IT'S FABULOUS BABY!

Don your wimple and sparkle boots to strut down to Oak Park High School for their production of SISTER ACT!

A joyful musical based off of the beloved 90's film starring Whoopi Goldberg, SISTER ACT centers around struggling singer Deloris Van Cartier in Philadelphia during the 1970's. Stuck with a deadbeat boyfriend, her plans to break up with him are quickly thwarted when she witnesses him murder a man in the street. With the help of an old classmate, lovingly dubbed "Sweaty Eddie", bold and bright Deloris is sped away to the quiet and rather plain nun's convent to hide. Forced to conceal herself, she finds friendship with cane wielding Sister Mary Lazarus, quiet Sister Mary Robert, and perky Sister Mary Patrick. Deloris makes it her mission to lead the off-key church choir to heaven, against the wishes of Mother Superior while keeping her identity a secret.

A musical sprung from a movie is bound to come with the pressure of portraying iconic characters. But the company of SISTER ACT shook it off with their own take on the characters, particularly Alexyus Johnson as Deloris. Johnson charms the audience from the first stomp of her boot, accented by a warm voice reminiscent of Diana Ross. Johnson's physical comedy shines through particularly in songs such as "It's Good to be a Nun." Her rousing Act 2 ballad, the titular song "Sister Act", has the audience leaning forward with bated breath. Johnson's convent sister, Sister Mary Robert, is portrayed by the powerhouse singer Jenna Holland. Holland begins the show quiet as a mouse, she is timid for most of the first act. Though quiet, each word is spoken with care by Holland, and no lines are lost. Holland really shines in the first act finale, "Raise Your Voice", belting out notes that, as Deloris would say, "were higher than the stratosphere."

The villainous boyfriend Curtis, played by Dominic Carrera, has gang members that comedically follow him around. A standout of this group was Drew Chamberlin as TJ. As the rather dimwitted nephew of Curtis, TJ gets his moment in the song "Lady in the Long Black Dress." Chamberlin punctuates the beats of the song with hip movements that leave the audience roaring with laughter. He makes the gangster life seem fun and delightful. In the convent, the go-lucky Sister Mary Patrick comes to life through Ginger Jones's facial expressions. Jones's bright eyes light up the stage as she experiences her first bar, including the magic machine known as a jukebox. She also shines as a soprano in several songs, lifting her voice up into the rafters.

A technical difficulty of a musical based off of a movie is many locations. Oak Park tackled this problem with a revolving set that was center stage the whole show. With silent scene transitions, each location was very detailed, fully encompassing the audience in the story. Deloris Van Cartier prides herself on being able to rock shiny sequins, and the costume crew proves it with a fast quick change from a halter coat to a stunning floor length gown. The audience gasps as the neutral-colored coat resting above her knees, disappears as the expensive gown appears out of almost nowhere.

With a show about sisterhood, the power of music, and a whole lot of love, Oak Park's SISTER ACT helps the audience find their inner diva.

by Abby Morrison of Lee's Summit West High School

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Our first impressions of the show is the beautiful costumes on the characters of Deloris, the night club dancers, and the ensemble of Curtis and the other guys. This was a great first impression. We see a beautiful dress on Deloris that is pink, sparkly, and has nicely placed fringe on the shoulders and side/bottom of the dress. She is also wearing sparkly, dark pink boots we see throughout the show. Next to Deloris are the nightclub dancers. Throughout the show it felt like the costumers Elleanna Miera and Celeste Morgan put a lot of detail into making each piece time accurate this was very impressive.

You're introduced to the first character, Deloris. The actress, Alexyus Johnson perfectly encapsulates the character of Deloris so well. She has a beautiful singing and character voice and had a very high energy the entire show, she was very consistent with these throughout the show as well.
After the witnessing of a murder takes place there is a chasing scene, this scene was so fun to watch even after an event like a murder. The different-colored monochrome suits for the guy's ensemble were a creative choice that was made.

