

## **Press Clippings 9/28/2018**

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### **Larkin students to perform original musical this week**

**By Rafael Guerrero**

Larkin High School students are unveiling their latest musical this week, with a performance scheduled for Friday. However, it is no adaptation of a Broadway production.

“Ocean Born Mary” is an original production, created by students in Larkin High School’s visual and performing arts academy.

The student-produced production will feature all Larkin academy students in a concert reading of the work, according to School District U46.

Students spent more than a year working on the production, logging more than 250 hours in writing the script, writing lyrics and musical scores, auditions and casting, rehearsals and working with Larkin teachers, according to the announcement.

The musical tells the story of Mary, recounting an encounter with a pirate influential in her namesake. The story of “Ocean Born Mary” is based on a New England tale of the 1700s; in the tale, pirates threatened a pregnant immigrant passenger en route to America to name her baby “Mary” or have the ship be taken over. Mary and the pirate allegedly reconnect later in their lives; the legend grew to a point it included ghosts and hauntings.

“Now that we are practicing during tech week, it has been interesting to see how everyone molded their roles and how their approach represents them as a performer,” said Isabella Cwik, a Larkin senior playing the title role.

“I’m very impressed,” said Larkin drama teacher Frank Rose in the announcement. Performances begin at 7 p.m. at the Larkin High School auditorium. The one-hour musical is free to attend.