

Orange Lutheran offers a Fantastical Version of "Mary Poppins"
written by Hannah Pearson, a sophomore at San Clemente High School

Meet the Banks family, with their two loving children and overwhelmed parents. They live together in London until one day Mary Poppins joins them to be a nanny for Jane and Micheal. As Mary Poppins guides them on adventures filled with cheery smiles and magical scenes, the story unfolds and the cast of Orange Lutheran's "Mary Poppins" brings to life this story of family, adventure, and love.

Lindsay O'Leary shines as Mary Poppins, delivering smooth and sharp vocals that enhance her "Practically Perfect" character. With a poised demeanor, perfect posture, and a comforting expression, O'Leary illustrates the calm energy and strange nature of Mary Poppins, a figure of perfection.

Alongside O'Leary, Kyle Monson cleverly depicts the character of Bert, the charming chimney sweep and Mary's closest friend, traipsing freely across the stage with his accent and bouncy movements that embody Bert's cheerful spirit. In "Jolly Holiday," Monsoon reveals Bert's magical world to Jane and Micheal with sharply executed choreography, outstanding vocals, and amusing facials that masterfully portray the excitement that his character feels.

Shining as the eldest daughter of the Banks family, Raegan Larson portrays the character of Jane, pouting as she trudges across the stage, dragging Micheal behind her. Larson delivers excellent vocals and wonderfully portrays the young and sassy spirit of Jane as she is dragged on adventures that she is reluctant to attend.

Adding comedic relief, Mrs. Brill and Robertson Ay, presented by Faith Novak and William DePorto, work wonderfully together, playing off each other's energy as the two exasperated and exhausted maids of the Banks household. Novak's high energy and comedic relief make her appearances memorable and wildly amusing, especially when interacting with DePorto as she scolds him and he shrivels up in fear.

The Bird Women, played by Brianna and Michaela Cupsa, deliver marvelous vocals as they stroll through the park, working as one while simultaneously developing two separate personalities for their characters.

Makeup, designed and executed by Jamison Early, depicts the personalities and physical qualities of each character. Miss Andrew's accentuated cheekbones, wrinkles, and frown add to her aura of violence and fear while the red lips and simple makeup of Mary Poppins, contrast this completely, emphasizing the opposing views and values of their characters.

This magical presentation of a classic story brings smiles and laughter to all.