

Don't Court Prepossession and Ignorance... See Laguna Hills' Pride and Prejudice!  
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Created by Jane Kendall and based on Jane Austen's classic novel, *Pride and Prejudice* is a play set in the 1800s following the lives of five unwed sisters on pursuits for courtship, marriage, and love! Laguna Hills' production of *Pride and Prejudice* is a must-see for any romantic, brimming with attention-grabbing drama and moments full of heart-warming laughter.

Drawing attention from the second she enters, Elizabeth Bennet (Lizzy Calvano) strolls onstage with her arms spread wide, bearing a brown dress and cape directly representative of the nineteenth century. Emotion is written on Calvano's face, portraying the passionate and prideful person that is her character. She creates her own spotlight, illuminating her entire face with emotion reminiscent of an impassioned young woman, which Elizabeth Bennet so clearly is.

Full of witty and clever in-the-background moments, Mrs. Reynolds (Elisa Wager) admirably creates comedy relief as the maid to Mrs. Bennet (Sarah Hall). Wager hilariously molds character moments to bring new life to Mrs. Reynolds while simultaneously bearing an accurate Irish accent, which is admirable on its own! Filling silence with laughter, Wager does a wonderful job at bringing life to a character that is not often recognized as such.

Demanding recognition before the show begins, publicity crew does a remarkable job of spreading the excitement of Laguna Hills' production. While playing character Catherine Bennet, Lea Jacobson manages all of publicity, spreading awareness of the show by creating a *Pride and Prejudice* filter on social media; she puts a spotlight on this play by publicizing a weekly event called "Tuesday Tea", where Jacobson 'spills the tea' about show updates leading up to the production.

Lighting, solely run by Taylor Squires, intricately weaves emotion and color into this play, spotting love interests during an intimate dance and mixing soft pastel hues to create separate times of day. It's impossible to ignore how the stage becomes a pleasant shade of soft yellow whenever love interests Elizabeth Bennet (Lizzy Calvano) and Mr. Darcy (Anderson Wurth) emerge onstage. Along with swift set changes by the ensemble, this show's lighting naturally makes a smooth and seamless production.

Laguna Hills' *Pride and Prejudice* is truly an eye-opener about love and reputation, teaching vital moral lessons that genuinely make this show impossible to forget. As Elizabeth says, don't be 'blinded by prejudice'--go see this showstopper!