



Covering the North Hills, Wexford, Allison Park & Gibsonia

Published on YourNorthHills.com (<http://www.yournorthhills.com>)

## St. Ursula students perform 'Seussical, Junior' in Harrisburg

By

Created Apr 9 2009 - 3:10am

At first, Sarah Regan thought the invitation to perform at the state Capitol was an April Fool's Day joke.

But, Sarah and the entire cast of St. Ursula School's "Seussical, Junior" traveled to Harrisburg last Wednesday to perform in the 14th annual Arts in Education Day event.

The St. Ursula School drama group was one of 11 school arts groups state-wide to be invited to the event.

"I was so excited for the kids because I know how hard they've been working on it," says Patty Cross, a fourth-grade teacher and musical director.

The 26 cast members, ranging in grade from fourth to eighth, performed 30 minutes of the musical they will perform for the community May 15 and 16.

"Seussical, Junior" is an abridged version of the musical "Seussical" which is based on Dr. Seuss' books. The story line weaves together many of the well-known characters in the Dr. Seuss books to create a different kind of story.

In addition to the students' performance, they also had the opportunity to tour the Capitol and meet their local representatives.

The opportunity was unbelievable for Bridget McMahon, a fifth-grader. The entire cast has been practicing since February and putting in extra effort to be prepared for their performance last week.

Bridget, who plays Mayzie La Bird, says everyone has been giving "110 percent."

"In the end, after all the hard practices, it turns out so great," she says. "I didn't think we'd ever get invited, but we're definitely good enough."

The community also supported the students and their opportunity to perform at the state Capitol.

In order to raise the \$1,200 to charter a bus to travel to Harrisburg, the school sponsored a hoagie sale. Between the sales through the school, church and community, the drama group raised about half of the money needed.

The school then received a \$600 donation from the office of Sen. Jane Clare Orie to cover the remaining costs.

"It's heartwarming," says Sarah, who plays the Cat in the Hat.

"When bad things or good things, like this, happen, people always step in to help."

Cross says she is excited that a small Catholic school in Hampton was one of the school groups chosen out of the entire state to be a part of the Arts in Education Day.

"We provide a lot of different opportunities for kids and this is just one," Cross says.

"Our students really do get a well-rounded education."

---

### Source URL:

<http://www.yournorthhills.com/northhillsnews/article/st-ursula-students-perform-seussical-junior-harrisburg>