



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

MOVING OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE WORLD

Press Release

For immediate release
March 25, 2010

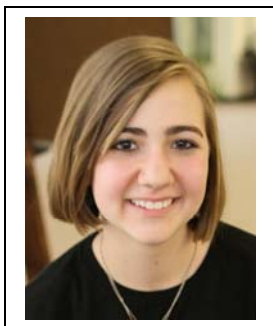
Contact: Wendy McArdle
Phone: 865-8084 x31

VCS Presents *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

April 2 & 3 at the Black Box Theater at Main Street Landing



Vermont Commons School and Very Merry Theatre Company are pleased to present *Thoroughly Modern Millie* on April 2 and 3 at the Black Box Theater at Main Street Landing in Burlington. This musical comedy is about a small-town girl who moves to New York City in 1922 looking to marry for money instead of love. Millie finds a job and begins to take joy in the flapper lifestyle, but problems arise when she checks into a hotel owned by the leader of a white slavery ring in China and they try to capture her! The series of madcap adventures that follow will entertain audiences of all ages.



This is the first year Vermont Commons has worked with Very Merry Theater and the first year in a while that the school has tackled a musical production. “We have some very talented student actors,” notes Ben Patrick, Artist in Residence at Vermont Commons. Sophomore **Justine Magowan** from South Burlington is playing Millie.

Justine is an accomplished pianist with a beautiful voice.

She even got her hair cut in a bob for the part! **Travis Connolly**, a senior from Burlington, plays the male lead, Jimmy Smith, a paper clip salesman. Travis is a member of the Vermont Youth Orchestra who truly loves singing. He just returned from the New England Music Festival last weekend in Burlington,



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

MOVING OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE WORLD

Connecticut, where he spent 27 hours singing over three days. Travis has also been invited to try out for the National High School Choir this summer in Chicago.



The role of Mrs. Meers, the evil house mother who kidnaps the girls at the hotel, is played by senior **Tamara Melkumov** of Burlington. Tamara has had major roles in the past three VCS productions and won a VCS Achievement Award last year for her acting prowess. “This is actually my toughest role,” notes Tamara. “My character is in disguise, posing as a Chinese woman working at the hotel, so I have to switch back and forth between a Chinese accent and an American accent – and even make intentional mistakes. It’s a challenge, but I’m having a lot of fun.”

IF YOU GO:

- Where:** Black Box Theater at Main Street Landing, College at Lake Street in Burlington
When: Friday, April 2 at 7pm and Saturday, April 3 at 4pm
Cost: \$8 adults; \$4 students (less than a trip to the movies!)
Tickets: at the door
More info: www.vermontcommons.org

About Vermont Commons School: *Vermont Commons School is an independent day school for students in grades 7 – 12. The school offers a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum that includes a focus on community service and experiential education. Vermont Commons School students experience a unique blend of academics and global emersion, master fundamental academic disciplines, grasp the profound interdependence of the natural and human systems they inhabit, and graduate with the values, knowledge, skills and commitment necessary to become ethical and engaged ecological citizens. For more information, please visit www.vermontcommons.org.*

#