), Annie (Annie), The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Gargoyle), and Willy Wonka Jr. (Mr. Bucket). Ellie also loves to play sports, and when not on the stage, she can be found in the pool or on the track. Ellie would like to thank her family, friends, and directors for supporting her.



Raizel Glazer (Silly Girl, Wolf) is thrilled to partake in her first Brighton High School show as a Silly Girl! This has been an amazing experience for her, as she has been having so much fun and learning a lot about musical theatre. Off the stage, she enjoys playing tennis and the piano.



Casey Howe (Babette) is a freshman at BHS, is excited to be playing the role of Babette! Previous roles include Morticia in *The Addams Family* and Ellie in *Freaky Friday*. She loves this cast and is looking forward to performing with them!

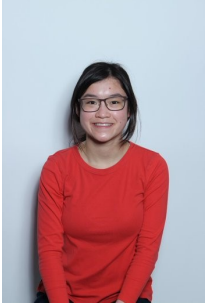


Phoebe Martin (Wolf, Ensemble) is absolutely ecstatic to be portraying her dream role of a fork in Brighton High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*! Phoebe is in grade 9 here at BHS, and when not on stage she can be found telling jokes, and playing musical instruments like piano, accordion, and trumpet. Phoebe would love to thank her directors, stage crew, and everyone else who helped out with the show to make it a fantastic performance!



Sophie Miller (Ensemble), first year, she/they. Thrilled to be in this wonderful production of *Beauty and the Beast*! Love to Mama, Dad ♥ and Noa

FOURTH YEAR



Ada MacIntyre-Yee (Ensemble) I am super excited to be back into musicals since quarantine. This will be my second show after Covid (not my second show overall though) so I really hope you enjoy the show!



Aaron Mai (Ensemble) This is my first time in the Brighton High School theater. I've been to other musicals and concerts which I would normally have done backstage work. It's my first time being on the stage itself!



Inna Tasikas (Caryatid, Ensemble)



Julia Winter (Chip, Ensemble)



Emely Najera (Ensemble)



Vivian Paskell (Ensemble)



Henry Ager (Ensemble) is in 8th grade and is very excited and grateful to be getting this early entrance into the BHS theater program. Henry has also been in the fall middle school show *All Together Now*, and this is also his 3rd year of being in BrighTones, the middle school show choir. Henry thought when rehearsals for this show started that he would be alone, not really knowing anyone and being younger than everyone kind of setting him back. But luckily, he was proven wrong. Henry has met some kind, supportive and amazing people during this experience, and he is so excited to be a part of BHS next year. Henry would like to thank the amazing people, cast and crew, who have made this show not just a play, but an experience, and hope you enjoy

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST TECH CREW



The BHS Production Crew consists entirely of volunteer student technicians and artists who oversee the building, painting, lighting, and sound for all Brighton Central School District productions. The production crew also works to support our costume & makeup team making sure they have any tables and locations for quick changes. These students work closely with a limited number of adults to make impactful design choices to support the work being performed on stage. Even though none of these students have the desire to shine in the spotlight, the work they do on a daily basis for the school shines through and can be seen at each and every event. I could not be more proud to work along side such a talented team of young artists.

Chris VerSchneider, BCSD Technical Director.

THANK YOU!

Mrs. Pickering, BHS Photo teacher and students for cast headshots.

To view and purchase photos taken of the performances by photographer Angela Possemato visit:
lighttouchphotos.com/brightonarts

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST ORCHESTRA



Emma Hilger (violin) is a junior is thrilled to be back in the pit for Beauty and the Beast! She has played violin for almost 9 years and has studied primarily at the Eastman Community Music School with Lara Sipols. There, she is enrolled as a diploma student and takes a variety of courses in music theory, musicianship, and music history. In addition, Emma is a new member of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra where she plays 2nd violin. Outside of music, Emma is an art/design editor for Brighton's art and literary magazine, Galaxy, and enjoys exploring the visual and performing arts. Enjoy the show!

Sara Kotz (violin) a senior, plays the viola and piano and is excited to be playing the violin for the musical. She is the principal violist for the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra and has been a member for 4 years. She had participated in chamber groups including a trio in the Eastman Community Music School. Outside of music, Sara plays tennis and does track and field. She is also a member of the French Club. Sara can't wait for you to see the show.

Mary MacAdam (Oboe / English Horn), a junior at Brighton High School, plays the oboe in the pit orchestra and began playing English Horn for this year's musical. She is in the school's wind ensemble as well as a woodwind quintet. Outside of music, Mary plays soccer, ultimate frisbee, and is on her class student council.

