



COURTESY JOHN CARROLL SCHOOL

Two seniors will be producing "Fame, Jr." for their senior project. Show times are Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of The John Carroll School, E. Churchville Road in Bel Air. Among the cast members are, back row from left, Ryann Reich, Michael Hermosa, Kai Thomas, Anderson Gray, Kevin Franiak, Brenna Patzer and Ryan Vest; and front row from left, Eric Schall, Giovanna Ward and Anna King.

John Carroll seniors present 'Fame, Jr.'

Two John Carroll School seniors are producing the musical "Fame, Jr." for their senior project and members of the community will be able to see it for free this weekend.

Joshua Robinson and Rachel Miller are fulfilling a graduation requirement that challenges students to develop, implement and then present for evaluation an independent project, during which they complete a minimum of 30 hours of field experience.

Students can choose to explore a career,

serve the community, express themselves creatively or pursue a passion.

Showtimes for "Fame, Jr." are Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of The John Carroll School, 703 E. Churchville Road in Bel Air. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Any money raised will go to support John Carroll's Senior Project program and the John Carroll Theatre Department.

The two students decided to take on such an ambitious project because they both plan on pursuing careers in perform-

ing arts. In college, Robinson will be studying arts and entertainment management and Miller will be studying choreography/dance education.

"John Carroll's Senior Project program allowed us an incredible opportunity to explore our fields of interest before we get to college," Robinson said.

The cast is comprised of members of John Carroll's award-winning theatre department and the Children's Playhouse of Maryland, and includes Anderson Gray (Carver Center for the Arts and Technol-

ogy) as Carmen Diaz; Kevin Franiak (Archbishop Curley High School) as Nick Piazza; Brenna Patzer (John Carroll) as Serena Katz; Kai Thomas (John Carroll) as Tyrone Jackson; Ryan Vest (John Carroll) as Schlomo Metzenbaum; Giovanna Ward (John Carroll) as Iris Kelly; Anna King (John Carroll) as Mable Washington; Michael Hermosa (Calvert Hall College High School) as Jose Vegas; Ryann Reich (John Carroll) as Lambchops; and Eric Schall (John Carroll) as Goody King.

Fire and ice headed for HdG next weekend

By ERIKA BUTLER
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It's the middle of winter and instead of hunkering down on the sofa, members of the Havre de Grace Alliance want to get residents outside to enjoy the season.

The first Fire and Ice Festival is planned for downtown on Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

It will be a First Fridays-type event, but with 30 lit ice sculptures throughout downtown streets, according to Bambi Johnson, executive director of the Havre de Grace Alliance. The group is sponsoring the event with the support of Visit Harford, the county's tourism organization.

"January is typically a slow month for merchants, there are no holidays and people are in the winter doldrums following Christmas and the new year," Johnson said. "This is something to pull people off their sofas, out of the winter blues."

Downtown merchants purchased ice sculptures — provided by Ice Lab in Rosedale — to be displayed in front of their businesses.

In addition to the ice sculptures, the festival includes a showing of "Frozen" for children, as well as appearances Elsa in a live Elsa show. A prince and princess will be crowned among children dressed in their favorite character for a parade. Ice carvers will provide demonstrations both days.

Visitors can play cornhole on boards made from ice and have their pictures taken on the ice throne.

And there will be snow, Johnson said,

even if it has to come from a machine.

"But the forecast is a chance for snow next weekend," she said.

On the fire side, six restaurants will compete in a chili cookoff. The winner, as determined by festival-goers who pay \$5 to taste each of the chilis, earns a trophy that will travel to the winning restaurant year to year, Johnson said.

MacGregor's will host Lord of the Wings, a hot-wing eating contest at 1 p.m. Sunday, which costs \$10 to enter. Participants will be given a plate of wings covered in "very, very, very hot sauce," Johnson said, and anyone who can finish the plate of wings moves on to the championship.

Other hot features include a fire eater, fire pits and a fire engine, she said.

The Cultural Center at the Opera House will get in on the festival when it hosts the Hot Club of Baltimore, an internationally acclaimed acoustic jazz ensemble specializing in the style known as "Le Jazz Hot," an inspiring type of swing music, on Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18 to \$20.

"Frozen" will be shown at the Cultural Center at 11 a.m. Saturday (\$6) with a live "Elsa and Friends" at 1 p.m. Sunday (\$5).

The festival kicks off Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. with a Cocktail Kindle at Vandiver Inn. Tickets are \$20 and include desserts and hot chocolate.

The Alliance hopes to make the festival an annual event, Johnson said.

"Really, we just want to bring people into downtown Havre de Grace, get in to see the merchants and add a little bit of a spark of life in the dead of winter," she said.



COURTESY BAMBI JOHNSON

Thirty illuminated ice sculptures will line the street of Havre de Grace on Saturday and Sunday as part of the first Fire and Ice Festival.