OAK PARK SHOWS "THE TALENT OF LIVING" WITH SABRINA FAIR  
  
Oh, Sabrina, how you've changed! OAK PARK HIGH SHCOOL's production of SABRINA FAIR brings the energy to the stage in an outstanding production of the hilarious love story.  
  
SABRINA FAIR, a cinderella-esque romantic comedy in four acts, written by Samuel A. Taylor, had its Broadway premiere on November 11, 1953. It continued to run for a total of 318 performances. SABRINA FAIR would then be written as a film by Billy Wilder in 1954 and again in 1995 by Sydney Pollack. The story revolves around the young and charming Sabrina Fairchild, the daughter of a chauffeur, who returns to Long Island after a long trip to Paris. Love is discovered, love is lost, and all the drama in-between occurs in this amazing story.  
  
"La petite fille de chauffeur," Sabrina Fairchild, is played by Hannah Butts. Butts's vocal inflections are as if she came directly from a fifties film. Her stage presence is enrapturing and her pacing of lines comes naturally and understandably. The intelligent love interest Linus Larrabee, Jr. is played by Zen Langley. Langley's chemistry with his fellow actors on stage creates a realistic atmosphere. His nonchalant characterization of Linus brings a refreshing contrast to the bubbly nature of Sabrina.   
  
The Larrabee parents, Maude and Linus Sr., are played by Maya Horn and Cruz Lewis. Horn is bold and isn't afraid of taking space on the stage, perfect for her character. Her facial expressions never waver and she consistently remains in character, even when she is not in the spotlight. Cruz Lewis perfects the fatherly figure of Linus Larrabee Sr. It is hard to believe that he is merely a high schooler, as his exemplary mannerisms are much older than he actually is. He nails the comedic timing, but also becomes serious and stern when needed.   
  
No show can be run without the dedicated crew members behind it, and SABRINA FAIR is no exception. The sound crew, led by Nick Begley, Ayah Abdelhammeed, and Ava Norris, perfect each sound cue with precision. Especially in the scene with Maurice the cockatoo, it is as if the characters on stage are truly talking to a singing bird. House and publicity, led by Jenna Holland and Katie Slattery, immerse audiences into the world of SABRINA FAIR by creating enormous and elegant backdrops for photos, and beautiful programs and posters.   
  
Although many actors have great line delivery, at some points it is hard to understand due to mumbling or speaking too quickly. However, most of the lines are understandable and clear. The lighting throughout the play is cute and spotlights each actor as needed. There are moments where the lighting could be utilized more creatively, but in general the lights are very beautiful.  
  
Overall, OAK PARK's SABRINA FAIR is an amazing show for high school theatre. Between the hard work and dedication on and off the stage, this show is "trï¿½s excellente!"   
  
  
by Dillon Potts of Park Hill High School   
  
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ALL IS "FAIR" IN LOVE AND WAR--AND THIS SHOW HILARIOUSLY PROVES IT!  
  
Most know of the desolate yet beautiful maiden that transforms from rags to riches when she loses her glass slipper to a dashing prince; unfortunately, pumpkins become glorious carriages only in fables. However, luckily enough, OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's production of SABRINA FAIR captures the same ideas in a realistically modern and insatiable performance.  
  
Primarily noted for its star-studded film adaptations, Samuel Taylor's SABRINA FAIR explores a woman's journey of love and acceptance within a family of rich socialites. Flowing with cynical humor, satirical stereotypes, and traditional romantic comedy antics, this merry-go-round of a show pokes fun at Cinderella-esque tropes while spotlighting the importance of self-acceptance.  
  
Zen Langley as Linus Larrabee Jr. successfully executes an addictive interpretation of the snarky heir to the Larrabee fortune through various emotional-appealing techniques, leaving the audience in hysterics. Throughout the entirety of the performance, he consistently reacts to his co-actors with eye-popping facial expressions and uses body manipulation (hand gestures, levels of height, etc.) to enhance the scenes further. Comparatively, Maya Horn, who acts as the charming Maude Larrabee, wins the crowd with her sultry and captivating voice. Her crisp articulation along with her auspicious vocal inflections emphasize her raw emotions while performing, especially when paired with Mr. Langley or Cruz Lewis (who plays Linus Larrabee, Sr.).  
  
In regards to Mr. Lewis, he--accompanied by Charles Carter (David Larrabee) and Ava Broermann (Julia Ward-McKinlock)--captures the lightheartedness of the production with silly quips and sassy mannerisms. This comical trio individually displays great comedic timing and overwhelming stage presence that manages to overtake their featured scenes. Further, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Carter, and Ms. Broermann maintain palpable chemistry with everyone they interact with, ultimately showcasing their effective storytelling abilities.  
  
One of the more shocking aspects of this show is the behind-the-scenes efforts of Izzy Christus, a senior student who took over as director and even blocked the production. Her professional staging and commitment to excellence convey the plot points effectively, and the audience is unable to distinguish her work from that of a teacher. In addition, the elegant set created by Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett transports viewers to the Larrabee's Long Island mansion with its elaborate elements, from colorful assorted flowers to an oceanic backdrop to a chiseled, operating fountain.  
  
In contrast, other features of the performance inhibit rather than enhance. Within the first half of the production, microphone malfunctions range from suddenly jumping in sound to barely producing noise. However, as the performance continues, these issues become undetectable. Likewise, minor stumbling and slurring of words easily distract the audience, though the majority of actors regain themselves within seconds.  
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's SABRINA FAIR encapsulates love in various forms, ultimately thawing the hearts of viewers with cackle-worthy comedy, attentive technical crews, and larger-than-life performers. In other words, this worthwhile romantic comedy is "ravissant et Magnifique."  
  
  
by Madison Woods of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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THE FEAR OF BEING DOMESTICATED  
  
You have not lived until you have been awakened in the morning by a singing cockatoo. OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL awakens the audience in their production of SABRINA FAIR. SABRINA FAIR was written in 1953 by Samuel A. Taylor. The play was adapted into a movie the following year in 1954 and again in 1995. SABRINA FAIR is about a chauffeur's daughter, Sabrina Fairchild, who goes to France to find her place in life. Her father is the chauffeur for the Larrabees, a wealthy family in New York. The Larrabees run multiple profitable companies and have two sons, David and Linus, Jr. Despite a loving boyfriend in France, Sabrina comes back to her childhood home to see if things feel different now that she is all grown up.   
  
Hannah Butts plays the gorgeous Sabrina Fairchild. Butts does an excellent job of bringing carefree and beauty to the stage every time she simply enters. Butts has incredible line delivery and a wonderful dynamic with the other characters she shares the stage with. Butts makes sure Sabrina is prominent and outgoing with a fiery passion for self-reliance. Linus Larrabee, Jr. is played by the handsome Zen Langley. Langley and Butts feed off each other's vibrant dynamic and create exemplary energy. Langley provides an admirable build and execution for his character's prominent attitude and drive.  
  
Charles Carter plays David Larrabee and shows that an actor can have a strong stage presence and still be mom's favorite. Carter and Langley have an entertaining sibling dynamic to them that makes it delightful for the audience to experience. Carter carries himself with confidence and charm. Maude Larrabee is played by Maya Horn. Horn is lovely and a terrific actor. Horn plays the concerned mother and affluent housewife excellently.   
  
The set was designed by Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett. They did an exemplary job of making a set that is not only gorgeous, but also fits the time, all while being captivating and drawing the audience in. The set included a working fountain and lights that lit up, bringing a cozy feel to the atmosphere. The costumes, done by Elleanna Miera and Sophy Marks, were stunning. They fit everyone well, both in character and in size. Jenna Holland was in charge of marketing and publicity. She did a great job of having tantalizing posters, tickets, and decorations.  
  
