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Cinderella (left), played by Haven Low, talks to superhero Prince Justice (right), played by Nora Rose Grogan, during Friday's performance at The Sharon.



Ava Menasha, (left) and Taylor Woodward sing and dance Friday night during a song by the stepsisters.

Cinderella Saves the World As Children Put On Show at The Sharon

After a week of learning at theater camp, kids from first through eighth grade performed for an audience.

By KRISTEN FIORE

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Excitement filled the air backstage at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center as incoming first- through eighth-graders dressed as kittens, scientists, superheroes and "grandfolk" prepared to show an audience what they learned at theater camp.

After a week of lessons and rehearsals, the children performed "Cinderella Saves the World" for their families at The Sharon.

Everyone had a good time at the weeklong camp, which introduced the students to theater arts, teaching them techniques in design, creativity, voice projection and more.

"It was fun," said Cali Avera, 11, who played a scientist in the show. "It gets you out of the house, just really early in the morning."

The camp was hosted by Compass Creative Dramatics, a children's theater education organization that helps students perform classic shows with a modern twist.

In "Cinderella Saves the World," there is no royal ball but a tryout for a superheroes' league. Cinderella's stepsisters, who can control the weather, go because they want to be famous superheroes.

Cinderella also sneaks out to the tryouts after making a solution with the scientists that helps her talk to animals.

"I like how it is different from 'Cinderella,'" said 12-year-old Mason Mills. "It's fun to play someone else for an hour or two."

The students auditioned for and received roles on Monday and then had five days to learn the show before performing it in front of an audience.

"I'm excited but a little nervous at the same time because of how big the crowd



Superhero Cheetah, played by Noah Flynn, shows off his powers during the performance of "Cinderella Saves The World" to wrap up the week of children's theater camp.

is," said 9-year-old Eleanor Wiechens, who plays one of the grandfolk.

Overall, the students did a great job dancing, singing and acting their way through the show, accompanied by the camp's two teaching artists, Jill Matel and Sonia Goldberg.

"We act right alongside them, leading by example so that they, too, can lead by example," Goldberg told the audience before the show started.

During the show, the audience chuckled appreciatively at the jokes and applauded after each scene.

Bernie and Pat Harchar, of the Village of Tamarind Grove, came to support their 9-year-old grandson, Jamison, who worked the show from the sound booth.

"It teaches kids about the arts," Bernie said of the camp. "I think this gives them a feeling of accomplishment for what they did all week."

The students will perform "Cinderella Saves the World" once more at 5 p.m. today at The Sharon.

The performance is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.



Rhys Wagar (center) takes a bow while portraying a kitten.