



M362 – CSS
Columbia Secondary School
for Math, Science & Engineering

CSS Production of

Footloose

Fri., Feb. 5: 7pm
Sat., Feb. 6: 1 & 7pm
Sun., Feb. 7: 3 pm
See article for details.

Admissions News: CSS Breaks Another Record

We have received a 30% increase in high school applicants reaching an historical high of 2,355 for approximately 15 9th grade seats. 1,355 middle school applicants applied to be one of 96 6th graders entering CSS in the fall as the class of 2023.

SONYC Spring Course Registration Open

Middle school SONYC registration for the Spring afterschool term is open from Fri, 1/8 - Fri., 1/22, 2016 at 8 pm. To register, follow this link or cut and paste: <http://goo.gl/forms/95FRK5WOpW>. Questions: email mhasegawa@ywashhths.org or stop by the SONYC desk in the OSS.

High School Electives Sign-Up On Line Now

Selection due: Fri., 1/22. Form due: 8 a.m. Tues., 2/2. Follow catalog and registration links on the top right corner of every page of the CSS website (www.columbiasecondary.org) or follow the link sent out by CSS email. Questions: megan.thomas@columbiasecondary.org

REMINDER: Student pick-up and sign-out is now in Room 300.

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www.columbiasecondary.org
Newsletter Translation: Angela Peña

CSS to present *Footloose* February 5, 6 & 7

Imagine living in a small town or going to a school where dancing was prohibited, where rock n roll was outlawed. Now imagine trying to overturn those strict and silly rules. That is exactly what happens in this year's Columbia Secondary School Musical production of -- *Footloose*!

About 20% of the CSS students are a part of "Footloose," including 90 cast members and more than 40 students in the band, the design or costume crew, lighting, sound, set building and stage management. It's the first full-length Broadway show the CSS musical program will perform. Previous musicals have been adaptations or "junior" versions. *Footloose* is also not a musical in the traditional sense. Music is a huge part of the film because it accompanies the dancing, but in the original movie the actors themselves don't sing. In the Broadway -- and CSS - version, performers will be both singing and dancing.

"Doing a full-length Broadway show demands a lot more of the cast members' focus and energy to pull it all together, but they are up for the challenge," said Prof. Meredith Hill, *Footloose* co-director with parent Joey Brennenman and Prof. Daniel Attridge.

"We go for some variety and a change from the previous year," said Hill. "We wanted a show that would be different from our past two: *High School Musical* and *Guys and Dolls*. We always want to find a show with a large cast and a variety of different demands, so that we're able to cast different people as lead roles in consecutive years."

Attridge, the musical director for *Footloose* and previous CSS musicals, said organizers wanted something a "little more modern" this year.

Elaborating on the differences between the original *Footloose* and the

CSS production, Hill noted, "In the film, Kevin Bacon, who plays Ren, has a few dance numbers, but the cast doesn't really sing. Here, everyone sings and dances when the spirit moves them."



Footloose is the second production to utilize a pit band. Attridge is in the band on drums, flute and "anything else needed." The 11-member ensemble also includes a parent, one 8th grader and eight high schoolers.

So kick off your Sunday shoes and get *Footloose* on Friday, Feb. 5, Sat., Feb. 6 and Sun. Feb. 7 (see times in column on the left). The suggested donation is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Advance purchase necessary for Friday and recommended for other days. Get tickets from Roxana Bosch, OSS (503), (212) 666-1278, ext. 5034; roxanabosch@columbiasecondary.org

This article was excerpted and adapted from a piece in the online student newspaper, Columbia Pride (<http://www.cssnewspaper.com/>).

Shout-out to Parents

Parents are contributing their time and talent to the musical. Among them:

- Joey Brennenman (Zadie, class of 2020; Hallie, 2014): Co-Director
- Janet Miller (Marcus, 2017) & Sherri Semon (Luc, 2021): Costume Design
- Michele Parrella (Ethan, 2019): Media Design and Advertising Fundraising
- Arden Strasser (Alea, 2020): Piano
- Debbie Taylor-Kerman (Jules, 2021; Eli, 2017): Set Design
- Kate Wilson (Ella, 2021): Vocal Coaching

It's not too late to get involved! Look out for parent volunteer opportunities.