OAK PARK's production of SABRINA FAIR feels professional and well-executed. Everything was big from actions to reactions. The show goes smoothly when you're drawn in by such outstanding actors, costumes, set, and characterization. Going to see OAK PARK's SABRINA FAIR is like a good funeral, even if you didn't know the guy, a good time can still be had.  
  
  
by Caroline Ocheskey of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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FAIREST FROM PARIS  
  
"Les fleurs de Paris sont en fleurs." But, flowers aren't the only thing that's blooming this spring. SABRINA FAIR written by Samuel Taylor is a riveting story about love, self discovery, and coming of age. This story follows two families, the rich and powerful Larrabee family who prides themselves on their social appearance. Then there's the quaint and modest Fairchild family, a father who is the Larrabee's chauffeur and his daughter, Sabrina, who is returning to her hometown from the majestic city of Paris. The 1950's setting of this show added a beautiful vintage feeling to the story, and there were the great symbolic elements of the white picket fence to show the domestication of the white suburban family. This show was directed by the student Izzy Christus, and while there were quite a few bumps in the road in the making of this show, she managed to pull it off spectacularly nonetheless.  
  
Linus Larrabee, Jr, played by Zen Langley, has amazing characterization and his stage presence kept everyone's attention. His attitude, enunciation, and comedic timing are all quite impressive and admirable. Another exceptional performance came from the actress Hannah Butts who played Sabrina Fairchild. Her energy as Sabrina is so refreshing and exciting, it brings a bright and bubbly feeling to the show which is very important for its progression. Her deliverance of monologues and one-liners are so smooth and her transitions were phenomenal. The final twist at the end is quite the surprise and played so well, definitely a performance to remember.  
  
Another spectacular aspect to mention is the set. While some parts of the set are borrowed, everything else is student built, which is quite impressive. The beautiful porch, the amazing archway, and the wonderful bench setting all added to the aesthetic of riches and glamor. The most exquisite part of the set is in Act 2 when they were using the fairy lights as most of the lighting. It truly added to the atmosphere and ambiance, and the feeling of temptation from the characters because of this echo of light.   
  
This play was absolutely stupendous and unforgettable. While the acting was phenomenal, a few characters closed themselves off, or completely turned away from the audience while speaking. But, besides this minor mishap, this show went beyond its origin's expectations, and challenged the minds of its audience. Everything about this show was elegant, each transition of scenes was so smooth and quiet, basically seamless. The women's dresses were gorgeous, and the men's suits were very fitting. This show was about growing, and blooming into a new person. Hopefully, this show inspires others to bloom as well.  
  
  
by Ash McMillen of Belton High School  
  
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LE PLUS JUSTE DE TOUS  
  
"Who is the fairest of them all" is a deservedly famous question pulled from the magical world of Disney Princess Snow White. Although this play is not the tale of Snow White, it answers the seemingly complicated question with one name, Sabrina. OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL tells the story of a sort of contrefaï¿½on Cinderella in their amazing production of SABRINA FAIR by Samuel A. Taylor.   
  
SABRINA FAIR is a 1950s romantic comedy that first ran on Broadway in November of 1953. It focuses on the exciting life of Miss Sabrina Fairchild, daughter of a chauffeur to the wealthy Larrabee family. After five years in Paris working for the government, when she returns home to Long Island, she is not the ï¿½domestic' little girl the family had remembered. Sabrina is full of energy and ready to see the world, but not without some challenges in her love life. This play introduces David Larrabee, the childhood crush; Paul, the rich French admirer; and Linus Larrabee, the playboy older brother. Audiences got to see this love square unfold a total of 318 times on Broadway.   
  
Sabrina Fairchild, played by actress Hannah Butts, is a charming young woman with a newfound love of living after finding beauty in Paris. Hannah does a wonderful job reflecting that in her character by using quick, pointed movements and body language. Hannah also has amazing diction that allows the audience to understand every word she speaks. Despite the proposals from David and Paul, Sabrina falls for the older Larrabee brother, Linus Larrabee, Jr. played by Zen Langley. From the moment Langley steps on stage, his presence is captivating and it is clear that he understands the depths of his character personality. He matches the energy of Sabrina and uses large gestures to fill up his space on stage.   
  
The charm of Linus Larrabee Jr. is not random. It is a direct genetic trait passed down from his father, Linus Larrabee, Sr., played by Cruz Lewis. This character is written to bring comedic relief to the otherwise serious play, and Lewis exceeds the expectation. He uses good projection and nearly perfect comedic timing to achieve this. His counterpart, Maude Larrabee, is played by the gorgeous Maya Horn. Her character is a modern and logical mother, taking on the role of the head of the family. Horn has consistent, mature body language and tone of voice that only add to the sophistication of her character.   
  
Although some of the monologues seemed unnatural, all of the performers truly did an amazing job at keeping the energy high and exciting. The technical aspects of OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL also deserve to be recognized. Despite the many challenges this crew faced to put on this show, they came together and made it all worth it. The set was well thought-out and fills a big space while still keeping the stage open. Lighting contributed to the feel and mood of the play, using warmer lights in the evening and brighter lights during the day.   
  
In the end, Sabrina is proven to be the Fairest of them all in this beautiful production by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL.  
  
  
by Kayla Watts of Belton High School  
  
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GODDESS OF THE SILVER LAKE  
  
Society has deemed social status to determine the happiness of a person. However, everyone has their own struggles, faults, and hardships. Love can determine happiness but does not care who you are, what you do, or where you come from. It finds you when you least expect it. SABRINA FAIR takes its audience through an unexpected journey to find the true meaning of happiness.   
  
This 1950s play is written by Samuel A. Taylor and takes place in an upper-class neighborhood on Long Island. This light-hearted and fun-loving play, performed by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL, is about a young woman who returns from Paris to visit her family at her childhood home. Within the first few weeks of her homecoming, it is established that two men are in love with her and want to settle down. The issue is that she fears domesticity and coincidentally falls for the man who shares this same fear. This romantic comedy sets the mood for surprise and heartwarming fun.   
  
Hannah Butts performs Sabrina Fairchild beautifully. She is the driving force behind the entire play and brings an exciting presence to each scene. Her outstanding facial expressions, body movement, and relatability keep the audience engaged. She charms the audience through her sense of realism by using grand gestures, diction, and vocal inflection. Zen Langley as Linus Larrabee Jr. catches the eyes of the audience with his stage business, body language, and the snarky diction of his character. He creates a sense of snobbery and follows this characterization with a more relatable and sensitive side to the otherwise wealthy character.   
  
Maya Horn and Cruz Lewis have the most charming chemistry onstage as Maude Larrabee and Linus Larrabee Sr. They both have dramatic characterization, vocal projection, and stage presence. Maya Horn completely embodies her motherly character and creates large movements even when her blocking is static. Cruz Lewis commands the stage every time he walks out and demonstrates the stereotypical presence of an oblivious father from the 50s. Charles Carter does a fantastic job as David Larrabee Jr. by maintaining engaging stage business and creating a goofy persona for the youngest Larrabee. Every one of these performers is extremely admirable in their determination and commitment.   
  
The set and direction of SABRINA FAIR bring the entire show together. Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett create a set that is realistic to the 50s time period and use textures, depth, and soft color schemes to appeal to the audience. The direction of Izzy Christus is by far the most admirable aspect of this production. Her direction of hilarious stage business, striking facial expressions, dramatic vocal inflection, and insightful blocking make for an exquisite performance. Izzy Christus has a bright future as a theatrical director!   
  
Although the music does follow the mood and setting of the show, the music is recognizable and that makes it distracting for the audience. However, the sound crew does a remarkable job at timing the sound effects. The costume crew picks suitable outfits for each of the characters, however, they do not particularly fit the time period. The costumes match very well with the set and each situation.  
  
