

Behind the Story

Instead of featuring ensembles, like previous years' musicals, "Into The Woods" only allows for main characters. Because of this, directors Michelle and Duane Philgreen entrusted musical members to understudy the main cast.

As understudy for the wolf, Ethan Grawe (9) felt grateful for the experience learned.

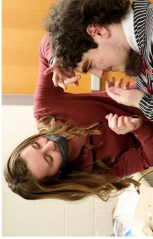
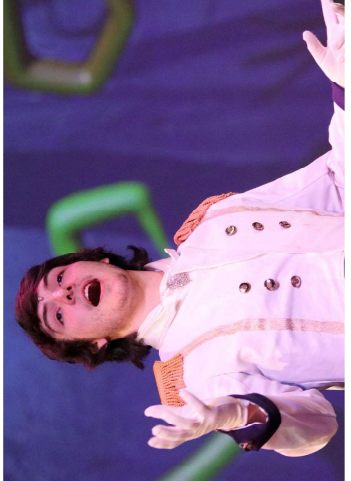
"Just learning from the person above you is one of the best parts of being an understudy," Grawe said.

Recalling his experience at a practice where Aiden Lee (11), who played the wolf, was absent, Grawe felt he wasn't quite prepared.

"It was pretty scary at first, but once you get out there, you go into the zone," Grawe said.

Agony!

Singing "Agony," Elias Tibbott (12), playing the Cinderella Prince, expresses how hurt he is when Cinderella runs from him.

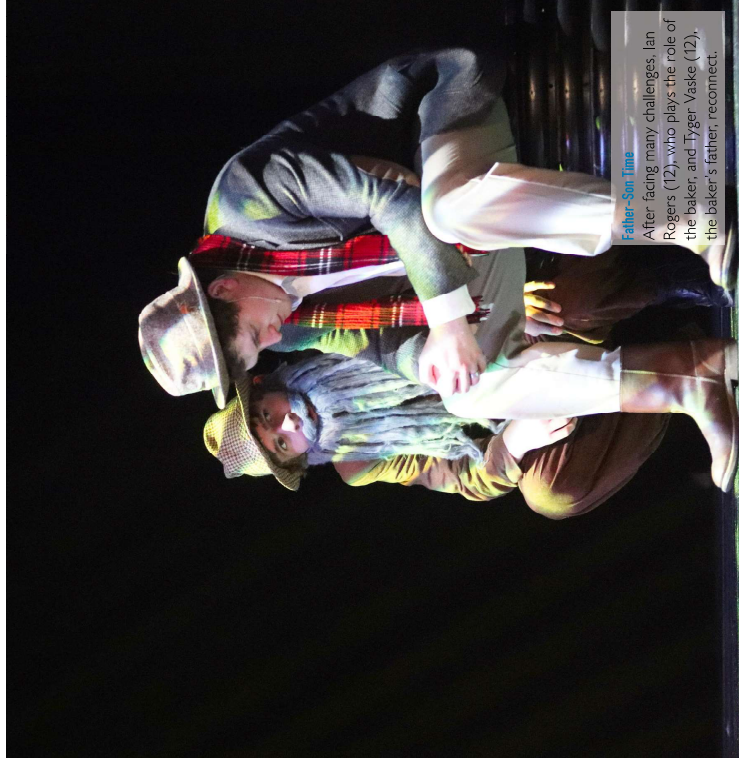


Talking to Your Meal

Tricking Little Red Riding Hood, played by Kaylee Osterhaus (12), the wolf, Aiden Lee (11), tries to lead her astray.

A Furry Situation

Katie McGrane (12), Sleeping Beauty, applies eyebrows and a beard to Aiden Lee (11), the wolf.



Father-Son Time

After facing many challenges, Ian Rogers (12), who plays the role of the baker, and Tyger Vaske (12), the baker's father, reconnect.



Bird Whisperer

Playing Cinderella, Laney Robinson (11) speaks to the birds, asking them to help her. In addition to playing the role of the baker, Ian Rogers (12) whistled for the birds.



A Golden Harp

After retrieving a golden harp from the giant's house, James Nachtman (12), playing Jack, talks with his mother, Alicia Nachtman (10).

Crew and Tech

The first full run through with no stopping took place opening night. "I was proud of the crew because of how smoothly the performances went," stage manager Emma Merkes said.



Clilee-Bahls (11)



Regan Recker (12) & Erika Holtz (9)



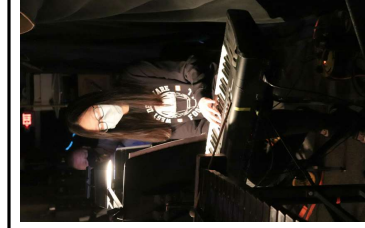
Alex Rattenborg (10)



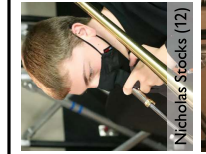
Gabriel Quint (9) & Alyssa Peterson (11)



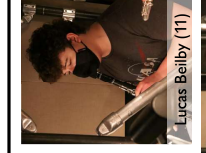
Cruz Timmerman (11)



Jasmine Tran (11) plays the keyboard in the pit during a rehearsal.



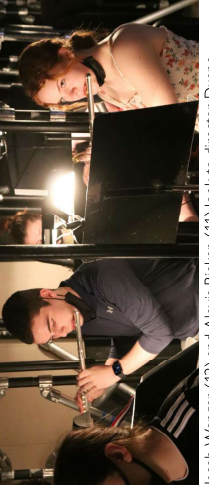
Nicholas Stocks (12)



Lucas Beilby (11)



Madeilyn Hogan (11)



Jacob Wenger (12) and Alexis Rieken (11) look to director Duane Philgreen's cue to begin playing.

Into the Pit

In the pit, twelve orchestra members were on point for both musical performances with only six rehearsals.

"At first I was skeptical if we could pull the show together in such a short time," Nicholas Stocks (12) said, "but after performing, I believe our performances were as good as previous years."