When Deloris is running to the police station the set is revealed for the first time showing a creatively done and detailed set that has three sides to it, each side a different scene and building. When you are introduced to Eddie through Deloris the first thing you notice is the chemistry and dynamic between the two characters. It feels like you almost immediately love Eddie when meeting him.

Curtis's song "When I Find my Baby" is a very audience engaging song. It creates a sort of appreciation for Curtis's determination to find Deloris and it is crushed with the hilarious twist of wanting to harm her. This song was very entertaining with the choreography and the three guys backing him up, but not only that, the acting and singing was very engaging as well. In the song "Lady in the Long Black Dress" you see a side of the three ensemble guys that isn't shown in the other songs. They have great comedic body language that grabs the attention of the audience.

Jenna Holland who plays Sister Mary Robbert, has incredible physical body language and facial expression, a great understanding of her character, and a beautiful voice that fits her character and amplifies the experience. Mother Superior, played by Katherine Robbins has a great stage presence and use of the stage with her physical acting in "I haven't got a prayer." She has a consistent character throughout the show as you see Mother Superior grow.

Ginger Jones who plays Sister Mary Patrick was a very and enjoyable character, easily lovable. Overall, the Nun ensemble is such a great group. Everyone has a very good consistent and matching energy throughout the show.

There is a beautiful moment with a transition between the songs "Fabulous Baby! Reprise" and "Sister Act" where the dancers are dancing with Deloris and a couple of the actors from the Nun ensemble are moving the set in a circle and it was very creative that you don't even notice that Deloris has had an onstage quick change into a beautiful dress. This was very creative and done very well.

This show was done very well, great use of the space through acting, set design and costume design. It was a very enjoyable experience.

by Cayle Betts of Blue Springs South High School

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A FABULOUS PERFORMANCE

Oak Park High School's SISTER ACT is a groovy great time. With soulful disco vibes, this comedy musical will immerse you in the 70s era. The feel-good storyline follows nightclub singer Deloris Van Cartier (Alexyus Johnson) on her journey for fame. The plot kicks off when she sees her boyfriend Curtis (Dominic Carrera) murder someone. The police put her in witness protection at a convent.

Dominic Carrera's consistent use of a raspy character voice brings life to the antagonist and elevates the general nastiness of his character. In contrast, Alexyus Johnson plays Deloris with charisma and charm, making it easy for the audience to root for her. She portrays her inner conflict movingly while coming to terms with living as a nun and learning to enjoy it. In a place where she can't drink, smoke, or party, she and Mother Superior are on the same page about whether or not she belongs there. Through a touching display of self-sacrifice near the end, they finally learn to put aside their differences.

Throughout a story of wacky hijinks from Curtis's gangsters and humorous innocence from the nuns, a friendship forms between Deloris, Sister Mary Robert (Jenna Holland), and Sister Mary Patrick (Ginger Jones). The trio, both characters and actors, compliment each other and are fun to watch interact. The character development throughout the show, especially Holland's, is done in a way that's impactful and clearly thought out.

All the characters in general are individualized and eye-catching in every scene. While some words get lost and some movement lack energy, they still make every scene interesting. Every character has a costume that personal and exceptionally 70's. The time period for the show was thoroughly researched and represented. All of it, from the silhouettes to the colors to the hairstyles screamed 1970. This isn't exclusive to the costumes, the set too is dressed in a way that clearly communicates the place and time. It's also well executed, the turn table set allowing for quick and easy scene changes.

The show was heartfelt and it was clear that the actors were having fun, and that meant the audience had fun too.

by Clara Bay of Blue Springs South High School

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Sunday Morning Fever on a Friday Night.

Set the scene, it is 1778 you hear the angelic voice of Deloris Von Cartier played by Alexyus Johnson. With her four backup singers/dancers, and her boyfriend, Curtis (Dominic Carrera) listening in, Deloris waiting for the stamp of approval so she can perform in the lounge. Everyone is in the Christmas spirit, Curtis most of all. He gifted Deloris a blue fur coat previously owned by his wife, in a moment of passion and rage she runs out of the lounge in search for Curtis but instead finds a murder.