All in all, the cast and crew perfectly execute this play with outstanding diction, stage direction, character development, set design, and physical movements. SABRINA FAIR is a play that leaves the audience feeling giddy, poetic, and lovestruck.  
  
by Leilani Jones of Belton High School  
  
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OVER THE SEA, NOT SO FAR AWAY  
  
From the auditorium howls the Long Island sea, mimicking the love and adventure in the air. OAK PARK's production of SABRINA FAIR calls to all walks of life, undoubtedly an enthralling experience no one that ever craved whimsy can ignore. Suitors and audiences alike would travel across the sea and sky to see Sabrina Fairchild in OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's production of SABRINA FAIR.  
  
Not unlike today, SABRINA FAIR was a hit among its 1953 release, running on Broadway for 318 performances. SABRINA FAIR is the basis of the film "Sabrina" airing a year after the play's release.  Playwright Samuel Taylor curated the perfect romantic comedy, reimagining the classic Cinderella story as a creative comedy of quirky characters. The play follows Sabrina Fairchild as she comes of age, recognizing her new high place in society as she's chased by several suitors before finding her Prince Charming.   
  
Sabrina's jovial energy represents the sense of adventure that lives in all people, and there's no one better to enliven Sabrina than Hannah Butts. Butts never allows a moment on stage to go flat, always providing interest and adding more to her character as the play progresses. Even more impressive is her on-stage chemistry with Zen Langley, as Linus Larrabee, Jr. Together the two make a duo you can't turn away from.   
  
Contrasting Linus Larrabee, Jr., is his brother, David Larrabee. Charles Carter does an outstanding job at not only understanding all the depths of his character, but defining them separately from his costars. Furthermore, Carter demonstrates impeccable comedic timing, adding yet another layer to his character. Similarly, Cruz Lewis, playing Linus Larrabee, Sr., consistently has the audience wheezing. Lewis does not miss a beat, taking every comedic opportunity to the next level. Conversely, Maya Horn as Maude Larrabee commits sternly to adding an intricate layer of drama to the mix. With her extremely detailed, sharp movements and stage presence that rivals only that of Broadway performers, Horn commands the attention of the audience from every entrance to every exit.   
  
The atmosphere created by the talented actors is echoed by the technical prowess of the designers. The set, designed by Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett, establishes a beautifully romantic atmosphere with a subtle high-class touch. They perfectly balance the warmth of the show with the coldness of the plot itself. Publicity, directed by Jenna Holland and Katie Slattery, enthralls the audience even before they enter the theatre. The elegance of their designs creates the illusion of grandeur, calling audiences from far and away. With the addition of lighting (Olin Spencer, Ben Droptiny, Annie Gemmill) and costumes (Elle Miera, Sophy Marks), every visual department cohesively incorporated blue and red as staples of their color portfolio. The consistency among multiple crews is truly a marvel well beyond any high school production.   
  
With such a famous historical piece, OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL does an outstanding job of adding details subtly reminiscent of a classic romance film, especially in the props design (Gemma Murry). However, the sound and costume design inadvertently incorporated many 21st-century influences. This is more than overcome by the costume designs strong character identities and the sound departments incredibly impressive sound clarity.   
  
After all, what could be better than a Friday night transported to a beautiful Long-Island beach, surrounded by the sounds of the ocean and a beautifully hilarious story of love, independence, and the high life? You won't want to miss OAK PARK's production of SABRINA FAIR.  
  
  
by Megan Myers of Belton High School  
  
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Blooming Love at OAK PARK HIGH  
  
If you're looking for a classic romantic comedy look no further than SABRINA FAIR at OAK PARK HIGH. This show has multiple engaging and entertaining elements. From their actors to their technical support, the entirety of this show is so well rounded and put together it would be hard to miss. OAK PARK HIGH brought the 1950s of Long Island to the stage and executed it very well.  
  
Written by Samuel A. Taylor and produced in 1953, this story is based in Long Island during the 1950s. This modern Cinderella fable depicts the story of Sabrina Fairchild who has just returned from France after 5 years. Sabrina's father, Fairchild, is the family chauffeur for the very rich family the Larrabee's. Sabrina stays with this family with her father, but love is in the air and out to find this "French Cinderella". She has come home to find out if she is still in love with the younger Larrabee son, David. The elder son, Linus, a cunning and well-educated man who strives to become successful and carry on the family's wealth, finds that Sabrina has feelings for his brother, and for his own amusement lays a trap to bring them together. After multiple revelations, and the inclusion of some old friends, Sabrina finds who she truly loves.  
  
The production of this story is no less than impressive. The actors' reactions, energy, and sheer talent draw in the absolute attention of the audience. Not only is the show impressive, due to its talented actors, but the technical aspects of this show are no less than well produced. OAK PARK technical students were able to create the set, lights, and sound for this show that not only amazed the audience but helped build more into the reality of the story for the actors on the stage. Overall, this show has well performed actors as well as a very flexible and extremely gifted technical crew.  
  
When it comes to the talent and complexity of the actors for this show you can't overlook some of the more well-known lead actors such as Zen Langley's performance as Linus Larrabee, Jr. From the second Langley entered the stage, it was clear that he was a well-rounded performer. His reactions were so genuine and real, it helped draw in the audience and gift the show with some great comedic gestures. Besides Langley, another amazing lead for this show is Hannah Butts playing the role of Sabrina Fairchild. Butts really brought the character of the well-rounded love-struck French Cinderella to life on stage. Their energy onstage was extremely impressive and well-driven. Both actors where very educated and had clear performance experience.  
  
When producing a show that requires multiple side characters, a great ensemble and supporting cast is needed. OAK PARK provided this necessity flawlessly. The supporting cast consisted of a number of students such as Charles Carter as David Larrabee, Maya Horn as Maude Larrabee, and Ava Broermann as Julia Ward-McKinlock.   
  
The 50s mansion patio and garden setting for this show gave the audience a picture of a boring set and simple lighting but this show was not what any audience member would have expected. The set for this show specifically gave a good presentation throughout the show creating this colorful and elegant story outdoor space. The green turf on the floor was a nice touch that helped build a parameter for the actors to use. Besides the set, the lights for this show were impeccable. Specifically, the string lights on the patio and archway had a very warm glow during the nighttime which made everyone feel more at home and in some ways slightly romantic. Technical elements were executed well and showed the professionalism in this show.  
  
Unfortunately, some of the cast lacked articulation and clear diction, which made it difficult to understand the story, but the actors' physical gestures and movement continued to persist through the errors to keep the show running smoothly and well understood.  
  
Overall, OAK PARK HIGH's production of SABRINA FAIR was well-performed, creating a powerful and hilarious night to remember. With all aspects of this show being pulled off flawlessly and with ease, it is safe to say the audience of OAK PARK will be looking forward to their upcoming performances in the future that will no doubt be extremely successful.  
  
by Payton Edmonds of Belton High School  
  
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LOVE ON LONG ISLAND  
  
From a shy little girl to an outspoken, charming young woman. Brought together with comedic lines and a wondrous cast, SABRINA FAIR is a hilarious play that is exceptionally performed by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL!  
  
SABRINA FAIR was written as a romantic comedy in the 1950s by Samuel A. Taylor. The show revolves around Sabrina Fairchild, the daughter of a chauffeur to the ever-so-wealthy Larrabee family. The show starts off with the return of Sabrina after five years in Paris. She immediately catches the attention of the younger brother, David Larrabee, Jr. With a French suitor and David hoping to win her hand in marriage, she falls for the oldest brother, Linus Larrabee, Jr. The show ran on Broadway for a total of 318 performances and it first premiered at the National Theatre on November 11, 1953.  
  
Starring as the eccentric, fun-loving Sabrina Fairchild is Hannah Butts. Her first appearance on stage is enticing, and her energy is consistent throughout the show. She has incredible control of her movements and emotions as Sabrina. Alongside her as the cynical and business-orientated Linus Larrabee, Jr, is Zen Langley. Langley made his thoughts come to life with his facial expressions and movements on stage.  
  
