

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Follow Alice into Wonderland

QMS Actors Take on Fantastical World

January 25, 2016 - Duncan, BC, Canada – With memorable characters and a large cast, Queen Margaret's School is taking a voyage into the fantastic world of Wonderland. Karen Hartman's *Alice: Tales of a Curious Girl* brings the audience on an inspiring journey of a young girl's transition out of childhood as she takes control of her own future.

"The play is based on a compilation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*," explains QMS drama teacher, Martina Blake. "It's more of a feminist approach to the traditional story, which we think our audience will find appealing." After the success of last year's school production of *Fame*, Blake felt it would be fun to move the students from realism into the zany world of Alice's mind.

"Alice is really trying to figure out who she is and where she belongs in the world," outlines Blake. "Our students are excited about the topic, but certainly the content can be a little confusing at times. It has been a journey of exploration for them as well. Making those deeper meanings has given them a sense of ownership over the play material." With playful dialogue, colourful characters and dynamic choreography, audience members will be treated to a visually stimulating drama performance.

Alice is portrayed by Grade 12 student *Alyssa Andress*, with lead support by *Maiya Modeste* as the Cheshire Cat, *Sydney McCrea* as the Queen of Hearts and *Allie Johnston* as the White Rabbit. All of Lewis Carroll's famous characters will be there too, such as the Jabberwocky, Humpty Dumpty and the Door Mouse. Forty-seven students in Grades 5-12 are involved as actors, set designers, producers, light technicians and choreographers for the production. "I may be the lead director, but our drama students have made this performance entirely their own," explains a proud Blake.

Alice: Tales of a Curious Girl takes to the stage **February 18, 19 and 20, 2016 at 7:00pm** with a matinee performance scheduled for **February 20, 2016 at 2:00pm** at the Queen Margaret's School Fine Arts Hall. Tickets are \$10 in advance, or at the door (if available). Contact 250-746-4185 or email reception@qms.bc.ca.

About Queen Margaret's School

Established in 1921, **Queen Margaret's School (QMS)** is located on 27 country-like acres in Duncan, BC. QMS offers a co-ed Early Childhood Education program, co-ed Junior School (Kindergarten-Grade 7), University-Preparatory High School for girls (Grades 8-12) and all girls Boarding School (Grades 6-12). Queen Margaret's School is home to Canada's *only* on-campus school English riding Equestrian Program and an intensive ELL Program. The school's comprehensive scholastic and extra-curricular program provide opportunities for achievement and personal growth through academics, sports, visual and performing arts, riding and community service. We prepare students for university, for higher education, for life.

For more details about Queen Margaret's School, please visit the school's website at www.qms.bc.ca.

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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Photo: An uncertain Alice (*Alyssa Andress*) meets the Cheshire Cat (*Maiya Modeste*) for the first time during rehearsal for *Alice: Tales of a Curious Girl*. (Photo by Hayley Picard)



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