

Justice Prevails at Beckman's "12 Angry Jurors"

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Set in Ancient Greece, Beckman's production of "12 Angry Jurors" follows a jury deliberating on a seemingly open-and-shut case, with most jurors being certain of a "guilty" verdict. One juror, doubting the information provided, stands against the group to argue on the man's innocence.

As Juror #8, the initial "not guilty" vote, Evan Josten is thoughtful and precise. While other jurors discuss the supposedly obvious answer to the case, Josten pensively listens while clasping his hands together, cautiously formulating an argument to support his lone position. Kennedy Garcia portrays Juror #3, the foil to Juror #8, scornfully countering any and all of his arguments. Garcia angrily gestures, disdainfully scoffs, and ardently shakes her head when Josten and others begin to also vote "not guilty" and discuss their perspectives.

Playing Juror #4, Marlee Shoup is logical as she reasonably calls for maturity within the debates and decisively disagrees with those who object to more evidence being presented to develop arguments. Alexia Gallon as Juror #1 acts as the voice of reason and the leader of the jurors through calmly interjecting whenever jurors bicker, earnestly requesting that everyone remain civil.

The jurors as a whole remain actively engaged throughout the entirety of the show. During the discussions, all jurors listen intently and react consistently with subtle frowns or nods while also simulating chatter in brief moments of peace.

While jingling jewelry is distracting at times, the costumes (Sophia Vega-Abela) effectively provide a visual representation of the characters' personalities and the ancient Greek setting. The jurors wear Greek peplos or chitons with additional, particular adornments--like Juror #9 (Jackson Schonfelder), who has green fabric draped across his body to demonstrate his prudence.

Stage Management (Soliman, Siena Lee) provides creative ways to protect the integrity of props and set pieces against the condensation outdoors by adding stronger materials onto said items or placing them in a secure box when not being used, allowing for the show to run smoother with minimal issues.

Beckman High School, with dynamic acting and technical designs, produces a rendition of "12 Angry Jurors" that candidly explores the ways in which prejudices have persisted and been repeated throughout history.