Charles Carter portrays the playboy who loves to be in love David Larrabee with remarkable precision and witty charm. He nails the good-humored brother and is able to smoothly transition his emotions from one to another flawlessly. Cruz Lewis as Linus Larrabee, Sr. keeps the audience bursting with laughter with his dedication to loving funerals and forgetfulness. Maya Horn is absolutely marvelous as Maude Larrabee. Her depiction of a "helicopter mom" is spectacular and her chemistry with her friend Ava Broermann as Julia Ward-McKinlock gives nothing to be desired.  
  
The lighting, done by Olin Spencer, Ben Droptiny, and Annie Gemmill, is incredible. The change from a beautiful day in Act 1 to a party lit by stringing lights in Act 2 is particularly good. Every character is fully lit and the spotlights are in the perfect places at the right time. The lights do an amazing job of not washing anyone out and having the mood of romance present during the important moments of the show. The lights compliment the gorgeous set done by Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett. The attention to detail is phenomenal! There are vines on the walls, turf on the floor to represent grass, and the color scheme is perfect for SABRINA FAIR. There are some quick changes for quite a few characters that were faultless.  
  
While the costumes add to the romantic ambiance, they weren't always historically accurate. The colors were an impeccable choice for every character.  
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOLS's production of SABRINA FAIR is by far the fairest in the land. The show started out with a fairytale beginning and finished off with a magical evening of love.  
  
  
  
  
by Tori Bestor  of Belton High School  
  
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FROM PARIS TO THE STATES, OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL'S PRODUCTION OF Sabrina Fair IS SURE TO LEAVE AUDIENCES EVERYWHERE SMILING   
  
The play SABRINA FAIR follows Sabrina, a young girl returning from 5 years in Paris during the 1950s. Sabrina is the daughter of a chauffeur to a very rich family; of whom's estate she and her father have lived since she was born. Her visit home is filled with friendship, love, and the reveal of a family secret that changes her life forever. In this rags-to-riches rom-com, Sabrina learns the importance of following one's heart to its true destination. The students of OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL brilliantly pull in all the romantic aspects of this play and bring it to life on stage.   
  
The set built by the students of OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL is absolutely draw-dropping. The set crew truly went above and beyond to bring the stage to life. Filled to the brim with greenery, patio furniture, and drop-dead gorgeous details the set, while stagnant through the show, filled the stage nicely and was truly stunning to look at. An unforgettable moment was when the curtains opened for act two and the entire set was illuminated with fairy lights that set up the romantic attitude of act two. Elleanna Miera and Sophie Marks truly outdid themselves with the costumes. Each costume fits the characters and what they're trying to achieve in that act. A few notable costumes was the opening dress for Maude Larrabee, played by Maya Horn, which was a ravishing black dress with dramatic sleeves that portrayed the classiness and romanticism that came with that character. Another strong choice was with the main character, Sabrina, played by Hannah Butts. Sabrina's evening gown and closi  
ng dress both had a sweetheart neckline, which stunningly played into the romanticism of Sabrina's character.   
  
The actors in this production were also phenomenal. Maya Horn did a marvelous job of portraying the character of Maude Larrabee. Her attitude and energy was consistent throughout the entire show and her dedication to her characterization really shone on stage. Additionally, Alando Matheny-Banuelos playing Paul D'Argenson: while we didn't get him until the 4th act, he never failed to make the audience laugh. From the moment Matheny-Banuelos stepped onto the stage twirling his handlebar mustache, the audience was laughing.  His accent was hilarious and his humorous timing was impeccable, leaving the audience wishing he was on stage the entire time!   
  
OAK PARK's truly marvelous set, costumes, and amazing actors are just a few of the many wonderful things to come from this production. This production of SABRINA was truly brought to life leaving audiences laughing and considering their adventures in Paris!  
  
by Emmalee Lockwood of Grain Valley High School  
  
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Oak Park's SABRINA FAIR Turns Heads  
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL Theatre has done it again in their fabulous production of SABRINA FAIR! The sheer talent displayed throughout the musical from both cast and crew was absolutely paramount in their flawless execution of the production, leaving audiences hungry for more.   
  
SABRINA FAIR follows the story of a young woman named Sabrina, who has just returned from her long stay in Paris. Her father, a chauffer for a wealthy businessman, Linus, Sr., is adamant for her return. Linus, Sr.'s two sons, David and Linus, Jr., battle over Sabrina. With the two pitted against one another in a fight for Sabrina's love, she must choose.   
  
Hannah Butts (Sabrina Fairchild) served the audience with an unforgettable performance. Her delivery and expression were the most prominent amongst the many fine qualities possessed by the talented actress shown during the production. Cruz Lewis (Linus Larrabee Sr.) possesses excellent comedic timing, always leaving audience members gasping for air. He displays excellent theatrical instinct and always executes an amazing performance.   
  
Maya Horn (Maude Larrabee) was the heart and soul of the program. She both spoke and moved with brilliance and maturity, her stage presence never unnoticed as she graced the audience with a spectacular performance. Maya brings the show together in a way that only a true professional can. She is an excellent display of a superior theatre performance.   
  
The technical parts in the show were outstanding. The Beach/Patio set created by Cameron Burns and Bella Parrett showed great creativity and craftsmanship that added so much to the aura of the performance. The astonishing floral arrangements and bright string lights did an amazing job of filling the large canvas while still maintaining the open feeling of a back patio.   
  
Although there were many highs within the performance there were also qualities that could be deemed "fixable". The lighting in the show was also slightly underwhelming given the great potential with the show. There are also slight issues involving the limited characterization actors played, leaving the audience with an unsatisfied craving for more.   
  
OAK PARK put on an amazing show that is sure to turn heads. The overall level of creativity and professionalism is nothing short of incredible and does not go unnoticed.  
  
  
by Jackson Temples of Grain Valley High School  
  
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SABRINA FAIR IS DAZZLING AT OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL  
  
SABRINA FAIR put on by OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL was such a dazzling night. With a beautiful set design of a glamorous backyard that's always filled with parties and drama, it is sure to be a wild ride.   
  
SABRINA FAIR is about a chauffeur's daughter who goes to Paris for five years to then comes back home as a changed woman who is now seen differently. The two sons of Linus Larrabee Sr and Maude Larrabee, Linus Larrabee Jr and David Larrabee both are in love with Sabrina. The plot unfolds from there, and Sabrina's father, Fairchild, employed by the Larrabees as their driver, makes things even more complicated.   
  
The show is led by Hannah Butts (Sabrina Fairchild) and Zen Langley (Linus Larrabee Jr). Hannah shows such great range of emotion and is incredibly funny. Zen has great comedic timing and really understands how to make his performance capture the audience. Both of them have incredible chemistry together and with other performers as well.   
  
The parents of Linus Jr and David, Linus Larrabee, Sr (Cruz Lewis) and Maude Larrabee (Maya Horn) are very important parts of the show. Cruz Lewis has such a capability of being comedic and dramatic. There were so many scenes where he was fighting or screaming with Charles Carter (David Larrabee) and he did a fantastic job displaying those emotions. His chemistry with Maya was perfect and Cruz's jokes landed every time. Maya did such a great job balancing out the high energy of Cruz. She plays such a fantastic rich mother of two sons on opposite ends of the spectrum.   
  
The set was beautiful and it included a running fountain. The lighting was so well done and was consistent throughout the show and little twinkle lights were on during the nighttime scenes which was a very great detail that was so beautiful. The costumes were very elegant and evoked the affluent lifestyle that the Larrabees are. The formal party outfits were fantastic.   
  
The mics have some sound issues, but that was all the technical issues this play had.   
  
This show being directed all by a student, Izzy Christus, is the best part about this show. It is such an incredible achievement a student can make and she did such an amazing job. She created such a beautiful show to watch, full of engaging visual and aural aspects that are so incredibly impressive for a high school student.   
  
  
by Kira Potter of Grain Valley High School  
  
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OAK PARK IS BACK IN STYLE WITH SABRINA FAIR!  
  