SISTER ACT originally opened on the West End and then moved onto Broadway a couple years later, they were nominated to numerous awards, for the music itself and the actors/actresses. Going into the show the atmosphere feels slightly nostalgic for some and for others it has the feeling of being free and uncaring. It feels like the seventies the moment you step into the preforming arts center at Oak Park High School.

Murder. It is the key component in SISTER ACT, with Curtis right of Deloris' tale she takes refuge at a convent, yes you heard that right a convent, the lounge singer who smokes and also dating a married man goes to a convent. Where she meets the three Mary's, Sister Mary Robert (Jenna Holland), Sister Mary Patrick (Ginger Jones), and Sister Mary Lazarus (Ivy Byers). The cast did a great job of differentiating between each individual Mary. From the cane to the portrayed age differences, you can easily tell the see the contrast between the three Mary's.

With the craziness of this show there were many standout performers, whether it be vocally or comedically. From the soft yet powerful sound of Jenna Holland (Sister Mary Robert) to the bold character voice of Dominic Carreara (Curtis). Each time either of these characters were on stage, heads would turn. They provided a good balance of pulling attention but also giving other performers their time to shine. Quite literally with the glitter rain in Act two.

Within the first few minute's eyes are drawn to the facial and body hair strategically placed on each actor, between the sideburns on Eddie (Olin Spencer) or the chest hair on Pablo (Chase Droegemueller). This was one of the highlights in the show, how Sophy Marks (makeup manager) created distinct quirks that applied to each character showed that a lot of thought and time went into the development of everyone no matter their role. The costuming was also on point, with pieces that would truly be seen around the time, it felt very authentic and super far out.

From the top of the show to the bottom people were hooked on the voices at Oak Park High School. To the lobby decorations, to the projected images on their curtain before the first down beat. A few things took the authenticity out of the scene whether it was performers breaking character before they were fully off stage or the fixing habits (nun head pieces) throughout a few dances numbers, it made those moments less impactful. Oak Park really used the space given and made it work for them. The three-sided rotating set to change scenes was something that really caught the audiences' eye and the use of the catwalk in front of the audience pulled the show together. The sister and friends really put on a show, a SISTER ACT if you will.

by Lyndsey Steutermann of Blue Springs South High School

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COME CATCH A ï¿½SUNDAY MORNING FEVER' AT OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Oak Park High School whisks Deloris Van Cartier to the stage with their musical, SISTER ACT. Written by Cheri and Bill Steinkellner, the show is a wonderful celebration of sisterhood and music. After witnessing her boyfriend murder someone, Deloris Van Cartier--played by Alexyus Johnson--is swept away to a convent for her protection. Struggling to fit in and stay hidden, Katherine Robbins' Mother Superior assigns her to join the choir, for whom she has "no words." A wannabe star herself, Deloris skyrockets the choir to fame, landing them a chance to perform for the Pope. But can she balance her newfound sisterhood without compromising her safety?

SISTER ACT takes place at the dawn of the disco era, and it is evident that the company did their research. From the men's artificial sideburns to vintage furniture on set, the audience remains immersed in the world until the final bow.

Alexyus Johnson shines as Deloris Van Cartier, sultry and tough. You have to look twice to make sure Whoopi Goldberg herself isn't belting out Johnson's notes. From how Johnson moves to how she speaks, she embodies Deloris with consistency not often found in high school theatre.

Johnson is joined by a hilarious cast of nuns, each of which finds their voice. Jenna Holland's, Sister Mary Roberts, is sure to have the audience begging for an encore with her remarkable voice. She utilizes the nuances of her voice to her advantage with her heart-wrenching solo, "The Life I Never Led". Sister Mary Patrick and Sister Mary Lazurus, portrayed by Ginger Jones and Ivy Byers, breathe life into the show with "It's Good To Be a Nun". Both women never fail to crank up the energy with every moment they're on stage. Jones' Mary Patrick is endearing and stands out with every grin. Meanwhile, Byers' Mary Lazarus is a master of physical comedy, waving her cane about while catching a "Sunday Morning Fever". Even the show's antagonist, Dominic Carrera's Curtis, brings the same focus to every moment he's onstage with his sinister vocal choices.

