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Press Release

For: IMMEDIATE RELEASE **Date:** January 18, 2017

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AHS Park Street Players to Perform The Phantom of the Opera in February

ASHEBORO – The Asheboro High School Park Street Players are delighted to present Andrew Lloyd Webber's THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA at the Asheboro High School Performing Arts Center February 16-18 at 7 p.m. and February 19 at 2 p.m. Tickets for "Phantom of the Opera" can be reserved in advance through the Asheboro High School website or the at the Performing Arts Center box office on the night of the show.

This lavish, fully staged production of "Phantom of the Opera" will star Alec Schoenberger as 'The Phantom' and Natalie Garcia as 'Christine'. They will be joined by Noah Ingold as 'Raoul', Ben Carroll as 'Monsieur Firmin', Justin Jones as 'Monsieur André, Lilly Davis as 'Carlotta', Jasmine Faz as 'Madame Giry', Georgianna Antoniou as 'Meg Giry', and Rigo Faz as 'Piangi'. "Phantom of the Opera" will be directed by Phillip Homiller with assistance from Nicole Peters, Meredith Mormann, Tina Webster and Suzanne Benhart. The Asheboro High School Performing Arts Center will be transformed with a spectacular and unique design created especially for the show. The original Broadway production was directed by Hal Prince.

The Phantom of the Opera tells the story of a masked figure that lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, exercising a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano, Christine, and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talent. With all its special effects and hauntingly beautiful music, The Phantom of the Opera is, at its heart, a story of redemption. The naïve and vulnerable Christine is a powerful character foil to the all-seeing, domineering Phantom. And while The Phantom takes advantage of a girl still grieving the loss of her father, his actions speak to our human need to belong to someone in a loving relationship. Employing devious and fiendish methods to get his way, The Phantom excuses himself by saying that no one has shown compassion to him. Christine correctly recognizes that the Phantom's distortion is not because of his disfigured face but rather because of his disfigured soul. When pressed to make a decision to save herself or save her fiancée, Raoul, Christine chooses to show The Phantom unconditional love through her kiss. With the transformation of The Phantom's soul, The Phantom of the Opera becomes a beautiful, haunting tale of obsession, unrequited love, and redemption.

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Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of The Phantom of the Opera is one of the most popular, most seen musicals ever and is now the longest running musical in Broadway history. It is estimated that The Phantom of the Opera has been seen by more than 100 million people worldwide having been played in no fewer than 14 languages. The show has won over 50 major theatre awards.

Tickets for the show can now be reserved through Asheboro High School's home page or at the box office on the night of the show. General admission tickets are \$12 and students/seniors are \$10. Please contact Leigh Anna Marbert for more information about the show by calling (336) 625-5104.

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(Reporters/Editors: Please call Leigh Anna Marbert at (336) 625-5104.)