You may not have heard of SABRINA FAIR, but you will not forget once you have watched OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL'S SABRINA FAIR. In SABRINA FAIR, a young woman returns from Paris to the estate of her father's boss. Her father is a chauffeur for the Larrabee family, who consists of Linus Larrabee Sr., Maude Larrabee, Linus Larrabee Jr., and David Larrabee. When Sabrina returns from Paris, she is outspoken instead of her old shy demeanor. As time goes on, Sabrina becomes romantically entangled with multiple suitors.  
  
The star of the show, Sabrina Fairchild (Hannah Butts) takes full command of the stage. She has chemistry with each different character, and it helps to complement the other characters. Linus Larrabee Jr. (Zen Langley) carries himself with confidence, has amazing comedic timing, and has wonderful physical acting. David Larrabee (Charles Carter) compliments the rest of the main characters and has great stage business.   
  
The supporting characters also shine in their own right. Linus Larrabee Sr. (Cruz Lewis) has wonderful comedic timing, captures his character's eccentricities skillfully, and interacts well with everyone else. Maude Larrabee (Maya Horn) has strong physical acting, brilliant projection and articulation, and a clear understanding of her character. Julia (Ava Broermann) offsets Maude well and brings humor into a variety of scenes. Sabrina's father, Fairchild (Elliott Randall) has strong chemistry with all of the characters and helps to clarify the difference of Sabrina from who she used to be. Paul D'Argenson (Alando Matheny-Banuelos) has amazing accent work and fits in well with the other characters.   
          
The technical aspects of the show are impressive. The set (Cameron Burns, Bella Parrett) is expressive, detailed, and contributes to the overall story of the play; a functioning fountain is included and white picket fences are present everywhere to represent a large idea from the play. Props (Gemma Murry) are historically accurate, detailed, and add to the overall quality. Lighting (Olin Spencer) is beautiful and helps to tell the story, as well as set the mood for each scene; it is also used to highlight important aspects of the play. The costumes (Elleanna Miera, Sophy Marks) are gorgeous and fit each character perfectly, even as the costumes change from scene to scene.  
  
There are some issues with mics, but that is common for shows. Underlying music often helps to contribute to the atmosphere of the show and given scenes. All actors clearly knew their lines, but occasionally it seems as if some actors are uncomfortable with their lines. All of the actors do an excellent job taking up space on the stage, but often they have their backs to the audience.   
  
All in all, audiences should go see OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL'S SABRINA FAIR! The actors do amazing jobs, and the technical aspects are to die for.   
  
  
by Emma Lewis of Grandview High School  
  
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No Domesticated Lifestyles Allowed!  
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL takes the audience on the comedic romance story of SABRINA FAIR.  
  
This play takes place in the early 1950s at the luxurious Larrabee home in Long Island, New York. The beautiful and newly sophisticated Sabrina Fairchild surprises her father's longtime employers and her once childhood friends, the Larrabees, after being away for five years. She goes through the emotional roller coaster of seeing old crushes, forgetting present engagements, and landing into potential new ones. Sabrina definitely has her work cut out for her if she wants to establish how to ensure she doesn't land in the "domesticated life" she grew up seeing. This play was written by Samuel A. Taylor in the early 1950s.   
  
The idealistic, yet now wiser Sabrina Fairchild (Hannah Butts) really conveyed how no one has to keep up with the "status quo" in order to achieve the life they wish to have. She managed to grab the audience's hearts by wanting to live her fairytale life. The cynical, scheming playboy Linus Larrabee Jr. (Zen Langley) begins by teasing Sabrina about her childhood crush on his brother David (Charles Carter) all while subtly and subconsciously showing Sabrina that he can give her the life of her dreams all while not falling to those domesticated roles.   
  
The slight misogynistic and overall chaotic Linus Larrabee Sr. (Cruz Lewis) brought laughter to the audience as he tries yet completely fails to grasp whatever control he possibly has left of his household.  After being completely oblivious to one of his sons committing scandals and the other trying to marry his employee's, Fairchild's (Elliot Randall), daughter. With the wonderful comedic timing and one too many drinks Julia Ward-McKinlock (Ava Broermann) surely managed to grab a few laughs with her witty lines and comedic words of wisdom.   
  
The set was wonderfully constructed (Cameron Burns, Bella Parret) and it managed to bring in that fairytale aspect to the 1950s modern day backyard. The flowers added around the stage and set were a nice touch to really bring in that idea of romance. The costumes chosen by Elleanna Miera and Sophy Marks were beautiful in showing high society with the diamond necklaces and nice dresses. The lights, done by Olin Spencer and Ben Droptiny, added subtle warm tones of romantic moments and really did well in the transitioning between night and day.   
  
While the show was such a fun and heartfelt time filled with wonderful sets, technical aspects, and character details, there were some factors that were lost. At times, there could be many bangs heard through the speakers that at times made it very hard to pay attention to the actors. Also, though the costumes were a nice touch, there could have been slightly more research into looking for time-appropriate costumes that still would have worked.   
  
Overall the production definitely placed the audience on an emotional rollercoaster. From laughter to a relatable moment of being a hopeless romantic OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL definitely had the audience wanting to see if their "little daughter of a chauffeur" was going to get her ideal marriage.   
  
  
  
by Marshell West of Grandview High School  
  
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NOT SO LITTLE ANYMORE  
  
OAK PARK HIGH presents SABRINA FAIR, a play written by Samuel Taylor. It's an enthralling romantic comedy where a lady, who is all grown up, returns to her hometown after five years away in Paris, where everyone remembers her as a little girl. Though, they quickly find out she is no longer that little girl. The Larrabee brothers quickly both become smitten with her.  
  
Sabrina Fairchild, portrayed by Hannah Butts, is exceptional at captivating Sabrina's bubbly and vivacious personality. She seems to brighten the stage when she walks on. She also creates believable chemistry with everyone she encounters on stage.  
  
David Larrabee, portrayed by Charles Carter, makes active character choices while on stage and has an emotionally powerful monologue about wishing to marry Sabrina. He also helps create a believable brotherly bond with Linus. There was great comedic timing in the sibling-like squabbles between the two of them, keeping the audience glued to their seats and entertained.   
  
Linus Larrabee, Jr, portrayed by Zen Langley, is strong at creating chemistry between characters. He and Sabrina demonstrate strong romantic chemistry which is shown throughout their relationship- even with its ups and downs. He also has a believable relationship with his father, and during their interactions, there is strong comedic timing- it must run in the family.   
  
Linus Larrabee, Sr, portrayed by Cruz Lewis, is compelling at embracing his character and taking the stage. He has a strong voice and commands attention when he is on stage. He creates a believable character and has strong comedic timing throughout the show.   
  
Maude Larrabee, portrayed by Maya Horn, is extremely charismatic and makes active character choices throughout the show. She is motherly, but also a friend to multiple characters in the show, including Julia Ward-McKinlock portrayed by Ava Broermann who offers comedic relief throughout the show.  
  
The costumes, by Elleanna Miera and Sophy Marks, throughout the entire show, are gorgeous, and there are consistent details between characters. The set created by Cameron Burns had great detail and created a romantic atmosphere throughout the show. The lights by Olin Spencer were an excellent addition to the show. The lights in the opening and ending scenes were captivating as they started and ended strong. While there were some slight technical issues with the mics, it did not take away from the magic being created on stage.   
  
Let us look forward to the next production that OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL proudly presents!  
  
by Samantha Overman of Grandview High School  
  
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LA FILLE DU CHAUFFEUR  
  
Sabrina Fairchild comes home from France after five years, questioning everything she's ever known about herself. The boy she's had a crush on her whole life likes her back, but is that really what she wants anymore? What does she want? Is marriage just an exchanging of assets or is it more than that? See for yourself how powerful true love really is in OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's SABRINA FAIR.  
  
