

Mission Viejo's Cinderella is the Slipper that Fits!
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Mission Viejo's rendition of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, retells a story of a young ingenue who wishes for the impossible to become possible. This classic romance further proves the power of kindness can go a long way.

Gliding and smiling, Cinderella (Katie McCarthy) dances with the Prince (Jack Maxwell), with her light vocals matching the softness of her face. McCarthy delivers the essence of Cinderella in, "In My Own Little Corner" acting out her wildest dreams, dancing with her broom and handkerchief to soothe herself. Her resonant vocals and warm tone encapsulate the longing for a happier life.

With grumpiness and a little bit of ugliness (on the inside), Elena Shumaker and Bella Swanson portray the humorous stepsister duo: Joy and Portia. Together, their hair-pulling, biting and scratching create a comedic catfight paired with their trill bickering and constant need to one-up each other. Swanson demonstrates a uniquely haughty yet clumsy physicality by hiking up her dress and loudly stomping and tumbling around the stage.

In "Waltz for a Ball" the townspeople waltz with excitement, spirit, and precision. They dance as one while maintaining their kooky characterization. As Grandma, Ella Njike-Chatien's hunched stance turns ferocious, using their cane as a weapon stands out alongside Emma Taylor's gossipy and animated reactions.

Like magic, the MVHS Running Crew appears and disappears between scenes, quietly moving multiple set pieces with efficiency. The stage managers, led by Parmida Ganji organize and manage over 140 lighting and sound cues and execute the production smoothly.

Inspired by the 1820's Regency time period, Hair and Makeup, led by Maya Garcia and Kristina Gist combine elegant softness and gaudiness to convey the fantasy world. The stepsister's blue eye makeup help exuberate their loud and snooty personas, drawing out their explosive reactions. Similarly, Cinderella's blueish-grey smokey eye shadow is prominent during the ball, making her appear polished and true to herself.

Lighting led by Griffin Bacon accentuates the overall fairytale feel of Cinderella. Bacon utilizes moving white lights during Cinderella's magical gown and carriage transformation to channel theatrical magic. In addition, it returns when the Prince finds Cinderella's slipper, except with pink lighting encompassing him.

In harmony, Mission Viejo's cast and crew create an enchanting classic tale that proves that dreams really do come true!