

## “LITTLE MERMAID” CAST SWIMS INTO CLEAR SPACE THEATRE

The Clear Space Theatre Company has announced the cast for their *Spotlight on Young Performers* production of THE LITTLE MERMAID (MTI’s JR Series Version). The 2008 Broadway musical was based on the classic 1989 Disney animated film and tells the story of Ariel and her aquatic friends in a magical, underwater kingdom. The beautiful young mermaid Ariel longs to leave her ocean home—and her fins—behind and live in the world above. But first, she’ll have to defy her father King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch Ursula, and convince the handsome Prince Eric that she’s the girl whose enchanting voice he’s been seeking. The show is directed by Clear Space Company Manager, David Button, with choreography by Shondelle Graulich of the Delaware Stage School, and musical direction by Melanie Bradley.

Starring in the show are Rose Slavin (Dover High School) as “Ariel”, Hannah Weilminster (Metropolitan School of the Arts in Lorton, Virginia) as the evil “Ursula”, Kyle Atkinson-Steele (Sussex Tech in Georgetown) as “Prince Eric”, Evan Hartnett (Delmarva Christian) as “Sebastian”, Grace Morris (Southern Delaware School of the Arts) as “Flounder”, Alex Ferree (Delaware Tech) as “King Triton”, Kate Carpenter (Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, MD) as “Scuttle”, and Meghan Hayward (Dover High School) as “Chef Louis.”

Other cast members include Jamie Ditzel (Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, MD); Madeline Barton and Kaitlyn Hamer (Worcester Preparatory School); Lily McDaniel, Ally Ibach, and Delaney Cinnamon (St. Thomas More Academy); Claire Marshall (Delmarva Christian High School); Daphne Branner and Madeline Betts (Beacon Middle School); Kierstyn Woody (Sussex Tech High School); Julia Sturla (Southern Delaware School of the Arts); Laci McCoy (East Millsboro Middle School) and Kalista Lawson (Shields Elementary School).

*Spotlight on Young Performers* is part of the Clear Space Performing Arts Institute and trains students ages 10 to 18 in acting, dance and voice throughout a 10-week rehearsal process culminating in a full weekend of performances, April 17, 18, 19. “Our *Spotlight on Young Performers* productions are a highlight of the Clear Space Season”, says Wesley Paulson, Executive Director at Clear Space Theatre. David Button, Artistic Director at Clear Space adds: “As the

*Spotlight on Young Performers* program grows stronger, so does the talent, bridging the connection between the young performers and the aesthetic of the acting company. These students are the consummate professionals working hard not only get into the Clear Space main stage shows to work with professionals, but to work in the industry.”

Don't miss the chance to see the next generation of Clear Space performers in this joyous trip “Under the Sea!” For reservations call Melody in the box office at 302.227.2270, or online at [www.ClearSpaceTheatre.org](http://www.ClearSpaceTheatre.org).