

A PLAY AT Molloy College on April 28 featured actors recovering from aphasia.



Courtesy Molloy College

Recovering through acting

A play at Molloy College last Sunday comprised a cast of five individuals with aphasia, a disorder caused by brain damage that can result in the loss of ability to communicate or understand speech.

The departments of Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Communication and Sciences Disorder again collaborated this year to use the CoActive Therapeutic Theater Model, created by Molloy College faculty Dr. Laura Wood and her colleague Dave Mowers, to support people in aphasia recovery.

The model has been used as a post-intensive treatment for individuals who are working toward independent recovery. It is comprised of seven "movements" that support individuals in strengthening their form of recovery, including a culminating public performance. The work is unique in that it supports clients in both socioemotional and speech language therapy goals.

This cast passionately explored three themes: The importance of slowing down in a seemingly fast-paced world; The anger or grief someone with aphasia may feel when people rush or try to finish their words for someone; and that rushing can be detrimental to the process of transformation. The play, using metaphor and story, explored these themes.

The process has also been a wonderful collaboration between graduate students. This year, Francesca Jannello, who is studying Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Drama Therapy, and Kristen Zito and Danielle Pugliese, studying Communication and Sciences Disorders, have been involved in all aspects of the production. The process allows them to take classroom skills in their discipline and apply it to the real world.

Faculty members are continuing their research this year on the various benefits of the model.



Courtesy Lauren Billig

THE CAST OF The Addams Family are slated to perform on May 3 and 4.

SSMS students to perform 'The Addams Family'

South Side Middle School students will be performing The Addams Family on May 3 at 4:30 p.m. and May 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the middle school. Tickets will be \$5 at the door.

Based on the popular comic by Charles Addams, this delightfully campy musical adaptation centers around the one thing that every soul craves. Love.

What would you do for love? Would you shoot an arrow, blindfolded? Tell a lie? Fly to the moon? Attend a school play?

The school district invites community members to join the students as this creepy, kooky musical takes the same morbidly flamboyant Addams Family characters we all know and love, and introduces them to the Beinekes, who are . . . from Ohio. Wednesday has fallen in love with someone "normal."

Surprises abound as we watch these two families try and navigate their differences, lose control, and love. You don't want to miss this one.

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INFORMATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY 5/19/19 @ 4PM

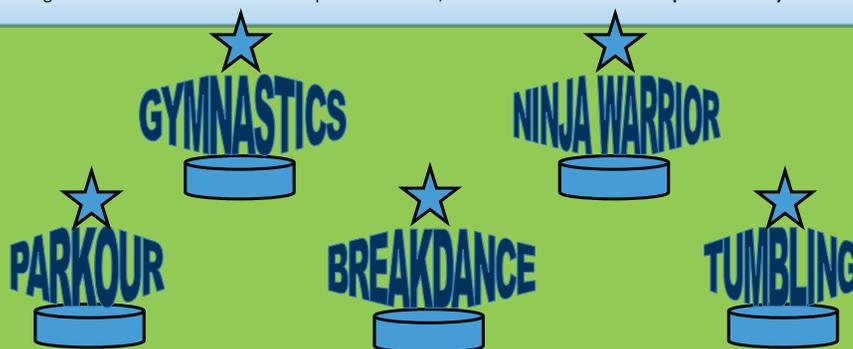
Parents: Has your daughter dreamed about joining a gymnastics team? Learn all there is to know about our USAG & USAIGC competitive gymnastics teams and the upcoming 2019-20 season. Our try-out date will be announced at this meeting. If you know a girl who LOVES gymnastics like WE love gymnastics, you NEED to be at this meeting! Still have questions? Please call Jodi at (516) 887-6600. We look forward to welcoming you to our Five-Star family!



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