



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Pennsbury Drama opens the Main Stage Season with *Blithe Spirit!*

Pennsbury High School Drama presented *BLITHE SPIRIT* written by Noel Coward as their season opening show on November 12th. Lighthearted and endearing this “improbable farce in three acts” was directed by Matthew South, assisted by Damari Fallacaro, set construction by Terry Poulton and Stage Manager Marykate O’Donnell (12th Gr). It starred seniors Mason Snyder as Charles Condomine, Elise Carey as Ruth, Lexi Harman as Madame Arcati, Allison Templeton as Elvira, Patrick Diamond as Dr. Bradman, Vanessa Nolan as Mrs. Bradman, Madison Russell as Cook and Addison Blumberg (11th Gr) as Edith. Understudied by Meghan Crohe (10th Gr), Harry Rosenthal (11th Gr) and Cecelia Troiano (9th Gr). Crew members included Seniors Grace Hasney, Ivan Chow, Carissa Salzano and Junior Dylan Cardone.

Blithe Spirit is a play about successful novelist Charles Condomine who is about to embark on writing his next book, a novel about the occult. As research he arranges for the eccentric medium Madame Arcati to hold a séance at his home along with his wife Ruth, his skeptical friend Dr. Bradman and the wanting-to-believe Mrs. Bradman. The evening takes a supernatural turn when Madame Arcati conjures back the spirit of Charles’ deceased first wife Elvira, causing havoc for the novelist and his second wife, who cannot see or hear the ghost. Elvira then makes it her mission to reunite with him forever.

Director Matthew South shares that “*Blithe Spirit* offered the students the opportunity to dive into a British comedy, which is not the easiest thing to do! British comedy is dry and based on words, while the comedy we are used to is based in physical comedy or jokes. The actors took this challenge on and have done an amazing job. We have dissected, researched, and googled each phrase, word and situation to fully deliver to you this farce”. Assistant Director Damari Fallacaro stated, “The students worked incredibly hard to bring their characters to life and made us all proud”.

This is the first live Fall Drama performance since covid hit in March 2020. The matron of the Pennsbury Drama program Mary Kay Everett passed later that summer. “In her honor, we are submitting this production for consideration to perform at the International Thespian Festival in June and will be performing it at the PA State Thespian Festival this December. We are excited, honored, and thankful for the journey that Mary Kay helped create.” says Matthew South.

Congratulations to all on a wonderful performance!

More information on Pennsbury High School Drama Thespian Troupe 830 can be found at www.pennsburydrama.org

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