

PLAYBILL

Benton Middle School
of the Visual and Performing Arts



Disney
BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST

Book By:
Linda Woolverton

Music By:
Alan Mendken

Lyrics By:
Howard Ashman and Tim Rice

MUSIC DIRECTOR:
ESTHER LIN

DIRECTOR:
JENNIFER NITSCHKE

CHOREOGRAPHER:
TIFFANY CHURCHILL

At 6:00 PM
March 14th, 15th, 16th,
21st, 22nd, & 23rd

BENTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Visual and
Performing Arts
Magnet

Dear Benton Middle School Community,

We are thrilled you have joined us for Benton's presentation of *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* This has been a labor of love, a coordination of students and staff in Drama, Dance, Choir, Media Arts, Photography, and Studio Art. We are grateful to our many parent volunteers who have contributed to the set design, fabulous costumes, audio, visual, and the management of the show. We appreciate all our parents and families who have made extra trips to school for rehearsals and rearranged their schedules to ensure the students would perform their best. And we are honored by the hundreds of families, friends, neighbors, and supporters who will make the drive to our MPR, our theatre, in support of Benton Middle School.

We are fortunate to have a School Board who recognizes the value of arts education and who also supports our stellar arts program. Our students are talented in so many ways and Benton affords them the opportunity to develop academic skills, creativity, and to find their passion. As we often share with parents, the world is a complicated and complex place that will require creative solutions; at Benton, we are teaching students how to develop the creative sides of their brain.

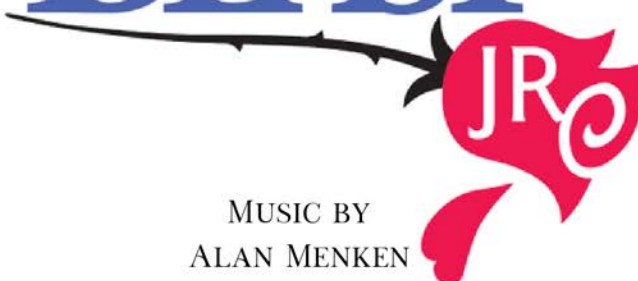
Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us for a true student production. We hope you enjoy *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* as much as we have enjoyed producing it.

Robin Ridgeway, Principal
Benton Middle School
Visual & Performing Arts Magnet
A Destination for the Arts



BENTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
A VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS MAGNET
PRESENTS

Disney
BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST © Disney



MUSIC BY
ALAN MENKEN

LYRICS BY
HOWARDASHMAN AND TIM RICE

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LINDA WOOLVERTON

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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR. IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENT WITH AND ALL AUTHORIZED MATERIALS ARE
SUPPLIED BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL, NEW YORK, NY
(212) 541-4684 MTISHOWS.COM

SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

PROLOGUE: A CASTLE

SCENE 1: THE VILLAGE

BELLE.....BELLE, GASTON, VILLAGERS

SCENE 2: THE FOREST

SCENE 3: THE CASTLE

SCENE 4: BELLE'S COTTAGE

BELLE (REPRISE)..... BELLE, LES FILLES

SCENE 5: THE CASTLE

HOME.....BELLE

HOME (TAG)..... MRS. POTTS, BABETTE,
MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE

SCENE 6: THE TAVERN

GASTON..... GASTON, LEFOU,
LES FILLES, VILLAGERS

GASTON (REPRISE)..... GASTON, LEFOU

SCENE 7: THE CASTLE

BE OUR GUEST..... LUMIERE, CHIP,
MRS. POTTS, SERVANTS

SCENE 8: THE FOREST

SCENE 9: THE CASTLE

SOMETHING THERE..... BEAST, BELLE, SERVANTS

SCENE 10: THE VILLAGE

SCENE 11: THE CASTLE

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST..... MRS. POTTS

SCENE 12: BELLE'S COTTAGE

THE MOB SONG..... GASTON, VILLAGERS

SCENE 13: THE CASTLE

HOME (REPRISE)..... BELLE

FINALE..... COMPANY

CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

NARRATORS.....JULIA GOMEZ, JUHA KIM,
RILYN ELKINS, MILA WIRTZ
BELLE.....ELIZABETH CHASTINE
GASTON.....MADISON KUBASEK
LEFOU.....MEGAN LEE
LES FILLES.....SAVANNAH CHASTINE, SOLI CHRISTIE,
ANDREA CONTRERAS, MIA CONTRERAS,
MAKAYLA MARTINEZ, TIANA TATUM
MAURICE.....AILIN BUELL
COGSWORTH.....LONDON CARINGELLA
LUMIERE.....LUCIA CHURCHILL
BABETTE.....MADISON BIDDLE
MRS. POTTS.....ALESSANDRA WHITE
CHIP.....SARAH CHASTINE
BEAST/PRINCE.....JEREMIAH BERRY
MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE.....GRACE MERRILL
MONSIEUR D'ARQUE.....AUDREY SCHUUR
PUPPETEERS.....ASALIN VEGA, ALEXA PEREZ,
BENJAMIN SANCHEZ

ENSEMBLE:

ANDREA ALFARO, ALESSANDRA ALVARADO,
ELISE AMAVISCA, MELINA ARTEAGA, JAYLIE BANUELOS,
CASSANDRA BOYLES, MYA CLEMENTE, MIA DE LA CRUZ,
NOELLE DIONNE, PARKER DRAKE, ISABELLA GARNICA,
MORIANA GONZALEZ, BETH HIDY, KAILANI LARSON,
NAI'A LARSON, OLIVIA LEE, VICTORIA LEE, LEENA LOERA,
NATALIA MENDOZA, NINA NGUYEN, ZOEY NICHOLS,
KATELYN PONCE OLIVARES, LUKE PALMER,
ELYSSA QUINTANA, DEZARAE SANCHEZ, SOPHIA SOLANO,
AUBREY VALDIVIA, SOLANGE VILLAGRAN, SAUL ZAMORA,
AUBRIANA ZUNIGA

CREW

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR.....	JENNIFER NITSCHKE
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....	ESTHER LIN
CHOREOGRAPHER.....	TIFFANY CHURCHILL
SOUND & LIGHTING DESIGNER.....	JONATHAN DORIAN
ENCHANTED OBJECTS AND PROPS.....	GLORIA PEREZ ERIN BERRY, TERRI PICCHI
SET CONSTRUCTION.....	RON CHRISTIE & MIKE PICCHI
SHADOW PUPPETS & SET PAINTING.....	JENNIFER HODGE, JESSIE HERNANDEZ, LUCIA CHURCHILL
ALUMNI MENTORS.....	KENNEDY DAIGNAULT, GEORGE DE LA CRUZ
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....	AUDREY COBIAN
AUDIO CREW.....	JASMINE SALVATIERRA, KAYLEI HOFFLUND, CARINA ESTRADA
COSTUME CREW.....	AUDREY COBIAN, ALISSA ALVARADO, MARISSA FIMBRES, SOPHIA GARCIA, SERENITY GONZALEZ, GABRIEL GUTIERREZ, ALINA REYES, OLIVIA SILVA, ZOEY VEGA
HAIR AND MAKEUP CREW.....	OLIVIA SILVA, ALISSA ALVARADO, MARISSA FIMBRES, SERENITY GONZALEZ, EMMA PAREDES, ALINA REYES, JASMINE RUSSO, ZOEY VEGA
LIGHTING CREW.....	DANIELLE JURADO, AUGUST AHN, ALEXI KHOANG, CONNOR DOWNING
PROP CREW.....	ASALIN VEGA, ALEXA PEREZ, BENJAMIN SANCHEZ
STAGE CREW.....	KAYLA OCHOA, CARLY SALVATIERRA, RICHARD SILVA, KAYLEE SON
HOUSE MANAGER.....	SKYLAR WEBER
USHERS.....	ASB STUDENTS
POSTER DESIGN.....	GRACE MERRILL
BANNER DESIGN.....	DANIELLE JURADO
PLAYBILL COVER DESIGN.....	MEGAN LEE

