

Local teens involved in supernatural clash

New musical written by teachers debuts in mid-coast this winter

Belfast - Every hero needs a villain, even in middle school. The Troy Howard Middle School will offer both when its drama club presents *Girl Power*, a new musical, in February and March in Belfast, Maine.

Girl Power was written by THMS english teacher/drama director Jason Bannister and music teacher Justin Bari. It tells the story of teenagers with super powers, trying to find themselves through school dances, adolescent love, and the occasional super hero battle.

Jason Bannister, who created the story and wrote the script, admits that "Writing a musical about teenagers with super powers is bound to spark interest in the students. With the popularity of Spider-Man, Twilight, and Harry Potter, giving the kids a chance to perform a musical about characters with super powers is great way to expose children to the power and excitement of theater."

Justin Bari, the musical's composer and lyricist, adds "The music offers a wide range of styles, from Broadway to modern rock. When you really stop and think about it, our students are going to have a special ownership in the process. They'll be the first ones to learn the music and perform it. For that reason it's going to be more meaningful to them."

Girl Power will be performed Friday and Saturday, February 26 and 27, and March 5 and 6 at 7:00 p.m. There will be two matinees, February 27 and March 6, both at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at the door. Original cast recordings and dvds of the performances will be available. Call Jason Bannister at 338-3320 x118 for more information.