

# COMMUNITY CORNER

*Developing Responsible, Respectful and Prepared Students*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 20, 2025

### **Banning High School’s Broadway Broncos Deliver Heartwarming Performance of *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown***

BANNING, CA — The Banning High School Performing Arts Center recently came alive with laughter, music, and unforgettable moments as the Broadway Broncos presented their latest theatrical production, *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown*. The student-led musical delighted audiences with its charm, creativity, and nostalgic tribute to Charles M. Schulz’s iconic *Peanuts* comic strip.

Performed over four showings from March 21–23, the musical brought together students, families, and community members for a truly special event. The Performing Arts Center was filled with joy as students showcased months of hard work, with sets that looked like they leapt off the comic pages and a live band that played throughout the performance.

The production featured a talented cast of students portraying beloved characters including Daniel Escamilla as Charlie Brown, Aaliyah Hearsley as Lucy, Sariah Goldsmith as Franklin, Star Hansen as Sally, Nevaeh Huizar as Linus, Valery Centeno as the Little Red-Haired Girl, Jazzmyn Flanagan as Snoopy, Jake Vega as Schroeder, and Hunter Banda as Woodstock.

“Our students have been preparing since early this year,” said Show Director Joshua Prisk. “They’ve worked tirelessly building sets, learning music, refining choreography, and supporting every part of the production—from ushering to stage crew. Their growth and commitment are truly inspiring.”

The choice to produce *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown* was intentional. “It’s a timeless, feel-good story that reminds us of the value of friendship and community—messages we all need right now,” said Technical Director and Choreographer Ms. Tamara Griffey. “It’s also inclusive and uplifting, which made it perfect for our students and families.”

Preparation began in February 2024, following casting in December 2023. From set construction to vocal training and live orchestra rehearsals under Band Director Mr. Hepburn, the production

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was a collective effort. The creative team even included a foyer gallery of student-created artwork inspired by the show.

This production also marked several firsts for the theater program, including choreographed blanket dancing and a kite flying scene—something that turned into a bonding moment for the cast. “Many of the students had never flown a kite before, so we held a practice day in the school parking lot,” shared Mr. Prisk. “It was such a memorable experience and brought us all closer together.”

The musical also held a bittersweet note as it marked the final performance for several senior cast members. “Watching them take the stage one last time was emotional,” said Director Prisk. “But it’s also encouraging to see how many younger students are already stepping up and keeping our program strong.”

The show was supported by an exceptional production team including:

- **Joshua Prisk**, Show Director
- **Tamara Griffey**, Technical Director & Choreographer
- **Kandra Scullin**, Pianist
- **Mr. Hepburn**, Band Director (featuring the Banning High School Orchestra)

Looking ahead, the Banning High School Theater Program is preparing for its next show, *Thirteen Ways to Ruin Your College Interview*, a unique puppet show scheduled for April 16, 2025. The full 2025–26 theater season will be announced this May.

Community support is essential to the continued success of the arts at Banning High School. Attending performances and encouraging student participation—whether onstage, backstage, or in the audience—helps keep this creative spirit thriving.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Banning High School Broadway Broncos showcase *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Charlie Brown as well as other characters from the Peanut crew demonstrate their talents on stage.

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