



THE CAMPANILE

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

VOLUME LVII, NUMBER 3.5

MARCH 2017

CAST

~KAYLEY
DIPAULO '17
~MIKE
EWING '17
~MARIANNA
GLACKEN '17
~ASHA
HOUSTON '19
~ANNA
HUBER '20
~NADINE
LAMPE '19
~NOELLE
LAMPE '17
~DEVON VONDER
SCHMALZ '17

STAGE CREW

~MOLLY
ECKERT '19
~EMILY
THOMAS '17
~KATIE
TIMBERLAKE '19
~BRIANNA
VALERIO '17

CO-DIRECTORS

~LAURA
SANTORI '17
~COLLEEN
MARS '17

CO-STAGE MANAGERS

~LAURA
SANTORI '17
~COLLEEN
MARS '17

LIGHTING DESIGN

~COLLEEN
MARS '17
~BRIANNA
VALERIO '17

SET CONSTRUCTION

~MR. JOHN
CURRY
~MR. DAVID
CURRY

COSTUME MISTRESS

~NOELLE
LAMPE '17

ACADRAM PERFORMS

“WOMEN IN CONGRESS”



By Claudia Langella '18

In contrast to last year's series of one-acts, Acadram is putting on a full-length play that is all about girl power. "Women in Congress" is a satire dedicated to female empowerment in politics, a topic very familiar to the world today.

Returning to the stage are seniors Kayley DiPaolo, Noelle Lampe and Devon Vonder Schmalz, along with sophomores Asha Houston and Nadine Lampe. Senior Marianna Glacken and freshman Anna Huber are eager to make their debuts on the Acadram stage.

"It feels really empowering to be around a lot of confident and talented girls," said Huber on her first production with Acadram.

"Women in Congress," Jules Tascas's adaptation of Aristophanes's play "Ecclesiazusae," takes place in ancient Athens, where the women of the city are making progress in politics. Leading lady Praxagora, wife of one of the head Congress members, plans to overthrow the male-dominated government in order to establish

a new one run by the women of the city.

"This play was chosen because of everything going on in the world today. We really wanted to send the message that women can be in charge, too. They can do anything they put their minds to," said Houston, who portrays Praxagora. "It's very empowering to be a part of this show."

"There are two themes of the play: one is the ever-present battle of the sexes and the second is the reversal of male and female roles," said Ms. Korey. "The women of Athens are tired of the men ruling. Praxagora decides to rally the other women to take over Congress."

While past productions have featured an all-girls' cast, La Salle senior Mike Ewing will also be taking the stage. Ms. Korey noted that it has been difficult to find a play with female characters with context appropriate for school. This play was chosen because it parallels the themes of this past presidential election.

"The audience can expect a lot of surprises and a few good laughs!"

said Huber.

Audiences can get different ideas from their own interpretations of the play.

"I hope that the audiences will try to understand the deeper message of the play, that a perfect society needs both the help of men and women in congress to see different perspectives," said DiPaolo, on how the audience should interpret the show's message.

One thing to also keep in mind is that "Women in Congress" is a satire.

"The playwright [Aristophanes] is making fun of the government in place at his time and also poking fun at Plato's ideas in his work 'The Republic,'" said Ms. Korey. "The audience should also know that the struggles we are going through today politically and gender-wise, or sexually, are age old problems. Things don't change from 392 B.C. to 2017."

"Women in Congress" will open Thursday, March 16, during school. Additional performances will be held on Friday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 18, at 2 p.m.