ADULT TECH VOLUNTEERS

ERIN BERRY, WENDY BIDDLE, CASSIE CARINGELLA, LUIANE
CHRISTIE, RON CHRISTIE, AMY MERRILL, TED NITSCHKE, GLORIA
PEREZ, TERRI PICCHI, MIKE PICCHI, MARGARET WHITE

PRINCIPAL CAST



Elizabeth Chastine As Belle

Elizabeth Chastine is an 8th grader and this is her 8th show at Benton. Elizabeth has loved making more friendships during the production and is so thankful to friends for making this year so special. She would like to thank her Mom for providing her everything she's needed and her Dad for being a wonderful encouragement in her life. She would also like to thank her sisters for helping and supporting throughout the school year.



Jeremiah Berry as Beast

Jeremiah Berry is in the 8th grade and has performed in every production possible since coming to Benton including Frozen Jr., Annie Jr., A Comic Book Artist, Newsies Jr., The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza, and two productions of A Christmas Carol. Outside of Benton Jeremiah has also been in Mary Poppins. His favorite part of this show is acting offended when the cast sings "Kill the Beast!" Jeremiah would like to thank his mother dearest, his sibling, his two dogs, and Atom Stocks.



Lucia Churchill as Lumiere

Lucia Churchill is an 8th grader in her 8th show at Benton after being in every single show possible in her three years here! She started off in Frozen Jr., then Annie Jr., Comic Book Artist, followed Newsies Jr. The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza and has been in A Christmas Carol twice. Lucia has been acting since she was 5 and has enjoyed spending time with the whole cast laughing and having fun! Lucia wants to thank her mother, her director and music director, as well as the whole entire cast! "Thank you everyone for my amazing experience at Benton!!!"



Alessandra White as Mrs. Potts

Alessandra is in the 8th grade performing in her 7th show at Benton. She loves making new friends that have the same interests as her and she cherishes every moment in theatre. Alessandra wants to thank her friends and whole family for supporting her and especially her mom for helping her with auditions, her dad who helped her become confident, and her older brother for helping her rehearse. She also wants to thank Ms. Lin for helping her become a singer and Mrs. Nitschke for showing her what she wants to do with her life. I love them all!



Madison Kubasek as Gaston

Madison Kubasek is in the 8th grade and this is her 4th show at Benton after being in Comic Book Artist, Newsies Jr., and The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza. Her favorite part about this show is learning The Mob Song because it is a very quick pace and exciting number that she takes the lead in. "I would first off like to thank my mom for always supporting me with these shows. But I would also like to thank Grace, as I did last year, she was the one who took me to see Annie Jr. and that helped me decide to do shows like this one."

PRINCIPAL CAST CONT.



Megan Lee as LeFou

Megan Lee is an 8th grader who is back on stage in her 5th show at Benton. She has had roles in Comic Book Artist, Newsies Jr., Greek Mythology Olympiaganza, and most recently played Scrooge in A Christmas Carol. Megan loves spending time at rehearsal with friends, making new friends and just having fun! "I would like to thank my mom, my dad, my little brother, and my friends!"



Landon Caringella as Cogsworth

Landon Caringella is in the 8th grade and this is his 8th show at Benton and 10th show overall! Landon has performed in The Grinch and A Charlie Brown Christmas before coming to Benton and since then has been in every production possible. back to Frozen Jr.! He loves being able to have fun with his friends. Landon would like to thank his mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, brother and sister for all of their support!



Madison Biddle as Babette

Madison Biddle is in the 8th grade and this is her 5th show at Benton after performing in Comic Book Artist, Newsies Jr., Greek Mythology Olympiaganza, and A Christmas Carol. She loves being in the cast because she likes the costumes and being able to be with her friends. Madison would like to thank her parents and friends.



Sarah Chastine as Chip

Sarah Chastine is an 8th grader and has performed in eight shows at Benton. Sarah is so grateful for this opportunity and getting to be a-part of this production. She would like to thank her whole family for taking her to every rehearsal and being such a great supporter to her. "I love them and want them to know I appreciate all their help!" She still has one more question though, does she "still have to sleep in the cupboard?"