Tamsin Spiller (trumpet) is so excited to be playing trumpet in pit orchestra for the first time. She plays in band and jazz band at school and in the Hochstein youth symphony orchestra, and recently performed in the New York All State Band. She also plays piano and sings in her school's choir and vocal jazz group with Mrs. Staebell!

Dramaturgy: Beauty and the Beast

“A tale as old as time” Disney composer legends Alan Menken, Howard Ashman, and Tim Rice were lyrical geniuses when they wrote the iconic opening lines to *Beauty and the Beast*. While the official fairy tale dates back to the 18th century, some anthropologists believe the story is over 4,000 years old. It is true many elements of *Beauty and the Beast* are quite popular among stat folk stories such as evil fairies, monster-like husbands who are more than they appear, and beautiful maidens. But the basic storyline is considered by many scholars to have roots dating back to the Ancient World. Even today, *Beauty and the Beast* is retold through different genres, perspectives, mediums, and with different messages. One recent example is the popular New Adult series, *A Court of Thorns and Roses*, by Sarah J. Mass, where the typical fairy tale takes a dark turn. Myths, legends, folk stories, and fairy tales around the world have all played one hand or another in providing one of the greatest love stories. While the tropes and cliches present in *Beauty and the Beast* we know from Disney it the importance of the stories’ main theme of true beauty is on the inside, not the outside is undeniable. Love, as blind as it may be, means to accept and care about every part of someone. Love should never recognize outer beauty over inner brilliance. The universal yearning to be loved unconditionally explains how the story has endured throughout the years. *Beauty and the Beast* is truly timeless.



The oldest known story that mirrors *Beauty and the Beast* is the Roman myth of *Cupid and Psyche*, which has been dated to the 2nd Century. In Lucius Apuleius Madaurensis’ *Metamorphoses*, more commonly known as *The Golden Ass*, the classical legend has similar elements to the original *Beauty and the Beast*. Psyche, the beautiful princess, is considered by her kingdom more beautiful than Venus the goddess of beauty. Venus becomes jealous and sends her son, the god of love, Cupid, to shoot Psyche with

his arrows, which will cause her to fall in love. Venus tells her son to make Psyche fall in love with a hideous monster, but his up arrow hits himself and he falls madly in love with Psyche. When Psyche’s parents learn of a prophecy foretelling a marital union between their daughter and a monster even the gods fear, they follow instructions to leave her on a mountaintop to be picked up by her soon-to-be husband. Psyche is carried off to her husband’s supposed palace where she is attended to by invisible servants and is treated to many luxuries. Her husband comes each night to visit, and to her surprise is kind and gentle. His only request is that she never see him. In time, Psyche succumbs to her curiosity and brings a candle into her room when her husband sleeps. To her shock, she finds Cupid and accidentally lets the hot wax drop onto his sleeping body. Cupid flees when he finds Psyche has broken his rule. Psyche attempts to atone for her actions by appealing to Venus who takes advantage of Psyche by making a deal. Psyche must complete three tasks to see her husband again. Little does she know, Venus plans to kill her by assigning impossible tasks, but Venus’ plans are foiled when Jupiter, king of the gods, secretly helps Psyche at Cupid’s behest. On the last task, Psyche, unfortunately, falls for Venus’ trap and dies.

Cupid races to her rescue and begs Jupiter to make her immortal which Jupiter agrees to, and the lovers live happily ever after. One of the most notable similarities is the servants. *Cupid and Psyche's* servants are invisible making it seem like the objects are floating. Perhaps this is where Disney got their inspiration from to make the objects in the castle enchanted.

The second oldest story that has ties to Beauty and the Beast comes from a collection of stories called *Panchatantra* originating from India in 500 CE. *The Woman Who Married a Snake* is considered the reason why the Chinese tale of *The Fairy Serpent* and the Russian tale of *The Enchanted Tsarévich* has a snake instead of a beast. The Swiss and Norwegian versions have a bear, the Brothers Grim have a lion, the Danish story has a horse, and the Italian narrative has a fire-breathing dragon. The common trope of animal brides and grooms has been listed as Type 402 in *Thompson's Folklore Motif Index* which aids those studying folk literature.

The first official Beauty and the Beast story is credited to Gabrielle-Suzanne de Villeneuve who originally published *La Belle et La Bête* as a novella. In her story, the Beast was a young prince whose mother left him with an evil fairy who tried to seduce him when he became an adult. He refused and the fairy cursed him to be a beast as revenge. Belle's father was a wealthy merchant who lost all his money due to a shipwreck and had to move the family to a small town to save money. The rest of the story plays out relatively the same way as the Disney adaptations with a few key differences. The Beast lets Belle take her father's place on the conditions that she fully knows what she is agreeing to and her consent in the switch. The two fall slowly in



love with each other until Belle leaves for her family with the promise she will return soon when the beast tells her he will die if she is gone for too long. Unfortunately, her family tries to keep her for as long as they can, and by the time, she returns to the castle the beast is already close to death. Luckily, a good fairy saves him and reveals Belle is secretly a princess too.

