

NEWS RELEASE

October 10, 2011
Mariemont City Schools

Mariemont High School Presents “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead”

Mariemont High School presents the misadventures and musings of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two minor characters from William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* who are childhood friends of the prince, focusing on their actions with the events of *Hamlet* as background. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* is structured as the inverse of *Hamlet*; the title characters are the leads, not supporting players, and Hamlet himself has only a small part.

In Tom Stoppard's comedy, we watch and laugh while Rosencrantz and Guildenstern try to piece together what little information they are given. Ultimately, they are swept up and overwhelmed by the tenants of Elsinore Castle, but along the way they explore the limits of language, ponder their own origins and purpose, and debate whether life can have meaning when death seems to be so meaningless.

Rosencrantz (Emma Welch) and Guildenstern (Lizzie Deadrick) are taking on roles that are simply daunting in size and scope (they are on stage from beginning to end.) They are accompanied on stage by an character known only as the Player (Braxton Stricker) and his traveling band of Tragedians (Kyle Matz, Kayla Wood, Hunter Thiers, Cate Donahue and Reagan Greene), and of course, the cast of *Hamlet* (Peter Laug, Jonathon Dietz, Katie Arends, Connor McManus, and Sarah Crabtree).

The play is directed by MHS alum Sean Cameron.

Performances will take place on November 17, 18 and 19 at 7:30pm (a change from the dates in the district calendar) in the Mariemont High School Auditorium, 3812 Pocahontas. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and may be purchased by calling 271-7664.



Photos: Lead actors, Peter Laug, Katie Arends, Lizzie Deadrick, Emma Welch and Braxton Stricker strike a pose during rehearsals for Mariemont High School's fall play, “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead”.