



**Cardinal Gibbons High School Drama Department presents the acclaimed
Miss Saigon**

Ft. Lauderdale, FL — The Cardinal Gibbons High School Drama Department presents its second show in its season with “Miss Saigon.”

A tragedy of passion and beauty, Miss Saigon is one of the most stunning theatrical spectacles of all time. Nominated for an incredible number of Olivier, Tony and Drama Desk Awards, Miss Saigon is the second massively successful offering from the creators of Les Misérables: Claude-Michel Schonberg and Alain Boublil, and has now been adapted for high school performers in Miss Saigon School Edition.

Based loosely on the opera Madame Butterfly, the plot follows the destinies of an American soldier, Chris, and a Vietnamese girl, Kim, who fall in love and marry amid the chaos of the Vietnam War. The fall of Saigon results in their separation and fuels the ensuing tragedy. As years pass, Chris, unable to contact Kim, remarries and attempts to move on with his life. Kim, however, gives birth to Chris' son and waits faithfully for his return. When circumstances bring Chris back to Vietnam, he learns the truth, but before he is able to speak with Kim, she takes her own life to ensure that their son will be taken back to America with his father.

Since its 1991 Broadway debut, criticism has surrounded the stereotyped depictions in “Miss Saigon” of the Vietnamese characters, especially the women. There have always been concerns about the women being victimized — although Kim can also be very fierce.

Director Erick Crow chose anyway to produce “Miss Saigon School Edition” because, as he explains, “It’s a beautiful story, the music is incredibly moving and the setting has given the students the opportunity to learn about the Vietnam War from a human perspective. Miss Saigon is an epic, musical that is filled with emotional power. The music gives our cast ample opportunities to shine.”

To prepare for their roles, students are reading and discussing articles pertaining to the Vietnam war. Crow wants the cast and crew to remove themselves from viewing war in terms of statistics but to enter the lives of those who have situations beyond their control.

The leads are handled by CGHS musical theatre veterans Juliana Rios in the role of Kim, Cameron Relicke as her beloved Chris and Nick Ribas fulfilling the part of the engineer. There is a strong supporting ensemble and technical crew, led by Alyssa Chiarello, who round out the production.



Miss Saigon has music by Claude-Michel Schönberg with lyrics by Richard Maltby Jr. and Alain Boublil, adapted from original French lyrics by Alain Boublil, with additional lyrics by Michael Mahler. Since its London premiere in 1989, the epic musical has become one of the most successful musicals in history. It has won over 40 awards including 2 Olivier Awards, 3 Tony Awards, and 4 Drama Desk Awards and been seen by over 35 million people worldwide.

PERFORMANCE TIMES

Performance run: April 3 – 5 and 10 – 12, 2020. Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

PERFORMANCE LOCATION

Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center
Nova Southeastern University
3100 Ray Ferrero Jr. Blvd., Davie, FL 33314

TICKETS

General Tickets on sale March 1, 2020 at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets \$17 in advance and \$23 at the box office. Student rush tickets for \$15 will be available for the Sunday show only.