

North Crawford Playhouse presents

## *Up the Down Staircase*

Here we go again! What fun. And do we ever have a fast moving ride of a play for you!

Imagine a setting like in the musical *Grease*; see it? Fabulous 1950s music, rowdy boys in leather jackets, budding beauties in poodle skirts, a rather crazed faculty of teachers and administrators. Got it? Great—except this isn't a musical. Now imagine throwing a brand new, idealistic, first-year English teacher, into that high school setting. Imagine her trying to survive her very first class period, facing all those rowdy students. Here we have all the elements of delightful interpersonal conflict that start screaming right out of the first scene. The young, pretty teacher, Sylvia Barrett, (Nagorre Bermeosolo) takes immediate interest in her students, like Alice (Katie Schellhorn) who has a desperate crush on the handsome young teacher down the hall, Mr. Barringer, (Collin McBride). Another student is a serious troublemaker, Joe Ferone, (Kenny Spencer) who is highly intelligent, but distrusted, harassed and marginalized. Sylvia tries hard to help them all feel that they belong, but Sylvia, with all the bewildering paperwork, conflicting instructions, and overworked faculty, feels herself lost and alienated. She is most terrified of the Assistant Principal, the ferocious Miss McCabe (Kylie Heisz). Sylvia's first real connection is with a motherly teacher, Bea Schacter, (Jasmine File) who teaches her to survive in her new surroundings. While the story begins rather light hearted and fun, it becomes very serious and poignant. The ending is absolutely heart-warming and renews our faith in people, in community, and in education. Suitable for all ages, we invite one and all to come join our crazy cast of 40 for an evening of joyful entertainment.