YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College

Theatre Arts Club members at YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College thrilled the audience last month with a delightful version of a Broadway musical.

Their production of *The Music Man*, with a cast of more than 120 students and teachers, delighted more than 1,000 people at the school auditorium during performances on April 8, 9 and 10. Primary and secondary school students saw another performance of the play on April 7.

Director Maureen Coulter said: "The performing arts play a vital and essential role in developing students' confidence, problem-solving skills, language skills, creativity, self-discipline and teamwork. These are all attributes necessary for our young people as they begin their adult lives."

"*The Music Man* is a show requiring a big cast and a high level of singing skills and excellent stage craft. It has been hard work - as well as a great deal of fun - and we have made it. It has given our students and teachers a chance to work together as performers – a hallmark of our productions."

*The Music Man*, by Meredith Willson, is set in a small town in Iowa, United States, in 1912. It tells the story of Harold Hill, a conman who arrives in River City and tells people he is going to set up a brass band for the children. But Hill falls in love with the town’s librarian, Marian Paroo, leading to much hilarious action as he tries to keep one step ahead of the law.

School principal, Dr Nick Miller, said at the end of the performances: "We see our school as being on the road to excellence, and trust that tonight our version of *The Music Man* will be another milestone on our journey to success."