

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aristoi Classical Academy Musical Production, "Mary Poppins, Jr.," May 9th & 10th

Come and enjoy the inspirational and timeless musical, "Mary Poppins, Jr.," at Aristoi Classical Academy, May 9th and 10th at the Griffin Center on Morton Road. The production is a culmination of the 8th grade Fine Arts requirement at the classical liberal arts, public charter school. Past Aristoi productions include "The Music Man," "Fiddler on the Roof," and "Oklahoma!".

New this year is the use of two different casts for each night's production. Cecelia Peterson, Fine Arts Department Chair and 8th Grade Music Theater teacher explained, "I wanted every student to have as much experience as possible in regards to the production and performance of the play. In order to do that, we created two separate casts from the four classes and 88 students we have in 8th grade. It is a lot of work, but providing this experience for these kids is of paramount importance to me, and to the classical liberal arts mission of Aristoi. For many, this is their first experience whether attending a play or being involved in its production. The end result is that many students discover a love for theater and performing, something which they may not be able to experience anywhere else. To provide this opportunity is important in assisting them in developing their character and responsible citizenship."

Aristoi's history of musical theatre is a young one, but is rich in history and tradition. Peterson said, "Former students return every year and help us during auditions, selecting the new casts. They're always on hand during performance nights to cheer on the new performers. It is one of the highlights of my year, when students return and still believe in what we're doing and tell me how important this year of musical theatre was to them." Musical Theatre is co-taught by Leigh Ann Thrower.

Superintendent/Headmaster, Brenda Davidson elaborated on how Aristoi began the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical tradition, "It was a risky decision to make Musical Theatre a Fine Arts requirement for the 8th grade. But, the beautiful outcome and the discovery these students make about themselves and their peers is worth the investment. This is one of the amazing things about a Classical Liberal Arts education, you are immersed in timeless truth, goodness and beauty. The production of "Mary Poppins, Jr." exemplifies that."

Aristoi Classical Academy's Griffin Center is located at 5610 Morton Road, Katy, Texas 77493. The productions begin at 7:00 PM and tickets are \$5 at the door.

### **About Aristoi Classical Academy**

Aristoi Classical Academy is a tuition-free public charter school, offering classical education to students in grades K-12. Aristoi's elementary and upper school campuses are in historic Katy with a total enrollment of more than 900 students. Our mission is to provide students with an academically challenging Classical Liberal Arts education that encourages them to develop a passion for learning and that gives them the means to become responsible citizens of virtuous character.

To learn more about Aristoi Classical Academy, please visit [www.aristoiclassical.org](http://www.aristoiclassical.org) or contact 281-391-5003.

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For more information, please contact:

Heather Lamb, Marketing

281-371-0695      hlamb@aristoiclassical.org