Backstage, the crew's attention to detail is paramount. The set's turntable makes scene changes a breeze--particularly when they turned a police station into an apartment before the night was done. Chantal Kariuki and Annie Gemmill's work on sound and lighting respectively is commendable, with Sister Act being their first theatre experience. It's worth mentioning the incredible work of the costume and makeup crew: the nuns' gold habits and Pablo's artificial chest hair are a nice touch.

While SISTER ACT is both humorous and heartfelt, it takes a little while for the actors to find their footing. The show takes off once Deloris meets the nuns, and the pacing never feels strange again. Furthermore, there are multiple instances where soloists struggle to support their sound, but it doesn't detract from the joy of the story. The cast is incredibly focused throughout the night, however, there are some moments where that focus slips, leading to missed choreography or nervous movements. All in all, the company's energy is positively infectious.

On the whole, Oak Park's SISTER ACT is intoxicating and a joy to watch. The actors leave lasting impressions, causing a gasp of anticipation to rise up from the crowd whenever they enter. Likewise, the crew took incredible care when crafting this show, and this is evident from the moment the curtain opens. You are bound to want your sisters by your side when you see Oak Park's SISTER ACT!

by Abbi Payne of Lee's Summit West High School

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RAISE YOUR VOICE and BUY TICKETS to SISTER ACT!

Deloris Van Cartier hilariously runs across the stage in dyed blue fur and hot pink heels as thugs desperately try to catch their breathe. Deloris has just seen her boyfriend Curtis kill a man and runs to find safety from his rage. No one, least of all Deloris expects to find sanctuary in a covenant. The ï¿½want-to-be-star' does not blend in, and with a strict Mother Superior, Deloris doubts she'll last until the court date against Curtis. However, with her amazing talent of singing, Deloris finds community and passion within the choir at the covenant. Before Mother Superior can stop it, the passion Deloris has for singing spreads across the Nuns and the choir becomes a hit. Yet, the publicity comes with a price, Curtis is hot on her hot pink heels and Deloris will find herself questioning where she belongs - by her Sister's sides, or on a stage alone underneath the disco.

Right off the bat, the audience is dazzled by the accurate costumes put together by ELLEANNA MIERA  and CELESTE MORGAN. With a time period of the 1970's, people expect bright colors disco inspired outfits. The expectation is met from each bar patron, to every thug. Speaking of thugs, many had hair applied to their body to help give the effect of the 70's. SOPHY MARKS execution of Pablo's chest hair is mesmerizing and each wigs falls right into the place in this amazing show. Actors in the show become confident wearing the amazing designs created by their technical crews.

For many actors, their costume consists of Nun-attire. For those expecting bright colors, this is not where you will find them. However, the lighting crew lead by ANNIE GEMMILL serves. By far, some of the best moments are when a disco ball is lowered and lights hit it creating a magical display that fills the entire auditorium. For the audience, they become apart of the disco. The fun disco effect is also shown in the set. MASON SLOAN and ZENAN JOHNSON are brilliant with their rotating set. The rotating set allows quick scene changes in a practical way but it does not take away from the details and creativity. Being transported to a church with stain glass windows to a police station colored with accurate set dressing is impressive. The stage manager, ANDY MAST allows all of these technical elements to be efficient and effective in every scene.

Every scene could not be completed without the engaging ensemble of Nuns. The Nuns constantly engage in the scene, never lacking energy. Although they all are dressed in the same black and white attire, each has their own unique personality that shines through in their characterization. Along with characterization, character development is executed phenomenally throughout the show. Sister Mary Robert, played by JENNA HOLLAND, demonstrates her characters internal conflict very well. The audience cannot wait to see what she decides for herself, especially after delivering a song with incredible vocals. Sister Mary Robert's journey is just one of the many that steals the audiences hearts.