Grace Merrill as Madame De La Grande Bouche

Grace is so excited to be in her 5th production at Benton. She loves singing on stage, and being apart of an amazing group of people. She is so grateful to have amazing friends who are so supportive of her. She would like to thank her mom and dad for always being there for her and her siblings for making every day fun. Finally, she is so thankful to God for making her last year at Benton so amazing, and giving her the opportunity to be in such an amazing show.



Ailin Buell as Maurice

Ailin (Arlo) Buell is in the 8th grade and this is their 7th show at Benton. They have been in Annie Jr., The Comic Book Artist, Newsies Jr., played Orpheus in The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza, and twice in A Christmas Carol (most recently as Bob Cratchit). Arlo's favorite part about being in this show is hanging out with friends and bonding over the show. They would like to thank their older sister, Eden Buell.

ENSEMBLE



Andrea Alfaro



Alessandra Alvarado



Elise Amavisca



Melina Arteaga



Jaylie Banuelos



Cassie Boyles



Savannah Chastine



Soli Christie



Mya Clemente



Mia Contreras



Andrea Contreras



Mia De La Cruz



Noelle Dionne



Parker Drake



Rilyn Elkins



Isabella Garnica



Julia Gomez



Moriana Gonzalez



Beth Hidy



Juha Kim

ENSEMBLE



Kailani Larson



Nai'a Larson



Olivia Lee



Victoria Lee



Leena Loera



Makayla Martinez



Natalia Mendoza



Nina Nguyen



Zoey Nichols



Katelyn Ponce Oliveras



Luke Palmer



Elyssa Quintana



Dezarae Sanchez



Audrey Schuur



Sophia Solano



Tiana Tatum



Aubrey Valdivia



Sollange Villagran



Mila Wirtz



Saul Zamora



Aubriana Zuniga

PRODUCTION STAFF

Jennifer Nitschke - Director/Producer

Mrs. Nitschke is from Lakewood, CA and has been acting and performing all her life. Her love for musical theatre began in childhood while watching old movies with her mom. She has a B.A. in Theatre from UCLA which is where she began directing shows over 15 years ago. Mrs. Nitschke has an amazing support system and couldn't do this job without the love of her parents, inlaws, husband Ted, and kids Eliza & Milo.



Esther Lin - Music Director

Ms. Lin has been an active participant of music education for the last 6 years. Originally from San Diego, she began her music journey at a young age and finds immense joy in teaching the next generation the art of music. Ms. Lin holds a B.M. in Music Education and a M.A. in Teaching, both from Chapman University. In her free time, Ms. Lin loves to eat around Orange County, go to Disneyland, and spend quality time with her family, her fiancé Chris, and dog Sully.



Tiffany Churchill - Choreographer

Tiffany has been dancing since she was a child. After years in high school Tall Flags, she became an instructor for multiple competitive color guards for 13 years! She continues her love of dance by teaching Zumba fitness classes for the last 10 years. Tiffany also performs as a lead singer in her band, Silver Lining, along with her husband, Lewis who plays drums. They have 2 amazing children, Leo and Lucia!





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SHOUTOUTS

Elise, we are so excited to see your enthusiasm for theatre and we can't wait to see you grow in your performances! Love, Mom, Dad, & Carina

Andrea A., we are so proud to watch you on your first performance play! We believe in you! Love, Mami Papi + Siblings

Zoey N You are a shining star! Keep letting your light shine bright!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Dusty

Natalia, you have always been a natural superstar. Keep shining!
We love you, Mom, Dad, and your sisters!

