



News Release

The show must go on as high school students perform in a *Something Rotten* virtual production

For immediate release – March 10, 2021

Red Deer, AB École Secondaire Notre Dame High School Fine Arts students are pleased to showcase *Something Rotten* virtual performance on March 24-27 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased on [ShowTix4u.com](https://www.showtix4u.com).

The production followed all COVID-19 protocols throughout the rehearsals and the recording of the performance. This included wearing masks, lip syncing, individualized recordings, disinfecting and hand sanitization.

“After our program was interrupted at the end of the 2019/2020 school year, this was a great opportunity to let the students' creative energy shine. Although the final product is in a different format, we persisted with rehearsals both in school and at-home and were able to learn a little about film creation. One unexpected benefit of being unable to perform matinees to the elementary and middle schools was the opportunity to prepare a PG-13 show and explore more mature themes. I applaud the students for their efforts to adapt to shifting requirements and ensure we were able to make this show go on. I really am blessed to get to work with such an amazing group of young adults,” said Artistic Director, Jordan Johnson at École Secondaire Notre Dame High School.

“While it was disappointing that we were not able to present a live performance for our family and friends this year, the adjustments we made have opened up all kinds of new experiences for the students and staff. Producing our show for a virtual performance introduced us to professionals in video editing, show production, and sound recording. It has been inspiring how the students and staff adapted to all the changes required by the pandemic this year,” said Band Director, Tim Brehaut at École Secondaire Notre Dame High School.

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“While we are saddened that we are unable to perform in front of a live audience this year, I applaud staff along with our incredible cast, crew and musicians for their innovative thinking and perseverance to ensure the show must go on. Creating a virtual performance allowed our students the opportunity to think outside the box to showcase their talent and passion during these very challenging times. We hope that everyone enjoys this year’s outstanding production from the comfort and safety of their own homes,” said Principal, Rose McQuay at École Secondaire Notre Dame High School.

Something Rotten is set in the Renaissance period, where brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star, Shakespeare. After consulting with a local soothsayer, Nick finds out that the future in theatre involves singing, dancing and acting at the same time. Nick and Nigel set out to write the world’s very first musical. This show is full of laughter, misfortune, and love. Welcome to the Renaissance!

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 10,360 students in 20 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds, as well as an at-home learning program. It also supports the learning of over 1095 students in a Traditional Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and within the means of the Division.

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