

Check Please! : A Theatre Production

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Dating is difficult. Finding “The One” is an exercise in patience, riddled with mishaps along the way. Sometimes, you meet someone who raises your hopes and promises a potential connection. Other times, you meet a kleptomaniac or a mime or a psychic who reads fortunes in feet. Uh, can we get a cheque please?

From Feb.25 to Mar.1, the Drama department performed *Check Please* by Jonathan Rand. The play explored the fun and occasional folly in blind dates, where every match differed greatly from the last.

It was a night filled with laughter as the audience cheered after every scene. An anticipatory clip of music played at each brief intermission, offering a preview of whom would be arriving next. Sometimes the date would end with looks of pure exasperation, while other times the cafe staff would file in, cleaning whatever mess was left. For all the humour, it also provided a light-hearted reminder of our own relationship mishaps. I believe this was the aspect that resonated most with the audience as the play allowed us to not only find amusement, but to relate to the characters by remembering how it might have felt in their shoes.



One of the leads, Ryan, shared his thoughts on the production.

“It was such a fantastic experience working with everyone. Even though there's so many of us and we're all different grades, we found our rhythm and got comfortable with each other really easily,” Ryan replied, “Everyone brought their own little special something to their character and the play which is what made it so enjoyable. There are a lot of good memories and fun times with the cast and crew that I'm really grateful for. They've made my grad year so much better.”



Devyn, who also played a leading role in *Check Please*, had an enthusiastic outlook for upcoming performances.

“This year's play was such an amazing experience for me. I wouldn't have wanted my last high school play to be any other way!” She exclaimed, “I'm so excited to see what everyone who was a part of the team does next, they gave me so much hope for the future of McMATH's drama department!”

As a Drama teacher at McMATH and director of this year's play, Mr. Garner provided his insight on the strengths of theatre, with praise to the cast.

“It was a fantastic time putting on this play. We're very spoiled at this school with the talent pool that we have of students here, all the way from Gr.8 to Gr.12,” He explained, “We want to choose a show that could showcase what we have here at McMATH and to give the audience an experience to go through what we go through, in the sense that the theatre community is a thriving area full of encouragement and positivity.”

In terms of *Check Please*, he added, “With the show, it's fun, it's goofy, it's wild and hopefully not everyone's been there before [*laughs*] but it's something that everyone can kind of relate to and so we thought it would be great to get everyone involved like that.”



Overall, it was an incredible production with credit to not only the extraordinary cast and crew, but also the effort and dedication committed by the directors, Mr. Garner and Ms. Schiefer. We look forward to their future performances!

The cast in order of appearance: Devyn O.L., Ryan L., Jeisa K., Troy B., Rebecca P., Liam C., Andrea W.K., Jaimie J., Perry W., Omer M., Russell Z., Hamza R., Lyrie M., Kaylee B., Jacob B., Asha T., Ben C. and Lexi L.

Stage Manager: Cathy C.

Sound Operator: Sam R.

Back of House/Front of House Crew: Brenna H., Ella D.C., Emily M., Audrey H., Anna V., Romina D.S., Catherine G. and Shirley Z.

Directed by: Brittany Schiefer and Joel Garner

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