

Media Release
Date: April 14, 2021
Media Contact:
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Cast Spotlight: Bridget Syed and Warrick Couture

FREDERICKSBURG, VA—Rehearsals continue for “A Special Covid-19,” a musical based on the pandemic of 2020, reflecting the challenges of our current times as lived by someone with a disability. It’s a two-act musical completely written, directed, and performed by a cast and crew of people with disabilities. Two of those cast members working hard to make the show a success are Bridget Syed and Warrick Couture, who have been in adaptive performances together for the last eight years. They both are members of the “angel chorus” and have roles as some of the main character’s friends, with whom he connects over Zoom.



Syed, 18, plays Stella, the artistic one of the friend group. Syed says she has some things in common with the character, but the role does require some acting.

“I’m shy like Stella, but I’m not as active as Stella is,” Syed explained, adding that her favorite song is the Name Game Rap. The experience has been exciting.

“I felt really relieved and happy,” Syed said when asked how she felt about being cast in the first musical the group has ever created. “I love being famous,” she added.

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The youngest member of the cast, 13-year-old Couture plays Nathan, the sports-loving friend from the Zoom meeting. It’s not too far a stretch for the young thespian, who enjoys basketball and will sport his TOPSoccer jersey for part of the musical. Though the script describes the character simply as a person who “loves sports,” Couture opted to flesh it out.

“I’m playing him as a cool dude, because if you play sports you’ve gotta be at least a little cool,” he said, adding that “I felt it was a really great honor to be a part of something one of my really great friends created.”

Sponsored by STEP VA Inc, a local 501c nonprofit that “empowers people with special needs through artistic expression and sensory exploration,” the musical will hit the stage at Fredericksburg Christian School this Saturday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m., and again on April 18 at 2:30 p.m. Both shows have limited seating due to the ongoing pandemic. All tickets must be purchased in advance, as no tickets will be sold at the door. For those unable to attend in person, a livestream will be available for Saturday’s show. The livestream will be made available to online ticket holders on April 17th.

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Tickets for both general admission, in-person seating and the live stream are available online at stepva.org.

For more information, to donate, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.stepva.org.

STEP VA, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides sensory-based theater and arts programs for individuals with disabilities. Its vision is to transform the world by offering each individual the opportunity to flourish in the community.