Theatre press release

Stars Over VEISHEA’s Into the Woods is a Fantastical Journey

AMES, Iowa – Everyone’s favorite fairy tales come to life when Stars Over VEISHEA, in collaboration with the ISU Department of Music and Theatre, presents Stephen Sondheim’s musical masterpiece Into the Woods April 4-13 in Fisher Theater.

Into the Woods is a timeless and relevant epic tale of witches, wolves and magic beans where worlds collide, passions erupt, and morals endure. The show opened on Broadway in 1987, claiming multiple Tony and Drama Desk awards. It has dazzled audiences all over the world for nearly 30 years. The film version starring Johnny Depp and Meryl Streep will open on Christmas Day 2014.

Based on the well-known fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, Into the Woods leads the audience on a fantastical journey. The story follows a Baker and his wife who wish to have a child, Cinderella who wishes to attend the King’s Festival, and Jack who wishes his cow would give milk. When a Baker and his wife learn the Witch next door has cursed them with childlessness, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell. Along the way they meet Jack, Cinderella, Little Red, the Wolf, Rapunzel, Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Jack’s Giant, and a menagerie of fairytale favorites. Everyone’s wish is granted but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later with disastrous results.

Morals are abundant as the fairy tales become increasingly more like reality. The mysterious, occasionally dark, nature of the musical provides new meaning to the phrase “be careful what you wish for.” Celebrating the importance of honesty, community, friendship, parenting, and family, the story ultimately gets to the root of what it means to be human. In the end, Into the Woods hopeful message combines with the unique and beautiful music to create a magical theatrical experience.

Stars Over VEISHEA’s production of Into the Woods opens Friday, April 4 at 7:30 pm in Fisher Theatre at the ISU Center. Other performance dates are April 5, 11, 12 at 7:30 p.m. and April 6 and 13 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are priced at $24 for adults and $16 for students. Tickets can be purchased through any TicketMaster, the Iowa State Center Ticket Office in Ames, or at the door before performances. Advance purchase is strongly suggested.

Pictured in the attached publicity photo are, left to right, Ashley Wiser (The Baker’s Wife), Kevin Barron (Jack), Kourtney Richards (The Witch), Grace Chermak (Little Red), and Wes Ketcham (The Baker).

For Immediate Release
For more information, e-mail dellbrad@iastate.edu, visit www.theatre.iastate.edu, or call 515-294-2624.

HOMETOWN INFORMATION

Ethan Peterson (Narrator) is a senior in performing arts from Ankeny.

Kevin Barron (Jack) is a junior in interior design from Glenview, Illinois.

Wes Ketcham (Baker) is a junior in performing arts from Des Moines.

Marcus Cross (Cinderella’s Father) is a senior in music from Hampton.

Evan Stenzel (Mysterious Man) is a senior in music from Iowa Falls.

Anson Woodin (The Wolf) is a senior in finance and music from Ames.

Sam Johnson (Cinderella’s Prince) is a senior in music from Atlantic.

Aaron Johnson (Rapunzel’s Prince) is a senior in biology from Atlantic.

Phillip Sears (Steward) is a senior in English from Geneseo, Illinois.

Joey Leinen (Hansel) is a senior in music from Atlantic.

Emily Zapotocny (Milky White) is a junior in business and performing arts from Gretna, Nebraska.

Grace Warren (Cinderella) is a senior in Music from Ames.

Ashley Wiser (The Baker’s Wife) is a senior in public relations from Ankeny.

Annie Feenstra (Stepmother) is a senior in performing arts from Sioux City.

Sara Mildenstein (Florinda) is a junior in music from Iowa City.

Courtney Kayser (Lucinda) is a senior in performing arts and music from Anamosa.

Taylor Troyer (Jack’s Mother) is a junior in music from Kalona.

Grace Chermak (Little Red) is a sophomore in music from Wayzata, Minnesota.

Kourtney Richards (The Witch) is a junior in performing arts from Des Moines.
Hannah Skalbeck (Cinderella’s Mother/Giant) is a senior in music from Apple Valley, Minnesota.

Kersten Tipping (Rapunzel) is a junior in music from Urbandale.

Samantha Koontz (Grandmother) is a junior in performing arts from Lewis.

Hannah Rublaitus (Snow White) is a sophomore in performing arts from Coralville.

Maddie Olsem (Sleeping Beauty) is a freshman in music from Cedar Rapids.

Kylie Erickson (Gretel) is a freshman in music from North Liberty.

Annie Metzger (Harp) is a freshman in liberal arts and sciences from Saint Michael, Minnesota.

Kiah Kayser (stage manager) is a senior in performing arts from Nya, Minnesota.