This review could not end without mentioning the unbelievable talent of ALEXYUS JOHNSON who becomes Deloris Van Cartier. From mannerisms in her walk, to the delivery of sass in each line, and the stunning vocals that take the audiences breathe away, JOHNSON slays as Deloris. Her internal conflict of deciding what path to take in evident as the audience watches her grow. Despite balancing issues from sound, JOHNSON's voice carries over the song and resonates with the audience. JOHNSON's performance along with the Nuns and Thugs is impressive, leaving the audience with a need to raise their own voice!

by Addison Foote of Lee's Summit West High School

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TAKE ME TO OAK PARK HEAVEN

AMEN! Oak Park High School's performance of SISTER ACT enchants the audience from the very start with soulful music and cheerful energy --leaving the audience members springing from their seats. The company of SISTER ACT at Oak Park High School deserves all the praise and provides a fantastic purpose to rejoice!

SISTER ACT --a musical that focuses on the original movie starring Whoopie Goldberg-- closely follows the storyline of Deloris Van Cartier on the uphill climb of her singing career. After witnessing her boyfriend, Curtis, murder someone in cold blood, the police send her away to a convent for witness protection. During her stay with the nuns, she experiences conflicts with the rigid Mother Superior and the tedious restrictions placed on her at the convent. Following the misbehaving of Deloris, Mother Superior becomes fed up and places Deloris with the task of creating a presentable choir. While renovating the choir, Deloris inspires soul among the nuns, creating a powerhouse performance and saving the church from despair. Eventually, Curtis' gang will try to capture Deloris and keep her quiet for good, but she uses the power of the sisterhood to keep her safe. A Laurence Olivier Award nominee, SISTER ACT receives over 14 award nominations between the Tony's, Laurence Olivier, and Drama Desk awards during its time on broadway.

Alexyus Johnson radiates energy through her choices of diction and physicalization for her character, Deloris Van Cartier. Through her uplifting energy, Johnson is able to build relationships with her fellow nuns and create an uplifting atmosphere that captivates the audience's attention. The physicalization that Johnson uses in her performance is bold and strong, which aids in the personality of disco-diva Deloris that we have all come to know and love.

Along the way, Deloris encounters Curtis' gang in a variety of scenes. The trio of Curtis' gang --TJ, Joey, and Pablo-- played by Drew Chamberlin, Dylan Blair, and Chase Droegemueller use comedic timing and extreme physicalization to build the relationship between their characters. From false tripping to bold reactions, the trio charms the audience with their witty dynamic. The cohesiveness of their performance creates an elevated atmosphere; more specifically in their number, Lady In The Long Black Dress, where the animations in their facial expressions light up the stage.

Throughout SISTER ACT the musical, the fellow nuns who join Deloris' journey are a key feature. Through individualistic facial expressions and gestures, the stage is full of creative freedom from the whole ensemble. Jillian Ray, a dancer in the ensemble, stands out for her crisp dance moves and facial expressions. With her enthusiasm, Ray creates a dynamic and joyful presence on the stage, showcasing her emotion through movement.

With a show like SISTER ACT, the technical elements represent the tone and theme of the show, and Oak Park's technical elements accomplish that and further expectations! The costumes designed by Elleanna Miera and Celeste Morgan represent the true disco era and the true apparel of the convent. Instead of traditional costumes, Miera and Morgan select fun themes for each individual costume that conveys the specific emotion in the scene at hand. Alongside costumes, Oak Park High School's scenic structures are time-period accurate. The set of SISTER ACT designed by Mason Sloan and Zenan Johnson resembles the disco era from paint color all the way to furniture. With the use of a revolving set, scenic designers and the stage crew are able to transform the set quickly from scene to scene. The use of set dressing would aid the product, however, the set as a whole attracts the audience through the use of popping colors and disco-themed items.

