



Cast of "Shrek the Musical, Jr."

COURTESY PHOTO

# Shrek the Musical, Jr.

*Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) cast lets its 'Freak Flags Fly'*

**O**n April 15, 16 and 17, Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) will present "Shrek the Musical, Jr." at the Florence Events Center (FEC), 715 Quince St.

This Broadway musical version of the classic Dreamworks animated film features singing, dancing, silly jokes, a strong moral about "being proud of who you are" and a cast of over 50 local children and young adults. Participants range

in age from 4 years old to 23.

According to Artistic Director Melanie Heard, CROW is not your "usual" children's theatre.

Here's what she means.

#### Jacob Ternyik as Shrek

Jacob Ternyik, 23, plays a role he appears to be made for: Shrek, the tall, loud, grumpy, unlikely hero.

"Shrek has never had an easy life," Ternyik said of his character, an ogre in a fairytale land. "Growing up, he had no friends, which I can kind of relate to. I love how confident he is with who he is."

Just like Shrek, Jacob is multifaceted

and has lots of layers. He defies explanation. Besides playing the big green ogre, Ternyik also played "Beast" in CROW's "Beauty and the Beast Jr." and wowed the crowd with "Mr. Cellophane" as Amos in Last Resort Players' "Chicago the Musical" last November.

Ternyik loves performing, enjoys being around friends during rehearsals and "becoming part of a different world." He doesn't like having to be so serious during rehearsals, but acknowledges the necessity of being professional.

In the future, Ternyik hopes to become a graphic artist.

#### Lacey Seeley as Princess Fiona

Ask Lacey Seeley, 17-year-old star of "Shrek the Musical Jr." what she thinks of planning for the future, and she'll say, "I Know It's Today." They are words of true optimism, and define Princess Fiona's outlook on her life.

"Fiona is perky and sassy," Seeley said. "And funny, too."

Seeley adds charm and physical humor to the princess in one of her first roles. She loves singing and acting, and wants to be a professional vocalist and actress one day.

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