

Contact:
Norman Duttweiler
Forestburgh Playhouse
39 Forestburgh Road
Forestburgh, NY 12777
Phone 845-794-2005

Email:
info@FBplayhouse.com
Web:
www.FBplayhouse.com



Press Release

Forestburgh Playhouse Will Audition Local Teens for "Disney's High School Musical" on Saturday, May 9th at Liberty Middle School

Producer Seeks Local Teen Talent to Join Professional Actors in the Production This Summer at Famed Local Playhouse

WHAT:	Musical auditions for this summer's production of <i>Disney's High School Musical</i> at the Playhouse
WHO:	Teenaged Boys and Girls aged 15 - 18 who sing and move well
WHEN:	Saturday, May 9, 2009 10 AM – 2 PM
WHERE:	Liberty Middle School 145 Buckley Street Liberty, NY 12754
MORE INFO:	Visit the web site www.FBPlayhouse.com

Forestburgh, NY, April 20, 2009: Audiences at the Forestburgh Playhouse are accustomed to seeing talented local performers on stage every summer and producer Norman Duttweiler is accustomed to finding them – right here in Sullivan County and the surrounding areas. He announced today that the Forestburgh Playhouse would hold auditions at Liberty Middle School on Saturday, May 9th from 10 AM to 2 PM for local teens interested in performing in this summer's production of *Disney's High School Musical* at the Playhouse.

Although most of the cast members will be professional actors from all over the country, Duttweiler hopes to supplement the onstage ensemble with some local teens interested in participating in the experience of a professional theatre for the summer. "I'm always amazed by the number of young people interested in performing, as well as the musical talent they exhibit. It's especially remarkable considering that we are not drawing our potential young actors from a large urban metropolitan area.

For Release April 20, 2009

These are pretty much country kids, and a lot of them are really pretty good, and I think that's a credit to the many fine music departments in our local elementary and secondary schools." said Duttweiler.

This summer, the big production for young people is *Disney's High School Musical*, the Disney Channel musical phenomenon that has since spawned an entire industry of *High School Musical* sequels and spin-offs. The show is so popular that the Playhouse is presenting it twice a week over a seven week period this summer, July 2 – August 15. "We are replacing our entire season of shows for young audiences with this one show because of its extreme popularity. It will also be the most ambitious show that the Playhouse has ever mounted for young audiences: it will feature a cast of 24, some of whom will be local teens chosen from this audition.

The audition process is designed to be as efficient and painless as possible. The young hopefuls arrive, sign in and fill out a simple application, and are seen one by one by Producer Duttweiler in first come, first served order. They should prepare a song from the show, or another Disney show, or some other Broadway show. Mr. Steven Wing, the choral director at the Monroe-Woodbury Middle School and long time friend of the Playhouse, will serve as accompanist for the auditions.

The teens do not learn if they are cast at the time of the audition, since after the audition process, the directors discuss among themselves each audition, and decide which of those who auditioned have the most potential. "Then I get to call the kids, and tell them they're in the show. That's probably one of the best parts about my job," said Duttweiler.

Although the show will not open until July 2, most of the rehearsal will take place during the week of May 25th, when most of the show will actually be staged. During June, rehearsal will be limited to 3 hours per week, since most of the Playhouse time resources will be devoted to the first main stage productions of the season. Then, after a final dress rehearsal on July 1, the show will open on July 2 and will play through August 15th. Anyone interested in auditioning needs to be available for the entire run.

The Playhouse is only looking for teens for Disney's High School Musical at this audition. Local auditions for children and adults for the main stage productions of *Les Misérables* and *Showboat* will be held at the Playhouse itself on Saturday, May 30th.

Additional information about *Disney's High School Musical* auditions, the May 30th local auditions, and the entire Forestburgh Playhouse 2009 summer season is available on the web site,

www.FBplayhouse.com.