

GHANA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



PRESENTS

# IN THE HEIGHTS

*Séguiras en mis  
recuerdos  
para siempre...*

MARCH 21ST & 22ND, 2015

AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE



# WELCOME MESSAGE



Welcome to the Ghana International School's adaptation of the Tony Award Winning Musical 'In The Heights'. Set in the Washington Heights, this is a story about youth, friendship and opportunities. We are so thrilled that you have joined us here today.

Ghana International School (GIS) has made it a tradition of staging spectacular musical shows. In our 8th year, we are not only showcasing student talent but also highlighting how critical the Arts are in creating a balanced education. All across the school, our students are engaged in activities and programs to nurture and build them holistically, supported by a cadre of teachers who are experienced in their respective disciplines. As the first school in Ghana to stage a large scale musical production, GIS is proud to recognize the teachers who dedicate their time and effort into guiding and supporting a very talented group of teenagers. Once again, Mr. Asabil (Music), Mrs. Vanderpuye (English Literature), Mr. Dzakamani (English Literature), Ms. Nketia Thanki (Arts), Ms. Ohene Ntow (Arts) and Ms. Larbi (Music) have selflessly mentored a group of determined students in this production, and we are so proud of all that they have achieved.

We would also like to appreciate parents of cast members who accommodated all the extensive practice times, cheering and supporting their wards towards this big finish. Behind the scenes, we have benefited from the tireless support of several teachers and staff from across the entire school; The Art, Carpentry, Development Office, Finance and Communications Department. Many thanks to Ms. Phoebe Acolatse and her team for gathering funds for the production; kindly let her know if you would like to be a sponsor next year! Notably, I would like to acknowledge the PTA, who have always shown their support. We would like to thank them for always being there for us. This year, we are sponsored by Koala, Bodyspice, Graphic Communications, Global Media Alliance, etv, Yfm, Citi fm, Rogue Lens and Bel Aqua.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management, Staff and Students of Ghana International School, I warmly welcome you to tonight's performance. We are sure you will enjoy it!

Sincerely,

**DR. MARY ASHUN**

*Acting Principal*

Ghana International School

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# GHANA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Ghana International School is a not-for-profit co-educational international day school established in 1955. The school enrolls approximately 1400 students from the Nursery to Senior School from over 50 countries in the world.

The school's curriculum is modelled along the English National Curriculum and Cambridge International Examinations; IGCSE and GCE Advanced level. Ghana International School is the only school in Ghana accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and the Council of International Schools (CIS). The School is also an active member of the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA).

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**Our Motto:**

*"Understanding of each other"*

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**Our Vision:**

*"A highly respected school, locally and internationally recognized, providing excellent education in a multi-cultural setting that produces responsible global citizens"*

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**Our Mission:**

*"To provide an internationally diverse school experience that instills an understanding of each other, promotes holistic development, life skills and learning through a rigorous curriculum that meets international standards"*

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# BACKGROUND TO THE ANNUAL GIS MUSICAL ADAPTATIONS

Ghana International School since 2008 has produced spectacular stage performances of well known Musicals at the National Theatre. The school has staged adaptations of 'Annie', 'The Music Man', and 'Sound of Music' just to name a few.

The Tony Award Winning Musical 'In the Heights' is our latest offering. We passionately believe in producing outstanding Musical performances, as it gives our students a unique opportunity to realize their artistic talents, broaden their outlook and build their self-esteem.

Every year, the Musical is organized by the Secondary School's Music and English Literature Departments, whose collaboration harnesses the talents of over 80 students from Forms One to Lower Six. The cast and Musicals reflect our international diversity which adds more colour to our offerings.

Our current play, 'In The Heights' is yet another success in the school's repertoire and promises to be entertaining and enlightening.

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## THE GHANA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MUSICAL ADAPTATIONS

Production	The Musical	Year of Productions
7th	Aida	2014
6th	Les Miserables	2013
5th	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	2012
4th	Fame	2011
3rd	Sound of Music	2010
2nd	The Music Man	2009
1st	Annie	2008

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# IN THE HEIGHTS

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## SYNOPSIS

The story explores three days in the characters' lives in the New York City Latino neighbourhood of Washington Heights. It features hip-hop, salsa, merengue and soul music.

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### Act 1

In the Hispanic community of Manhattan's Washington Heights, Usnavi opens his bodega and provides neighbours with their morning coffee and papers. We meet Abuela Claudia, who raised Usnavi, and Sonny, his young cousin who helps with the store. Everyone's stories and dreams pass through this modest store front: his friend Benny wants a promotion, the ladies who work at the salon want some gossip, and Vanessa, the girl Usnavi is attracted to, wants an apartment in a different part of town. Usnavi has a dream of his own: one day to open a bar in the island of his roots, the Dominican Republic.

Kevin and Camilla Rosario, owner of a taxi service, seek an emergency loan from the bank to support their business. Their daughter, Nina returns home from her freshman year at Stanford. But in a moment alone, Nina reveals that she struggled at college.

Nina seeks comfort from her friend Vanessa, but the salon owner, Daniela, sits her down for a makeover and gossip session. This is her last day on the block. She is relocating her salon to Bronx due to a rent increase. The best news of the day is yet to come: someone bought a winning lottery ticket from Usnavi's bodega! Everyone on the block dreams of how they'd spend the small fortune of \$96,000.

