

DINING WITH DISNEY BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

By Cara Alexander

Lighthouse Preparatory Academy welcomes back to the stage "Dining with Disney," to be held Nov. 6, 7, and 8 at First Christian Church in Jefferson City. This is a repeat performance of the very popular show that Lighthouse did last spring as its first student musical production.

Why this encore performance? The person to ask is director Mary Alexander. She pointed out, "This Disney-themed dinner theatre was such a success the first year, and we had to turn away a multitude of families who wanted to attend, due to the rapid sellout, that we decided to bring it back for an encore performance." One of the ways that has made this show so successful, she said, is that the Disney theme and dinner theatre tradition is enhanced by a lot of interaction between the Disney characters, portrayed by LPA students, and the audience guests.

This fall's production will also serve as a school fund-raiser. Silent auctions and photo opportunities with the characters will accompany the dinner and performance.

Since our Lighthouse student body has grown in this second year, we've invited our new students to join in the magical world of Disney and have created new production features for them. This fall's show will add characters from stories such as The Little Mermaid and Peter Pan to last year's favorites of the Disney princesses and heroes from The Lion King, Toy Story, and many others.

In anticipating the upcoming show, senior Kelly Feisel said, "I am excited about doing it again since it was so popular last year. So many people liked it, and it will be a great fundraiser for the school."

Wendy Leigers, owner of the DanCenter in Jefferson City, likewise is eager for a repeat production. Leigers has choreographed both the spring and fall performances and last year held her four-year-old daughter's birthday party at "Dining With Disney." She commented, "My daughter had ten of her friends at the party, and they said it was the most wonderful birthday party because they got to meet all of the (Disney) princesses. This performance is going to be just as wonderful as last year, with added surprises, making it an even more enjoyable experience for the audience."

The students at Lighthouse are excited about providing another evening of dinner and entertainment for our guests. If you are interested, don't hesitate, because tickets are selling rapidly, and we are hoping for another sellout production. Come join us in the magical world of Disney, where chimney sweeps fly, and all your dreams come true.

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