



Theater Arts Thrive Within WPS

The Wakefield Educational Foundation (WEF) recently awarded Will Karvouniaris, WHS English Teacher and Theater Advisor, \$1500 to support Wakefield High School's Theater Arts program. Grant funds help defray the costs of costuming, sound and lighting, and also provide some scholarship assistance for students unable to afford trips to the theater.

Wakefield High School Theater Arts produces four main stage productions each year. This year's productions include a musical, a festival play which travels and competes statewide, a full-length play, and a 24-hour play festival which allows students to write, direct, and act in their own work. In addition, WHS Theater Arts invites professionals from the theater community to work with students in a series of master classes, exposing students to career fields not introduced within the Wakefield program of studies.

The main goal of WHS Theater Arts is to introduce as many students to the world of theater as possible. This year, the technical theater program has grown from 12 to 48 students. WEF is pleased to support this strong growth. You can learn more about the thriving WHS Theater Arts program at <http://www.wakefieldtheater.org/>.

Mr. Karvouniaris submitted a grant application through WEF's annual grant process. WEF continually encourages staff and PTO leaders to submit innovative enrichment projects for consideration.

To support the grant process, WEF conducts a series of fundraisers annually, such as: WEF's Wakefield Public Schools Calendar, showcasing student art; the S.T.A.R.S. program, recognizing exemplary WPS staff; Chocolate Roses; and the Adult Spelling Bee. In addition, WEF welcomes individual, business and community donations. WEF is awarding staff and PTO leaders just over \$30,000 for the 2018-2019 school-year and has awarded over \$350,000 to schools across the Wakefield Public Schools district since 1989. Learn more by following WEF on Twitter or Facebook, or go to www.wakefieldeducationalfoundation.org.



WHS Theater Arts' production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, November 2018.