SABRINA FAIR originally opened in 1953 and has since been the subject of two movie adaptations. The story follows Sabrina Fairchild, the typical girl-next-door. She's the daughter of a chauffeur that works for (and lives with) a very well-to-do family. This family, the Larrabees, is all she's known her whole life. That is, until she decides to move to France. She was so unremarkable that the family hardly even noticed she was gone until she returned to the home after five years, a completely different person. The girl who was once timid and blended into the background is now self-assured and full of energy that fills any room that she's in. In fact, she's so different that some of the Larrabee family doesn't even recognize her. She came home to reevaluate what she really wanted in life.  
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL'S performance put a fun, comedic spotlight onto the Larrabee home, filling it with unique and distinct characters in a setting so full of life that it feels like the audience is really there.  
  
Sabrina Fairchild, as portrayed by Hannah Butts, is a charismatic character whose confidence in oneself is evident. She is full of energy and life the audience can tell just how distinct this new personality is from her former persona. Even more so, her chemistry with the eldest son of the house, Linus Jr. is palpable even before the characters even realize they're interested in each other. Speaking of, Zen Langley's performance as Linus Jr. is impeccable. His wealth is evident by his stature and his poshness as an heir to such a huge company is clear. He's even more outwardly confident than Sabrina, even though underneath he's questioning just as much about what he wants out of life.  
  
David Larrabee, as personified by Charles Carter, is the younger brother, who is closer to Sabrina in age, and is the one Sabrina falls for as a child. David isn't quite as confident as his brother, having just experienced a divorce, but he still has some charm. Maude Larrabee (Maya Horn) is the mother of the house. She's assertive but very elegant. The audience could tell her wealth by her stature and the way she carried herself. She is outwardly a bit colder of a mother, but you can tell she truly cares about her children, even if she's reluctant to at times. She is married to Linus Larrabee, Sr. (Cruz Lewis), the father, whose comedic timing and cluelessness was clear and effective.  
  
The technical aspects of the show worked the most to really place the audience in the setting. The lighting made the times of day of the scenes clear, especially in the evening when there were more purple tones and on-set lighting. In the finale, the changing of the lighting was impactful in highlighting a particularly romantic moment. The ambient sound and music also added a lot, with a subtle but effective presence throughout the show. The set itself was beautiful, full but now crowded, with excellent and bountiful flora, and was realistic for the family's level of wealth.  
  
Witness the importance of true love at OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's SABRINA FAIR.  
  
  
by Sophia Martin of North Kansas City High School  
  
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OAK PARK HAS GONE SAILING  
  
It's not every day someone gets to go see a well executed rom-com, but OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL does an amazing job at doing just that. Any person of any age could enjoy the show. From the hinted obscene jokes to the colorful costumes and voice inflections, SABRINA FAIR is a show for all ages.  
  
As the curtain opens, the set pieces are revealed. Beautifully spaced pieces of a Long Island feel, everything was clear, including the actors as they entered stage. The movement was fluid and lines were clear. Everything about the show was clear and, again, SABRINA FAIR is a must see.  
  
Linus Jr., played by Zen Langley, was an outstanding lead actor in SABRINA FAIR. Langley was more than fit for his role. From screaming matches to being comfortable with being belittled by his peers. The passion delivered in every line was felt through the audience during the entire play. Hannah Butts, who played Sabrina Fairchild, was partnered throughout SABRINA FAIR with multiple suitors. Butts was certainly casted perfectly and will go very far with her skills and character devotion.  
  
Each supporting character had their own insight to give to the plot. From Linus Sr., played by Cruz Lewis, to Margaret, played by Ginger Jones. Every single one of them was important to the story and contributed to the fluidity wonderfully. Lewis did an amazing job at conveying his characters comedic remarks and anger into one. It's not every day a person gets to see a true, young commedia dell'arte actor.  
  
On the note of sound, every little thing on stage was understood and fitting. Mic levels were never an issue. The background music was hardly noticeable until it was quiet. The running fountain wasn't distracting yet still gave the effect of being near moving water in Long Island.   
  
Keeping the audience devoted to the show was not an issue for this cast. Outside of a few mic pops and sound issues, SABRINA FAIR was fantastically well done. There certainly was not a question about the plot and every line was delivered clearly.   
  
SABRINA FAIR is a must see show. OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL did a fantastic job at conveying everything from the set to the outfits of the character. Everything was all matched together and aligned with the individuality of each character. Always remember the importance of an evening sail.   
  
  
  
by Beau Burnett of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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Le Thï¿½ï¿½tre Fait Vivre  
  
  
From setting cues to acting on the stage, the theatre has always been a memorable and relishing place for many. With that, in OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's SABRINA FAIR, the audience are engaged with the story of love and value. Starring a girl who has to decide what values she should pertain to, and how her experience in France brings her values to her final conclusion. And OAK PARK expresses and interprets the play into a true rendition of theatrical acting with comedic relief and romantic moments for everyone to enjoy.   
  
Throughout the short stories, the general idea of love and work is very much present. Thematic representation with comedic dialogue is meant to convey and question the value of love, and the nasty societal pressure that comes along with it. This play is well used within the United States for its romantic story and the subtle uniqueness within the plot. The play was so successful that two movies were made of it, with one of the movies starring Harrison Ford. Anything with that man in it is definitely worth watching.  
  
In multiple scenes, Zen Langley (Linus Larrabee Jr.)  and Hannah Butts (Sabrina Fairchild) take the attention of the audience with very emphasized gestures and an extravagant skill of displaying emotion. Their conflicts with each other convey the audience with the idea of love; and there is no doubt that acting from both actors have led them to being considered lead roles. Zen perfectly portrays a successful young wealthy man while Hannah characterizes the role of Sabrina extravagantly.  
  
With no doubt the supporting actors are very important to bring out the plots and the setting. The supporting actors and actresses in SABRINA FAIR such as Charles Carter (David Larrabee) and Maya Horn (Maude Larrabee). From watching Maya give so much detail and emotion into a godmother like character, to David showing amazing awkward subtleness to bring his character to life. Both actors are amazing examples of strong supporting characters.  
  
Furthermore, throughout the performances rise and fall of melodramatic disposition, when the setting and mood changes; lights under control of Olin Spencer truly captivates the audience and illuminate the show's characters to a level of excellence. Costumes done by Elleanna Miera and Sophy Marks express the emotion and personality that the characters resemble so beautifully.  
  
  
 At times, the audience do find themselves lost with sound audio being cut off; which leads off into confusion between the depth of audio. And although the set was absolutely astonishing, the use of the stage was not fully taken advantage of by the actors nor lighting. Now although these inferences may seem cynical, by no means does the production truly suffer from these flaws.  
  
Subsequently, without a doubt, this show molds a sense of emotional closure. OAK PARK's performance of a romantic comedy not only makes great use of costumes and resources, but also scribes an epiphany of the complicated nature of love and forgiveness. By the end of the show a calm sense of serenity and restitution seeps into the audience's hearts; which is significantly rare among high school theatre. For that the show deserves gratitude and appreciation. Well done.  
  
  
by Douglas Crawford of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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SABRINA GOES FROM PARIS TO OAK PARK  
  
There are two types of men in the world; those who you can marry but don't want to, and those who you want to marry but can't. For a young simple chauffeur's daughter, she lives by these standards as she returns to the Larrabee estate from Paris. She's admired the family since she was a child and now takes her chance to excel while she spends five grand years in Paris. Will the changes in her life awaken the Larrabee's thoughts? Or will she still remain as the chauffeur's daughter? OAK PARK's production of SABRINA FAIR will explore the household of the Larrabees and expose their feelings.  
  
