

[Mohawk Trail Regional School theater students to present murder mystery](#)

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BUCKLAND — For one night only, Mohawk Trail Regional School will host a performance of “And Then There Was One,” a murder mystery following 10 individuals invited to a mansion on a small island, who then die one by one until only one person is left.

Attendees can try to figure out who the murderer is during the performance on Friday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

Stage Director Paul Johnson said the show is similar to “Clue” and is a more student-friendly version of “And Then There Were None” by Agatha Christie.

“Stuff just starts going awry and people start disappearing,” Johnson said. “The first act follows this mystery and the remaining people trying to solve this mystery, why people keep going missing and what’s happening, and the second act follows the aftermath of that and closes the mystery.” The show is Johnson’s first production as the Mohawk Trail Regional School stage director. “And Then There Was One” was chosen to be the school’s winter production as it is a fun and simple murder mystery show that has two complete acts and can be pulled off by a small theater department. Johnson said this was essential as this year is a rebuilding year for Mohawk Trail’s drama program, as many of the more active members recently graduated.

“I liked the idea of doing a murder mystery and I wanted the small group of actors to all have an important leading role,” Johnson said. “So finding a small-scale, two-act production where every actor has the ability to shine, I found this script and it was perfect.”

Johnson pitched the script to the students and they were on board. Johnson and some of the more experienced students in the drama program collaborated to make edits to the script and make it more school-friendly, including replacing a firearm shootout with a light saber battle.

“It gets funnier the more you think about it,” Johnson said. “I can’t wait to see how it looks with the stage all lit up.”

Johnson said the students and school administration have been incredible to work with.

“It’s been kinda an adventure,” Johnson said on getting to know the school and students. “It’s been amazing watching them grow. ... It’s just such rewarding work to see young people have the space to express themselves and have fun with each other.”

Johnson said everyone is invited to attend Friday’s performance and support its talented cast.

“Not only is it going to be a great show you can watch, but it’s also kids being able to express themselves artistically in a way that we see so many schools not able to do anymore,” Johnson said. “It means the world to me that I’m able to do this and these kids are able to be on that stage performing.”

Tickets are \$10 for students and seniors and \$12 for adults.

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*Source: <https://www.recorder.com/Mohawk-Trail-Regional-School-theater-students-to-present-murder-mystery-58788243>*