

Money and The Spring Musical

What does it cost and who pays for it?

The Spring Musical is an after-school activity that is organized **and financed by Nathan Hale Productions (NHP)**, mostly through fundraisers and donations. Nathan Hale High School does support the Spring Musical by letting us use school facilities without a rental fee, **but all other costs are paid for by NHP.**

Putting on a musical costs a surprising amount of money. Obvious expenses are for costumes, sets, and props. We also have to pay a substantial amount of money for royalties and rental of the scripts. Like all other school groups, we pay for the cost of the custodians, as well as for heat or A/C on days when school is not in session. (This is true for any Saturday rehearsals or shows.)

In order to produce a musical, we need to fill several positions: director, music director, band director, technical director, rehearsal accompanist, musicians for the show, lighting designer, sound designer, costume designer, choreographer, stage manager, props master, stage hands, sound and light board operators, etc. For many of these positions, we must hire professionals.

In addition to the student cast, we are able to use quite a few students who fill various technical jobs (such as assistant stage manager, sound and light board operator, dresser, hair & make-up assistant, stage hand etc.). These students are taught and supervised by the professionals we hire and so receive excellent training. We also have been able to include student musicians in our band.

Each year, we have to raise between \$30,000 and \$40,000 to cover the costs of putting on the show. Ticket sales usually cover only up to half of this amount.

Inclusiveness is an important goal for NHP, and we believe that participation in the musical, onstage or backstage or in the orchestra pit, should not depend on ability to pay. That means we have to work hard to raise money through donations and other fundraisers, rather than charging students a fee for participation.

These are some of the other ways you can help raise money for the musical:

- ✓ **Shop at PCC** – we get 5% of what you spend! (Contact Gabi at 524-7249)
- ✓ Bring friends and family to **Cabaret Night** (our showcase and fundraiser with a sneak preview of the show).
- ✓ **Bring even more friends and family to the shows** to help us fill the theater.
- ✓ **Buy a program ad** with a message for your student, and ask businesses you patronize to buy one.
- ✓ **Make a tax-deductible donation to AFE/Nathan Hale Productions** anytime. (But earlier is better for our budget!) You can find the link to our Contributions form on the **Contributions** page under **Get Involved**.
- ✓ Utilize your company's matching funds program. **IN ORDER FOR NHP TO GET THE MATCHING FUNDS WE NEED TO FOLLOW A SPECIFIC PROTOCOL** that your company **may not be aware of!** Please simply mark your check with "Matching Funds expected" & your phone number, and we will get in touch with you to work this out. (We have lost matching funds because the protocol was not followed, and even with a lot of follow-up were not able to get the match.)