

Estancia's Snow-Stopping "Frozen" Warms the Coldest Hearts written by Rebecca Supran, a sophomore at San Clemente High School

Two estranged sisters- one magical, one not- plus a score of unforgettable songs equals the empowering tale of love and sisterhood that is Frozen. Estancia High School brings this beloved Disney musical to life in their colorful and fun-filled rendition that is surely worth melting for.

When Elsa's hidden powers erupt on her coronation day, her once-close bond with Anna fractures, plunging Arendelle into eternal winter. What follows is an unpredictable, heartwarming adventure- an avalanche of humor and musical sparkle that keeps the audience cheering throughout.

Keila Mendez shines as the bubbly, effervescent Anna, her playful witticisms and flailing arms capturing the beloved character with charm. Her tumble into Hans (Milton Castro) was pure comedy- hands looped around his neck, legs kicking alluringly as she landed awkwardly atop him. Her spirited presence perfectly juxtaposed Priscilla Pinedo's Elsa, the uptight and regal older sister. Pinedo kept her hands pinned to her sides, embodying Elsa's fear of harming others. Her vocals were strong and steady, belting the iconic "Let It Go" with icy confidence. A standout moment was the moving duet "I Can't Lose You," where Pinedo's dynamic vocals blended beautifully with Mendez's warm, bright tone, revealing both sisters' pain.

Another notable duo was Kristoff (Derrick Laster) and his charming reindeer Sven (Ethan Canda). Laster opened the show with a guarded stiffness, fitting his solitary, mountain-man lifestyle, Sven his only companion. His number "Reindeer Are Better Than People" was especially lovable, as he seamlessly switched between Kristoff's natural voice and Sven's invented persona. Meanwhile, Canda puppeteered with ease- tilting Sven's head to the music and flicking his ears- captivating the audience with his gentle charm.

The crew behind the scenes worked hard to bring this performance to life, ensuring every moment glided across the stage with ease. The props team, led by Zoraida Verostek, turned Oaken's shop into a delightful display of detail- rope, carrots, leis, a sword, lanterns, and countless tin cups created a perfectly organized chaos across the stage. Stage manager Nova Ras kept the massive production running smoothly, guiding the large cast and crew through every cue to bring the show together.

For a night full of heart and hilarity, don't miss the magic of Estancia High School- for "The First Time in Forever."