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MoCo Arts Teens Musical Theatre Performs Emotional Classic '*Les Misérables School Edition*'

(Keene, NH) – MoCo Arts Teens Musical Theatre proudly presents the classic musical *Les Misérables School Edition* on Friday, May 18 at 7:00pm and Saturday, May 19 at 2:00pm at the Redfern Arts Center at Keene State College.

It's nineteenth century France and Jean Valjean has been released from years of unjust imprisonment. In search of starting a new life he is faced with nothing but mistrust and mistreatment. He becomes relentlessly pursued by police inspector Javert, who refuses to believe Valjean can change his ways. Javert must confront his ideals during the Paris student uprising of 1832 when Valjean spares his life.

'*Les Misérables School Edition* will bring the audience on a journey,' says Hannah Lambert, a Sophomore at Conant High School playing the important role of Cosette. "It pulls you into the life of a man who has been broken, you can't help but feel the suffering of the time. But, you also see a better side of life and a young love that grows and develops. You get to watch two people fall in love which is a beautiful thing."

Epic, grand and uplifting, *Les Misérables School Edition* features powerful and iconic musical numbers like 'One Day More' and 'I Dreamed A Dream' that have thrilled audiences all over the world. The School Edition has been shortened to a running time of just over two hours. There are some mature topics and language.

"Being a part of a MoCo Arts musical is unlike anything I have ever done," says Lambert. "The sense of community and friendship shared here is so unreal. MoCo truly puts on an incredible show, and also teaches us as we go. I'm not sure where I'd be without MoCo."

MoCo Arts invites kids of all ages to explore the joy of musical theatre. Students as young as 4 years old are encouraged to take part in MoCo's Storytime Theatre class. They can move on to Tweens Musical Theatre, and then Teens Musical Theatre as they get older. Students in every class audition, rehearse, and perform, learning skills like teamwork and cooperation that will stay with them beyond the studios. This summer students are invited to participate Theatre Workshops in Improvisation and Storybook Adventures or take part in one of MoCo's multi-arts summer camps. In the fall, classes begin in September in MoCo's new arts education facility on Roxbury Street where students will be able to participate in musical, straight theatre, and many theatre based workshops. *Stay tuned!*

Tickets to *Les Misérables School Edition* are \$14/ Youth & Senior, \$20/ General and are on sale now. To purchase tickets please visit the Redfern Arts Center Box Office Monday – Friday, 12:00pm – 5:00pm, or call (603) 358-2168. For more information about *Les Misérables School Edition* or to purchase your tickets online, visit www.moco.org.

MoCo Arts is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, multi-arts educational organization located in downtown Keene offering dance and theatre classes and multi-arts vacation and summer camps for children ages 18 months to 18+ years. As part of the educational process, MoCo Arts provides professional quality performance experience for students and family-friendly performances for audiences of all ages throughout the year. Funding for MoCo Arts is provided in part by the New Hampshire Charitable





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Foundation, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information please visit MoCo Arts, 76 Railroad Street, Keene, NH 03431 or www.moco.org

Photo caption: "Young Cosette, played by Liz Doyle, scrubs a floor with Madame Thénardier, played by Erin Swearingen, overlooks her work."

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