



Appleton North High School students, from left, Nora Bielmeier, Sunny March-Torme and Ruby March-Torme rehearse a scene from the upcoming production of “The SpongeBob Musical,” set to open March 10 at the school.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHERINE MCKENZIE

Appleton North presents ‘The SpongeBob Musical’

What: Appleton North presents “The SpongeBob Musical”

When: 7 p.m. March 10-11; 1 and 7 p.m. March 12; 1 p.m. March 13; 7 p.m. March 17-18; 1 and 7 p.m. March 19; and 1 p.m. March 20

Where: Appleton North High School, 5000 Ballard Road, Appleton.

Admission: \$15 reserved seating at appletonnorththeatre.com or showtix4u.com; or contact the box office at 920-997-3994 or northboxoffice@gmail.com.

Background: Based on the popular Nickelodeon series by Stephen Hillen-berg, “The SpongeBob Musical” was written by Kyle Jarrow, with an eclectic score by rock and pop icons David Bowie, Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, Joe Perry of Aerosmith, Yolanda Adams, Lady A, Sarah Bareilles, and legendary bands Panic! at the Disco, Plain White T’s, and They Might Be Giants. It was nominated for 12 Tony awards when it premiered in 2017.

The show is set in the undersea city of Bikini Bottom, which is inhabited by the happy-go-lucky and ever-optimistic yellow sea sponge SpongeBob Squa-

rePants and his equally quirky friends and neighbors. SpongeBob’s pleasant existence is abruptly interrupted when it is discovered that Mt. Humongous, a nearby volcano, will erupt within the next 48 hours and completely obliterate Bikini Bottom. SpongeBob, trying to prove to himself and the world that he is not “just a simple sponge,” resolves to save the day when everybody else has given up all hope.

What they’re saying: “I truly believe that art is the most important part of a community, so being able to put together a show as exciting and heartwarming as this musical has been a delight,” said Ruby March-Tormé, a senior, playing the role of SpongeBob SquarePants. “I can’t wait to entertain kids and adults alike by bringing their favorite characters to life, as well as inspiring them with the hopeful messages the show has to offer.”

Take-home message: “‘The SpongeBob Musical’ is incredibly fun and family-friendly with a timely message of the importance of faith in ourselves and our community,” said director Ron Parker.