

PLAYBILL

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Original 'Seussical' Star Michele Pawk Directs Musical for Wagner College

By Adam Hetrick

Tony Award winner Michele Pawk, who appeared in the original Broadway cast of "Seussical," will stage the Lynn Ahrens-Stephen Flaherty musical at Wagner College beginning April 13 on Staten Island.

The Broadway veteran joined the Wagner faculty in the fall, where she now teaches classes in advanced acting, directing and the history of American film.

Pawk starred as Mayzie LaBird in the 2000 production of "Seussical," which played the Richard Rodgers Theatre. The Wagner production will run April 13-16 and April 27-May 1.

"Seussical" has a book by Tony-winning "Ragtime" collaborators Ahrens and Flaherty, with lyrics by Ahrens and music by Flaherty. Following its Broadway arrival to mixed reviews, the collaborators returned to refine and refocus the material for future productions. The latest version enjoyed a successful run Off-Broadway in 2007.

The Wagner cast will include Justin Scalzo (Cat in the Hat), Billy Cardone (Horton), Melissa Waterbury (Mayzie), Ben Cordia (Young Kangaroo), Regan Featherstone (General Schmitz), Elisia Francani (Sour Kangaroo), Tom McVey and Caitlin Ferchaw (Mr. and Mrs. Mayor), Jill Butterfield, Jackie Nuzzo, Kerri McNeill (Bird Girls), Sal Pavia, Mike Dineen (Wickersham Brothers), Hope Clarke and Michelle Wilson (Whos), and Ryan Rhue, Danielle Matarese, Sammi Cohen, Carissa Massaro and Megan Hurley as characters from the Jungle of Nool.

For tickets phone (718) 390-3259.