Written by Samuel Taylor, SABRINA FAIR hit the stage on November 11, 1953. There are many versions of this romantic comedy, the commonly known one staring Harrison Ford as Linus Larrabee. The original 1954 released had stared Audrey Hepburn as naive Sabrina Fairchild and Humphrey Bogart as older brother Linus Larrabee. The show presents a young shy girl who lived above the garage of the Larrabee household. Daughter of the chauffeur had secretly adored and admired the Larrabees. After time in Paris, she comes out of the shy shell in which she lay in and surprises everyone when she comes back, minus Linus Larrabee Jr. As she explores what she wants in her life, there is no doubt that family drama was to stir up all around her.  
  
Hannah Butts (Sabrina Fairchild) grabs the attention of the audience as she runs into view with joy and excitement as her character returns from Paris. Her characterization and facial reactions are clear and she paces her lines brilliantly throughout the scenes. Butts works very well with Zen Langley (Linus Larrabee Jr) who has a distinguishing character of wittiness and sarcasm. Keeping the audience in the loop, he is always sure to give time for reactions. Langley takes time to understand his character as he fully goes into depth as this young adult. His diction is well appreciated as the audience can tell immediately what he says without question.  
  
Every actress and actor on stage makes characterization a priority. Amongst them Maya Horn (Maude Larrabee) shows amazing character, from facial expressions to reactions towards other characters emotions and arguments, Horn stands out on stage. Cruz Lewis (Linus Larrabee Sr) is another actor who shows major character. His funny and witty reactions leaves the audience in laughter. Lewis shows emotion that his character has to the point of perfection. He and his fellow cast members went hard to work for this production and it shows.  
  
From the backdrop to the small props, everything within the set fits in with the story and there is nothing out of place. (Cameron Burns and crew) The stone wall is sharp with detail, there is not a small thing that marks the set as unmatched or random. The lighting (Olin Spencer Lopez and crew) is amazing. They did an amazing job highlighting the time of day or setting in on making the scene feel romantic.  
  
Every character shows great character movement and technical features are truly amazing. On the other hand some actors speak too fast and their words can get jumbled up or skip a second of comic relief reaction. On the technical side, they had their fair share of small issues throughout the show. Other than that, the show was put on really well.  
  
Sometimes our futures are directed by love or love is chosen to be ignored and saved for later. We may not know, but a simple scratch on the knee can lead to you realizing that maybe you've always loved someone. Whether it's a flight to Paris or a conversation at a party. We follow in footsteps all our lives, in the words of Harrison Ford, "Save me Sabrina Fair, you're the only one who can."   
  
  
by Emma Crawford of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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Dripping in Wealth and Comedy  
  
Love triangles are an age-old trope. From Shakespeare to Twilight, people have watched with peeled eyes for centuries. SABRINA FAIR at OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL brings this trope to the stage with some hilarious comedy and some genuinely heartwarming moments. It is not a show to miss.  
  
Sabrina Fairchild (Hannah Butts) grew up the strange child of a wealthy family's chauffeur, but all changes after she returns from her stay in Paris a brand new woman and of interest to three different men. Will she settle down with her childhood crush David Larrabee (Charles Carter) or pursue his business-minded older brother Linus Jr. (Zen Langley)? Or perhaps she'll chase an old fling back in the City of Love with Paul D'Argenson (Alando Matheny-Banuelos). Find out how this love triangle ends and the hilarious mishaps along the way at OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's production of SABRINA FAIR.   
  
This show has a lot of talent to bring to the stage. A talent that sweeps the audience up in his shenanigans and charm is Zen Langley in his portrayal of Linus Larrabee Jr. It takes a true talent to make an audience fall in love with an egotistical and controlling rich kid, but Langley does so with ease. His acting is delivered with confidence. He manages a mischievous nature as well as a surprisingly soft romantic side. He makes it work. Langley just might be someone to keep an eye on in the future.   
  
There must be something in the water at the Larrabee house because the talent does not end with the son. His mother, Maude, played by Maya Horn, is more than enjoyable to watch. Maya Horn commands the stage with her strong voice and ability to capture her character's wealth with her rich feel. Cruz Lewis brings her husband, Linus Sr., to life with incredible comedic timing and a perfect impression of an old man. Every time he comes on stage, you know you are in for a good laugh. The whole supporting cast is wonderful, without a single weak performance in the bunch.   
  
The show would not be a show without tech. The lighting, by Olin Spencer, Ben Droptiny, and Annie Gemmill, is on-point throughout the entire show. The lighting manages to draw the audience into the world. The audience gives "ooo"s and "aww"s when the curtain opens on the second act and the night scene is set. The lighting team sets the tone for the show well.  
  
What may be one of the most impressive things about this show is its student director, Izzy Christus. The show is so well done, that one would never have known it was directed by a student. The actors fill the stage, making good use of space, and the blocking is rarely boring. There are some places that could use improving. For example, at multiple places in the show, people have their backs to the audience or exits take too long, but none of these things ruin the show by any means. It is an excellent show with its wit and fun characters. The director does a great job bringing that to life.  
  
SABRINA FAIR is a unique take on an old story. Whether people want a love story or a comedy, with SABRINA FAIR at OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL, one can have it all.  
  
  
by Grace McKee of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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WHO'S SABRINA?  
  
Love can be difficult. When you are a bright and adventurous person such as Sabrina Fairchild, there are a lot of options. The childhood crush, the rich Frenchman, the playboy, how can she choose? OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL shows how Sabrina makes this difficult choice in their beautiful production of SABRINA FAIR.  
  
SABRINA FAIR was written by Samuel Taylor in 1953. The show is a romantic comedy about chauffeur's daughter Sabrina Fairchild after she returns from her studies in France. This comedic story shows the audience all the different ways love can bloom.  
  
This production had an exceptional cast. Each member truly embodied their character and had a strong stage presence. The loveable leading lady, Sabrina Fairchild, was played by Hannah Butts. Butts did a marvelous rendition of the character. She had the quirky energy needed to portray this bold yet graceful character. The smooth leading man, Linus Larrabee Jr., was played by Zen Langley. Langley also had great energy. He portrayed the charming playboy role wonderfully. Langley and Butts worked together incredibly. Their lines bounced off of each other which kept the show from dragging. A truly brilliant performance from both cast members.  
  
The supporting roles for this show also did exceedingly well. Maude Larrabee, mother of Linus and David, was played by Maya Horn. Horn gave this role her all and really brought life to this character. The strict-yet-loving mother is an incredibly important part of the show and Horn did wonderfully in this role and owned the stage in her scenes. David Larrabee, the brother of Linus and childhood crush of Sabrina, was played by Charles Carter. Carter played this dorky yet charming character amazingly. His portrayal of the character made sure the audience was invested in his story. Every member of the cast played off one another incredibly and it made the entire production enjoyable to watch.   
  
The technical crew for this production did just as exceptionally as the on-stage cast. The team faced many technical difficulties before the show, however, none of this was detectable. The lighting for this show was designed in such a way that it truly gave off the impression of a classical romance movie. The sound crew did wonderfully at creating sound effects for each element of the show. From bird sounds to soft water trickling from a fountain, this show was very immersive. The sets and costumes were absolutely beautiful. They were very beneficial to setting this romantic atmosphere.   
  
Every piece of this show came together and it was an absolutely stunning production. The charming performances from the actors paired with the beautifully immersive set design made this feel as if the audience was watching a movie. This was a very high quality show. The show exceptionally answered the question "Who is Sabrina?"  
  
  
by Katherine Hamilton of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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Moving from Paris and into The Hearts of Many  
  
In Oak Park High School's most recent performance, SABRINA FAIR, there is an absolutely amazing set, wonderful music, and talented acting that hits every comedic cue.   
  