Juha, We love you! Break a leg! Love Mom, Dad, and Katie

Noelle, how fun it has been to watch you sing, dance, and enjoy this show. Keep shining bright! We love you. Love, your biggest Fanclub

Soli, You're truly a beautiful "fille" - inside + out - both on stage and in life! We love you so much! Your whole family

Grace, Megan, Madison K. + Alessandra W. - Thank you for being such amazing friends!
I will miss you next year! Love, Soli

To our special Rilyn, we are excited to see you perform again. We know you have been working hard to be a part of this production and we appreciate and respect you very much. You always make us proud to be your grandparents! Love, Nene and Papa Elkins

Rilyn - We love watching you perform! We are so proud of you and your hard work!
Love, Mom + Dad

Rilyn, You are a shining star in our family. We can't wait to watch you shine on the stage. We love you! - Grandma + Grandpa

Way to go, Rilyn! We love you! -Uncle Shane, Aunt Kim, L, L, + L

We are so proud of you, Bubba! Love Mom and the Sib

Elyssa, congratulations on your shining performance! You make us so proud!
Love, Nina, Nino, Josh & Nati

Elyssa we are so proud of you and love watching you shine on stage. Love Mom & Dad

You rock, Elyssa! Can't wait to see you on stage! Love, Tio David

Elyssa, you have been a great granddaughter. We are so proud of you. You have done an incredible job at school. Congratulations, we love you very much. God bless you.
-Nana & Tata

Congratulations Elyssa! You have always been a bright star and we are very proud of you! Love Tio Sam, Tia Cinthia, Sammy & baby Noah

SHOUTOUTS

Danielle, we are so proud of all your hard work, dedication, and commitment! We love you so much! Love, Mom, Dad, & Caleb

It's a joy to watch you doing what you love! Congrats and love to you Grace.
Love, G-ma & G-pa

Grace! We are all so proud of you and love watching you enjoy performing!
Break a leg!! Love, Mommy, Daddy, Sophia, Caleb, & Isaac

Rilyn, We'll be your guests tonight! Best of luck from the Johnsons!

Lucia, "light of our lives!" How appropriate that you're playing Lumiere and "lighting" up the stage! You make us so proud. Love, Mom, Dad, & Leo

Maddy, we are so proud of you. We love the hard work and dedication to everything you do. Break a leg, Mom, Dad, Sisters, and Austin

Alessandra, we have enjoyed watching you perform on stage. You have made us proud!
Break a leg. Love Dad, Gabriel and Niko

Alessandra, I'm so excited to watch you perform as Mrs. Potts. Have fun and break a leg! I love you. Love Nina Monica

Alessandra, you are going to do great playing Mrs. Potts. Have fun and enjoy the role.
We love you! Love Grandpa + Grandma Kitty

Break legs Mrs. Potts! You are my cup of tea today and always. Love Mom & Gabriel

Huge shout out to Moriana Gonzalez <3 Bravo on your hard work and commitment to your performance. Break a Leg! Love Nana <3

Olivia, break a leg in your performances! I am so proud of you and love to watch you perform. Love, Mom, Michael, & Emerson

Solange, Have fun and break a leg. Love Mom, Frida, Jr, and Patrick

Elizabeth - It is a joy to see your beauty radiate on stage! We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished! Shine on my sweet Belle! Love your family who is cheering you on!

Savannah - It is great to see you having fun on stage! We are so proud of you!
We love you so much! Your family loves you!

Sarah C. - You are such a sunshine and we are so happy to see you enjoying theatre!
You are a sweet Chip of love to us all! Your family who loves you so!

Andrea C. - We are very proud of you. Continue to make your dreams come true.
Love, Mom, Dad, Cris, Nena, & Remie

SHOUTOUTS

Knock them dead Maddie Paige! <3 Love you, Mom, Wolly, Lucas, & Dylan

Break a leg Izzy! Much love to you. Love, Alissa

Break a leg Megan! You're doing amazing! Love, Alissa

Mila, we are excited to see you perform. You will do amazing on stage.
Love, Dad, Mom, Sis and Family

Ailin - What an honor it has been to watch you bravely flourish and thrive on stage at Benton over the past 3 years! Congrats on all your success and on to the next! As your eager audience, we can't wait to see what amazing future lies in store for you! We love you endlessly and are always cheering you on precious one. "You will face many defeats in your life, but never let yourself be defeated." ~ Maya Angelou
Love Uncle Nick & Aunt Christi

Ailin, we are so proud of you!! You shine on stage and we love to see you share your gifts and talents! We love you! Zach & Emma