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### Act 2

It's noon and the neighbours are frustrated by the extreme heat and continuing power outage. They muster enough energy for one last celebration before the bodega, the salon, and the dispatch shut their doors forever. It turns out Abuela Claudia is the lucky winner of the \$96,000! Unfortunately, she passes away before she has the chance to celebrate her new found wealth. The neighbours reunite on the sidewalk, this time to hold a vigil in honour of the block's matriarch.

The next morning Usnavi wakes up early to begin closing up shop. He sees the businesses around him are closed. Sonny however is not content to leave without a trace. He has commissioned a graffiti mural of Abuela Claudia on the bodega's grate, and Graffiti Pete has stayed up all night completing the portrait. Sonny rolls down the bodega grate, revealing the memorial. Usnavi realises that this block is where his roots are, this "island" is where he will stay. He is home.

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Book by Quiara Alegria Hudes

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# CAST LIST

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**Usnavi**

**Vanessa**

**Nina**

**Benny**

**Abuela**

**Kevin Rosario**

**Camilla Rosario**

**Sonny**

**Daniella**

**Carla**

**Piragua guy**

**Graffiti Pete**

**Salon Girls**

Emmanuel Ashun

Christine Quist

Lucille King

Steven Batsa

Lana Toutoungi

George Obafemi

Deborah Nyarko Mensah

Micah Mensah

Najeedat Raheem-Parry

Lara Kara-Ali

Edmund Acquaaah

Omolara Fisher

Jean Cameron

Abena Agyeman

Maya Asante

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## Supporting Vocals

Awura Aba Kufour

Maame Esi Nkrumah Mensah

Kweiki Abloso

Grace Obafemi

Lucille Acquah-Sampson

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## Dancers

Geoffrey Nkansah-Baa

Zara Bobie

Nana Nyarko Owusu

Efia Awuah

Tabitha Booba

Antionette Batsa

Magdalene Mensah

Chelsea Mensah

Kojo Darkwa

Nana Afia Twum-Barimah

Feyisayo Akinyosoye

Vakil Parsram

Naa Ayorkor Harding

Nana Yaa Asante

Isabella Acquaaah

Edith Tukpayi

Yasmin Mensah

Nana Adjwoa Adu-Awuah

David Markwei

Leslie Gokah

Karl Hooper

Joseph Lamptey

Stevenson Williams

Paa Kwesi Anamoah Mensah

David Vanderpuye

Ellis Brown

Nana Adwoa Asare-Kunadu

Alicia Windsor

Akshata Galgali

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# BACKSTAGE

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## Student Director

Boatemaa Kyeremateng

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## Student Choreographer

Khadra Chothia

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## Sound Control

Amanda Bosso

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## Backstage Crew

Cyril Otoo

Christian Asiedu Darku

Joseph Ansah

Peter Gralla

Samuel Oteng Adu-Gyamfi

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## Costumes

Mafoudia Conde

Kelsie Okoli

Priscilla Frim

Ellen Allotey

Dionne Ofori

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## Makeup

Deborah Mensah

Abena Agyemang

Antoinette Batsa

Boatemaa Kyeremateng

Khadra Chothia

Eva Apah Sampong

Maame Efua Buckman

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## MCs

Alexander Bechtold

Jaanvi Gupta

Hala Dakmak

Yash Daswani

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## Microphone

Elike Segbawu

Frances Adetola

Zulfiya Gbedemah

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## Prompter

Angela Akoto

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## Jingle

Alexsis Nazaire-Gadzi

Joshua Frimpong

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## Script Editors

Delpine Avraam

Tiffany Macbruce

Pooja Wadhvani

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## Photography

Rhudolph Dadey

Kevin Blankson

Imogene Osoro

Sanjana Kadam

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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**Set Designer**

Jojo Tetteh Quantson

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**Lighting**

Selase Glover

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**Make Up**

Etor Makeup

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**Photography**

Rogue Lens

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**Sound**

Mido Productions

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# DIRECTOR(S)

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**Production**

Mrs. Juliette Vanderpuye

Mr. Selase Dzakamani

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**Music**

Mr. Pius Asabil

Ms. Theophelia Larbi

Mr. Emmanuel Andoh

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**Props**

Mrs. Adjoa Nketia Thanki

Ms. Mercy Ohene Ntow

Mr. A. Gokah

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**Choreographers**

Mrs. Vivian Boateng

Mr. Abdul Rashid Kelly

Mr. Emmanuel Sangmor

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**Marketing & Publicity**

Ms. Phoebe Acolatse



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# SUPPORT ARTS

This year we would like you to join our family of sponsors in preparation towards next year's production.

Kindly complete this form and submit during the 10-minute intermission

Name.....

Company .....

Email .....

Mobile .....

Pledge.....

Signature.....

Thank you for sponsoring in advance.

*For more information on sponsorship, please contact Ms. Phoebe Acolatse on [pacolatse@gis.edu.gh](mailto:pacolatse@gis.edu.gh)*

# APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management, Staff, Students and the Musical Committee of Ghana International School, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who sponsored and supported us in diverse ways to make the programme a success.

Thank you.

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## **CORPORATE SPONSORS 2015**

Koala  
Rogue Lens  
Bodyspice  
Bel Aqua  
GIS Parent Teacher Association  
Graphic Communications  
Global Media Alliance  
Etv  
Yfm  
Citi fm  
Kuulpeeps

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## **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS**

Dr. Mary Ashun  
Mr. Amponsah- Mensah  
Mr. Ayeh  
Ms Ida Abbeyquaye  
Parents of Cast  
Mrs. Deborah Tackie  
Mr. Mathias Bosso  
Carpentry department  
Security  
Stewards  
Drivers  
All staff of GIS  
All Students of GIS

