



Miami Southridge Senior High School

HOME OF THE
MIGHTY
SPARTANS

The Miami Southridge Senior High School Drama group, Spartan Players Troupe 1641, received the rating of Superior at both the district and state theatre festivals. At the state level, they also received the honor of being awarded BEST SHOW. The award is bestowed on only one school in the entire festival, the largest in the entire United States, which consists of over 54 schools and 7000 students from all over the state of Florida. Because of their award and distinction, they will represent the state in the category of ONE ACTS in Lincoln, Nebraska at the International Thespian Theatre Festival June 25 - 30. However, registration to the festival is \$630.00 per student and chaperones (Total \$12000.00). Miami Southridge is a title I school, with the entire team on free and reduced lunch. The chance of paying this registration seems an astronomical proposition. The students had already raised \$6000.00 to attend the state festival. However with registration costs, \$1800.00, transportation, \$1500.00 and lodging, \$2200.00 our Thespian budget has been left bare. These students produced countless shows, candy sales, roadblocks and sponsorships to obtain these funds over the span of four months. Now, they must raise the \$12,000.00 registration cost plus transportation in just four weeks.

This award is the first in school history. Our seventeen students (9 seniors, 3 juniors and 5 sophomores) have been working on the play, "THE SERPENT" by Jean Claude Van Italie, since early August. Their unending dedication to their production (5 days a week, 3 hours a day for 4 months) as well as their fellow actors has allowed them to showcase the great talents that exist at Miami Southridge Senior High School as well as Miami-Dade County but in June they will show the country. Their director, Paul Lobeck, is honored to work with such talented, humble and gracious students. Not only are they great actors but model students as well. Four of the seniors will graduate Summa Cum Laude, and three others will be Magna Cum Laude; all are college bound. All underclassmen are Honors and AP Students and 5 are members of the Miami Southridge Scholars Academy.

For many of these students, the idea of going to Lincoln, Nebraska is as unbelievable as traveling to Mars. Most of them have never been out of their own neighborhoods, much less the state. When they arrived at the state festival in Tampa a few weeks ago, their eyes glistened in amazement. They seemed like Dorothy looking upon the Emerald City for the first time. They went to every theatre, every workshop and every performance with appreciation and enthusiasm. Unfortunately, they can't afford to see live theatre in their own city because of the costs. Their knowledge comes from class and what they see on television. Theatre needs to be experienced and that is why it is so important for them to attend this event. They also have the desire to show that our school, Miami Southridge Senior High, should not only be known for their athletics but be considered a serious performing arts program.

Please help these students reach their dream.

Paul J. Lobeck
Theatre Arts Director
Miami Southridge Senior High

Websites for the Spartan Players

[www.facebook.com/spartan players](http://www.facebook.com/spartan_players)

www.tumblr.spartanplayers.com

www.indiegogo.com/spartanplayers

Contact Information

Paul Lobeck plobeck@dadeschools.net
786-417-3825