Ailin, Honey I really think you do a great job in the projects I have watched - so talented!! Love you! Grandpa Tom

Ailin - We love you so much and have enjoyed watching you grow so much in your performances over the years. We can't wait to see you in many more productions over the years. Love, Mom & Dad

Landon, I can't believe your "TIME" with Benton Drama is "WINDING" up. I wish we could go back "FOUR SECONDS"! Love you, Mom

Landon: I see you rolled a nat 20 on your performance check. - anonymous

Landon, we will always love watching you perform on stage and know that you will be a big clock! Grandma Lea and Grandpa Dan

Nice job, Landon. Hope you didn't mess up on a line :) Trenton Widosh and family

Landon, you are winding up the clock and making them laugh. You are a rockstar, bud. Love, Dad

TIME for the multitalented Landon! Break a leg! -Jennifer B.

Your family loves you Lizzy! Have so much fun!!

Break a leg Arlo! I know you'll do great as always. Love, Lee

Leena, You are amazing and we love seeing you shine so bright on stage! Congrats and break a leg in Beauty and the Beast Jr.! Love, Mom, Dad, Ella, and Niko

Moriana, Congrats on a great job.



ELYSSA. YOU ARE MY LITTLE STAR! CONTINUE TO SHINE BRIGHT AND CONQUER THE WORLD WITH YOUR RADIANCE. MAY YOUR FUTURE BE AS BRIGHT AS YOUR SMILE AND YOUR LIFE AS LOVELY AS YOUR HEART. I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! LOVE ALWAYS. MOM



Makayla.
Nothing makes us happier than watching you shine on stage. We are so proud of you. Keep working hard and everything you dream of is possible. We love you!
-Mom, Dad, Steven, & Dominic



FROZEN JR

MARY POPPINS

ANNIE JR

CHRISTMAS CAROL

Congratulations
JEREMIAH BERRY!
LOVE, MOM

GREEK MYTHOLOGY OLYMPIAGANZA

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR

COMIC BOOK ARTIST TRIAL

NEWSIES JR



Andrea!

We are so thrilled to see
you blossom in the Arts.
We are so proud of you!
Love, Your Family



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Landon, we heard you were
"tocking" in class
(Keep up the good work!)



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Four Reasons Why You Need To Hire An Expert

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01

An agent is well-versed in the real estate industry and understands the full process for both buyers and sellers.



Knows The Worth & Market Value

02

An agent will assist you in understanding the current real estate market while pricing a listing or making an offer to buy a house.



Best Negotiation Skills

03

Throughout the transaction, real estate agents serve as a buffer in talks with all parties.



Contracts & Service

04

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year's Spring Musical at Benton Middle School combined the unique and varied talents of so many students, staff, and community members. The entire cast and crew would like to say a very special thank you to the following:

- The Norwalk-La Mirada USD School Board and Norwalk-La Mirada USD Superintendents for their continued support of the Visual and Performing Arts at Benton Middle School
 - Principal Robin Ridgeway and Assistant Principal Lilia Alcala for their endless support and help, not only for this production, but the entire theatre program.
 - The parents and teachers of the cast and crew for their dedication and understanding of the huge time commitment necessary for the success of the production
 - The Benton Staff who are always there to help and support our students in the arts!
 - The entire supervision and custodial staff for their help and understanding of our "interesting" ways
 - Ms. Hodge & Ms. Hernandez for creating the shadow puppets and painting set pieces
 - Ms. McMath and the Advanced Media Arts students for creating such beautiful posters and promotional items
 - Ms. Pflanze for taking cast and crew headshots and production photos
 - Mrs. Murray for her support and running ASB and providing ushers for the show
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 - Jonathan Dorian for sourcing and setting up the mics, sound system, and lighting
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 - Ron Christie for building chips cart, the fountain, the jail, and more!
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 - Terri Picchi for helping with costumes and props
 - All of the parents and students who helped with sets, costumes, fittings, DONATIONS, monitoring students, hair/makeup, props, and so much more!
- You for attending and supporting Benton Middle School Theatre!**

*thank
you*

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