Overall, SISTER ACT at Oak Park High School brings the power of the soul into the audience through a modernized version of the performance. With a positive dynamic, the company of SISTER ACT succeeds in their joyous commitment to the show, ultimately making the audience raise their voice to rejoice!

by Cassidy Knight of Lee's Summit West High School

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FROM NIGHTCLUB TO NUNNERY

Between vibrant orchestra music to pumped-up sparkling dance numbers, from glitter rain to gogo boots, SISTER ACT by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL has it all.

SISTER ACT is a musical based on the movie of the same name. The musical debuted on Broadway in 2011, with music by eight-time Oscar winner Alan Menken. SISTER ACT tells the story of two worlds colliding in 1970s Philadelphia, those of aspiring nightclub singer Deloris Van Cartier and stern nun Mother Superior.

Mesmerizing vocals and bubbly enthusiasm from Alexyus Johnson as Deloris Van Cartier truly bring her character to life. Her stage presence shines throughout the entire show. Olin Spencer has strong vocals and natural charisma as Eddie Souther, and Katherine Robbins' confidence as Mother Superior shows she is at home on the stage.

Jenna Holland as Sister Mary Robert immediately captivates when revealing her powerful vocals. Talent spans across this entire cast, with performers like Tristan Young as Sister Mary Theresa and Ginger Jones as Sister Mary Patrick bringing the show to life with their enthusiasm. Many clever comedic moments among ensemble members pull audiences further into the world. Anyone in the audience can see the entire cast has a chemistry that is warm and inviting.

The genius innovation of a rotating set is perfect for a theater dealing with limited space. This lively set, designed by Mason Sloan and Zenan Johnson, also serves to make scene changes miraculously silent, with well rehearsed movements like cogs of a machine. Beautiful 70s costumes add to the charisma of the show, as do fun unexpected touches like glitter rain and a disco ball dropping in from above. Stage Manager Andy Mast ensures no small detail goes unnoticed and keeps the show flowing. One especially impressive moment is during Deloris' song Sister Act, where the rotating set spins to represent Deloris' turmoil in where she belongs. She is suddenly revealed to be wearing a shining white sequined dress that seemingly appears from nowhere. Swift, well-rehearsed technical moments like these leave the audience enchanted.

The old age makeup looks spectacular in the design sheets and images, however some of its effectiveness is lost when far from the audience. The lighting and sound also has some understandable but minor errors. All together, this show is full of surprising and clever technical choices.

This energetic cast brings the show to life with their uniquely dynamic personalities. This production of SISTER ACT by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL is a heartwarming, soulful show that is equally as funny as it is touching.

by Elena Baker of Lee's Summit West High School

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SISTER ACT- IT'S FABULOUS, BABY!

From gritty gangsters to bedazzled nuns, Oak Park High School's SISTER ACT is a glamorous production filled with sass and style. With bright and colorful costumes and sets, this show brings the funk and feel of the 70s to life. Paired with a strong performance from both actors and tech, this rendition of SISTER ACT is sure to be a show the audience won't easily forget.

SISTER ACT is a story of unlikely sisterhood and self-discovery that follows Deloris Van Cartier, a performer-turned-nun who hides from her murderous boyfriend in their local convent. The story itself was based on the 1992 movie, Sister Act, which was then adapted into musical theatre by Cheri and Bill Steinkellner. This rendition of SISTER ACT takes place in 1970s Philadelphia and uses fitting humor and music choices to further create that atmosphere.

Oak Park High School's production of SISTER ACT uses strong technical elements and acting to create a bright and entrancing show that showed the creativity and talent of those involved. Each character, no matter the number of lines or time on stage, had bold and visible choices as individuals to make each ensemble strong and energetic as a whole. The actors' interactions with the intricate set made each scene seem more and more realistic, along with the smallest details in costuming or props that added flair to each and every actor as an individual. Some technical aspects had great and missed potential, but the use of other aspects like disco balls and jukeboxes helped solidify the atmosphere for the audience.