SABRINA FAIR was written by Samuel A. Taylor, and premiered on November 11th, 1953. This hilarious play is an iconic romcom with character, Sabrina Fairchild, returning from working in Paris as a new girl to the family her father worked as a lowly chauffeur for. Now returned different, she chases her dreams while being blocked by class and social standards.   
  
The set design of this show was phenomenal. Bright, colorful and fun it appeared impossible to look away. With the set, the characters were also fun and easy to love. Each character acted with their body, used amazing diction, and delivered their line perfectly to either get a laugh from the audience, or a sound of admiration from the heartfelt and wholesome moments. The music pulled it all together while being warmed with perfect stage and set lighting.   
  
Lead actor and actress, Zen Langley and Hannah Butts stole the spotlight on stage. Zen portrayed an awkward and yet stable persona, perfect for his character. Hannah bounced with enough energy to get the audience energized with her, and her chemistry with all the other actors and actresses felt natural and fun to watch.   
  
Supporting actor and actress, Charles Carter and Maya Horn were an insane joy to watch. From Maya's sassy, motherly personality that she projected amazingly, to Charle's little sibling energy that radiated through the auditorium and had the audience falling in love with.   
  
The set was gorgeous. From the working water fountain on stage left to the hanging, string lights on stage right. Green turf, white picket fence, lounge chairs, pots and beds of plants, the set carried the perfect amount of details to keep the audience captivated and drawn into the story. The sky and ocean backdrop, added along with the lighting that highlighted important aspects of a scene, absolutely brought together the entire set. The sound was also fantastic, although there were moments of distress within the audience due to some sudden volume, but nothing the rest of the scene can't make up for!  
  
With a fun loving variety of characters, a beautiful set, and amazing actors and actresses, OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's SABRINA FAIR, is a night of many laughs, and a night to remember.   
  
  
  
by Samora Kastner of Pleasant Hill High School  
  
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THE LOVE LIFE OF THE LINUS LARRABEE (JR)   
  
Have you ever wondered why many girls are scared of commitment? Just like Sabrina Fairchild played by an amazing actress (Hannah Butts), well the answer is SABRINA FAIR- at OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL. The answer was that leaving Paris and coming back to your hometown may mean that you no longer have to worry about your French Fling, Paul D'Argenson (Alando Matheny-Banuelos) brought the show-up a knock with his appearance only in late Act 3 and Act 4... Coming back to NY and moving back into the Larrabee's house, your Childhood home. SABRINA FAIR is starting up and getting prep, was so ready to see a classic romance with some comedic characters just for spice. In the first of four acts, Sabrina comes back, but when she left she was the quiet, sheltered girl. Coming back from Pariss after 5 years she is all made over and audiences now are ready and drawn in for the second time, This time with no expectations for this plot.  
   
One of the main reasons for coming back to New York instead of getting rid of troublesome men she just doubled your issues with David Larrabee (Charles Carter), and Linus Larrabee Jr. (Zen Langley). The first time we meet Linus Larrabee Jr., Zen has such a range of emotions. His most bipolar emotion changes were usually when his character was trying to protect himself.   
  
A bunch of the bumps in this performance are most likely the lack of tech rehearsals and even though that was completely out of the cast and crew's control. A bunch of acting bumps getting worked.  
  
Now we move on to costumes. The dresses were beautiful in Act 2. There was great consistency in each character's style. More research could be done into period appropriate pieces. Making actors on stage comfortable and confident in what they're wearing. It is a difficult task, but the costumers did it so well, highlighting all of the cast's beauty.    
  
Student directing a show like this is astonishing, and Izzy Christus must have a real gift. Great Job, OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL - SABRINA FAIR cast and crew!!  
  
by Nora Schuh of Summit Christian Academy  
  
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SABRINA FAIR: A FAIR-LY SPECTACULAR SHOW  
  
Love is in the air for the Larrabee family, and its more than close to home- it's in their backyard! Sabrina Fairchild arrives back in New York after spending 5 years in the romantic city of Paris, and she's no longer the same shy little girl she once was. She has seen the world, and wants more of what it all has to offer. This 1950s romcom deals with complicated emotions, family drama, and boy troubles that all leads to a heartwarming reciprocated love.  
   
Lead actress Hannah Butts plays the stunning Sabrina Fairchild, daughter of the chauffer who goes by Fairchild. After spending quite some time in Paris and realizing the man she was with wasn't the one she loved, she comes back to the States. Hannah's performance stuns as she magnificently portrays the quirky, carefree girl. Alongside her is her childhood friend Linus Larrabee JR, a young playboy bachelor. His humorous demeanor contrasts his emotional complex as he slowly realizes he is falling for Sabrina. Both actors do a phenomenal job portraying falling in love, and their on-stage chemistry dazzles.   
  
Linus's elegant and sophisticated mother Maude Larrabee is played by OAK PARK's Maya Horn. She does a spectacular job showcasing this caring-yet-stern aristocratic woman. Her eccentric husband, Linus Larrabee Sr. is portrayed by Cruz Lewis. He's a charismatic yet charming, fun-loving yet old-fashioned gentleman, and Cruz Lewis does a spectacular job putting all those characteristics in one.   
  
All scenes take place in the Larrabee's backyard, with one side of the stage a patio and the other a garden area. Adorned with flowers and lattice pieces, the stage's addition to the romantic atmosphere is breathtaking. In addition, lighting accents curled around the stunning pergola and middle entrance provide a cozy, warm element to the production.   
  
Cast and crew do a phenomenal job helping the production transition smoothly between acts, including minor set changes and speedy costume changes. A difficulty within the production included mic difficulties, however actors handled these mishaps with quick reactions and professionalism.   
  
A spectacular romantic performance from the set to the actors onstage leaves an audience member so enchanted, they cant help but fall in love themselves!   
  
by Alex Beynon of Winnetonka High School  
  
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Bonjour, New York!  
  
All Sabrina wants is her liberty. Based in the 1950s, the young woman sets sail to Paris for independence. After a lonely five years, Sabrina goes home to New York to find the one for her. At this time, she has to marry one day a man who she would have to depend on. Sabrina finds to having trouble with such rules.   
  
This theme addresses the domesticity set on women in the 1950s throughout the touching love story in which it is based around. The play SABRINA FAIR was written in early 1950 by Samuel Taylor.   
  
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL's production of SABRINA FAIR is held up by its open and astronomical set design. Some set pieces are made by the students at OAK PARK, such as the brick wall in the back, which looks very realistic. The actors seem to be very in-touch with their characters; it captivates everyone into the scene while it happens.   
  
Zen Langley (Linus Larrabee Jr) is particularly mind-blowing. His mannerisms and theatrical talents light up the whole show. His energy was always on stage with him, and it felt as if he was Linus himself. The way he expresses his love for Sabrina without admitting it brings some tension to the story. Along with him, his co-star Hannah Butts (Sabrina Fair), is breathtaking. She keeps everyone on their toes with her independent lifestyle and how Butts brought that to life. Her french is elegant and well-rehearsed.   
  
When Supporting actress Maya Horn (Maude Larrabee) comes on stage, she powers the whole cast and outstandingly executes throughout the scenes. Supporting actor Charles Carter (David Larrabee) provides a socially awkward sense of character, and he makes it seem as if he is genuinely in love with Sabrina Fair. Comic actor Cruz Lewis (Linus Larrabee Sr.) brings a witty charm to the stage. His character's confusion about what went on around his home grabbed the audience.   
  
Some actors seem to lose themselves in character throughout the scenes. A lot of the scenes throughout the play appear to stretch out without anything much going on, and the actors feel fatigued within it. However, the costumes are very appealing and fit the scene well. The specific attire is worn to be casual or dressed up; the actors pass for a wealthy suburban family.   
  
Independence is an essential thing for SABRINA FAIR, but her love for Linus Larrabee Jr is something she needs. Every actor doesn't seem far removed from their character's lives; this ambiance comprises the play fully.   
  
  
by Chloe Powell of Winnetonka High School