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Fall Theatre Season Opens Oct. 5 with Musical Chicago

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 A cynical take on American celebrity culture, "Chicago" is a musical famous for show-stopping numbers such as "Razzle Dazzle," "Class," "Funny Honey," "My Own Best Friend" and "Nowadays."
Show times are Oct. 5-8 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 8-9 at 2 p.m. Please note that "Chicago" does contain adult content.



Cast of "Chicago"

ROCK HILL, S.C. – It's the tale of fame, fortune and "All That Jazz" that has made "**Chicago**" a must-see musical.

Winthrop's Department of Theatre and Dance will bring the production, the first of the fall semester, to the Johnson Theatre stage Oct. 5-9.

Based on a 1926 play by Maurine Dallas Watkins, "Chicago" tells the story of **Roxie Hart** (Jessica Powers of Sumter, S.C.), a chorus girl who murders her husband and then manages to avoid

prison with the help of a fast-talking lawyer, **Billy Flynn** (Philip Calabro of Greer, S.C.). Roxie uses the trial to propel herself to showbiz stardom along with another murderous vaudeville, **Velma Kelly** (Kayla Piscatelli of Groveland, Mass.). The additional lead characters of **Mama Morton** and **Amos** are played by Cecily Bigham of Rock Hill and J.T. Rider of Sumter, S.C., respectively.

A cynical take on American celebrity culture, "**Chicago**" is a musical famous for show-stopping numbers such as "Razzle Dazzle," "Class," "Funny Honey," "My Own Best Friend" and "Nowadays."

According to Stephen Gundersheim, director of "Chicago" and an associate professor of theatre, the production has been a joyous collaboration. "In addition to the student cast there is a student stage manager and three assistant stage managers who are doing a wonderful job," he said. "We have benefited from having talented members of Winthrop's production team on board as well as Linda Booth, a well-known Charlotte choreographer. I am incredibly proud of our combined efforts and thrilled to take on such a challenging show."

Show times are Oct. 5-8 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 8-9 at 2 p.m. Please note that "Chicago" does contain adult content.

Tickets are \$10 with a Winthrop ID and \$15 for the general public. To purchase tickets, contact the box office at 803/323-4014.

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