Alexyus Johnson brings a compelling and soulful performance as Deloris Van Cartier that creates an upbeat energy out of thin air. No matter the song or the scene, Alexyus maintains noticeable and impactful choices that contribute to her characterization. She played the confidence and sassiness of Deloris with all that and more, which brings out love and laughter from her viewers. Along with solid acting, Alexyus incorporates powerful choices into her singing as well. Her voice and tone convey emotions that fit well with the given scene, and her acting does not falter to make way for equally impactful vocals.

The Nuns is a comedic yet powerful ensemble that drives the story through laughter and impressive vocals. They maintain character while giving a supported and sturdy performance in both singing and acting, even with the high notes that they are given. There are a few harmonies that are certainly there, but perhaps drowned out by other groups of notes. Despite this, the Nuns give a compelling performance by having distinct character choices that show them not as only an ensemble, but as people as well.

The tech in this production of SISTER ACT is detailed and thorough, and each detail adds to the immersive experience. Their rotating set has several different settings for their story to take place and allows for very fast set changes. Their lighting includes very 70s disco colors and spotlights that key the viewers in on the vibe of the nightclub or the energy of the church's choir. The costumes are all very well done, with each individual costume having its own unique flair. The production also involves smooth costume changes on stage, like Deloris and Eddie changing from dull trench coats to glittery white ensembles in each of their respective songs.

SISTER ACT is a show that requires determination and dedication, and Oak Park High School delivered a production that left the audience dancing and jiving in their seats. Through their performance both on and off stage, this rendition of SISTER ACT is certainly a memorable experience for all involved.

by Lauren Knight of Lee's Summit West High School

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SISTER ACT IS SIMPLY FABULOUS, BABY!

SISTER ACT performed at Oak Park High School will take you to Heaven and back with its eye-catching costume, innovative set design, and impressive vocal performances.

Adapted from the movie with the same name, SISTER ACT is set in 1978 Philadelphia, where Deloris Van Cartier is a lounge singer. After witnessing her boyfriend murder somebody, she is placed in a convent to hide her before her court date. Though it takes her a while to fit it, she is soon given a role as the nun's choir director. The show first premiered at the Pasadena Playhouse in Pasadena, California on October 24, 2006. SISTER ACT would later run on both the West End and Broadway.

This Oak Park High School doesn't leave a dull moment with all of the elements in SISTER ACT. Actors are able to keep up the Philly accent throughout the show, and The Disco Diva Band orchestra keeps the energy high all night long.

Alexyus Johnson portrays Deloris Van Cartier, and she truly shines in this role. She is able to showcase her amazing vocal abilities, and her personality adds tremendously to the part. Another star of this production is Olin Spencer as Eddie Souther. Spencer's rendition of I Could Be That Guy captures the audience and he partners Johnson very well.

The secondary actors do an amazing job in adding to the show. Standout performer Jenna Holland (Sister Mary Robert) wows the audience with her beautiful voice in the song Life I Never Led. Dominic Carrera (Curtis) keeps up an impressive scruffy accent throughout the entire show, even while singing. TJ (Drew Chamberlin), Joey (Dylan Blair), and Pablo (Chase Droegemuller) had the audience laughing during numerous scenes and their song Lady in the Long Black Dress.

The technical aspects of the show further takes you into 1978 Philadelphia. The turntable set design by Mason Sloan and Zenan Johnson was innovative and allowed for the show to have fast and efficient scene changes. Costumes by Elleanna Miera and Celeste Morgan added to each character and were visually stunning. Sound had some issues balancing character's microphones with the pit, but it didn't take away from the overall show. The makeup by Sophy Marks was beautiful and added to each character. Makeup also added little details that enhanced each character, the most notable being the chest hair on Pablo and the sideburns on the men.

Overall, Oak Park High School brings the energy of the disco era and does not disappoint. The cast and crew bring the story life and proves that they really are Fabulous, Baby!

by Scarlett Lawlor of Lee's Summit West High School