Readers are more familiar with the shortened version by Marie Leprince de Beaumont who simplified the tale to make it more palpable for a younger audience and to fit the social and political climate of France. It is Beaumont's version that is much more popular.

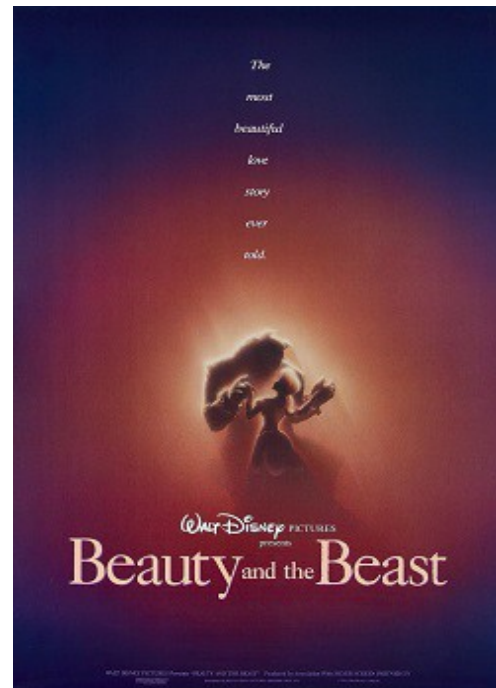
Neither version gives a description of the Beast's appearance other than using vague adjectives like ugly, fierce, or furry. The image of the beast today is thanks to the illustrators. It is speculated that the story or at least the illustrations were based on real historical figures from the 16th century. The "beast" was a man by the name of Petrus Gonsalvus who had hypertrichosis, a rare genetic condition sometimes known as Ambras syndrome when an abnormal amount of hair grows on any part of the body. In the case of Gonsalvus, this meant all of his body. The ignorance of the 16th

century led to his person being treated as a lab specimen and a “wild man” by others. He was even given as a gift to King Henry II of France where he received his Latinized name. At court, he was kept as a pet but given an education as an experiment by the king. Gonsalvus excelled in his studies and would later find himself in an arranged marriage to Lady Catherine as a joke by the Queen of France. The couple had seven children together and were treated like medical inquiries. Some of their children were taken away from them and given to other royals as pets. Tragically not much is known about these individuals, and it is not confirmed if they are the inspiration for Villeneuve’s tale. Regardless Villeneuve’s *La Belle et La Bête* laid the foundation for one of Disney’s most iconic animated films of their second renaissance.

The most popular adaptation of this tale is Disney’s animated musical romance, *Beauty and the Beast* (1991). The movie is very similar to Villeneuve’s story – it follows Belle, who wants nothing more than to escape her dull life in the village. Unfortunately, she gets exactly what she wants. When Belle’s father’s horse returns without her father she is led to a castle, where she meets the beast, a prince cursed by an enchantress because he refused to shelter her. Belle she can release her imprisoned father by taking his place. She accepts his proposition and begins a new life at the castle. Belle slowly grows closer to the Beast, until a mob, led by Gaston, a brutish man who thinks all women fancy him, attacks the castle because they believe the Beast is holding Belle hostage. The Beast is severely injured defending himself and Belle grieves over his body, thinking him beyond saving. Belle’s love for the beast lifts the curse over the castle, revealing the beast to be a prince and that the objects that “came to life” happily become “Human Again.” The Beast’s transformation heals his body, and he and Belle live happily ever after.

After the huge success of the animated film, it was crystal clear to Disney that they should capitalize on this instant classic. Disney soon created the Broadway musical, which premiered in 1994, grossing over 1.7 billion dollars worldwide, and is the 10th longest-running Broadway production to date. A popular live-action film, starring Emma Watson and Dan Stevens premiered in 2017. Brighton High School’s rendition of *Beauty and the Beast* is a wonderful addition to the school’s theatrical offerings, and to the legacy of *Beauty and the Beast* at large.

The glory and splendor of the original fairy tale are brought to life with a stunning performance by students at BHS. From the classical myth of Cupid and Psyche to the musical romance we know as Disney’s *Beauty and the Beast*, the tale as old as time continues to enchant our hearts. I hope you enjoy the show.



-Raphael Knauf