BRYN MAWR, PA – April 6, 2018 – The Baldwin School's Upper School Maskers Club presents the larger than life musical about love and acceptance, Hairspray, in the Simpson Center for the Performing Arts for just four performances: Friday April 20 at 7 p.m., Saturday April 21 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday April 22 at 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at www.maskers.club for all shows.

The 1950s are out and change is in the air! Hairspray, winner of 8 TONY Awards including Best Musical, is a family-friendly musical piled bouffant high with laughter, romance and deliriously tuneful songs. It’s 1962 in Baltimore, MD, and quirky, plus-sized, teenage Tracy Turnblad (played by Melia Hagino ’18) has one dream: to dance on The Corny Collins Show. Tracy's mother Edna (Lionel McCulloch ’18) disapproves, while her father Wilbur (Andrew Stern) urges her to follow her dreams. When she gets put in detention with the Black students in the school, the effortlessly cool Seaweed Stubbs (Xavier Smith) and his bubbly sister "Little" Inez (Maya Hairston ’18) teach her some of their dance moves, and her new found groove wins her a spot on Corny’s show. Overnight, Tracy transforms from a nobody into a star and uses her newfound influence to advocate for racial integration on the television show.

Tracy faces scrutiny and bullying from the network producer Velma (played by Mariana Leone ’18) and her popular, but vicious daughter Amber (Audrey Senior ’18). With the help of the teenage heartthrob Link Larkin (Sam Cappel), host Corny Collins (Emily Thompson ’18), faithful best friend Penny Pingleton (Julia Maenza ’18) and Motormouth Maybelle (Ivonna Thatch ’20), Tracy overcomes the odds and succeeds in her mission to integrate The Corny Collins Show. Tony Award-winning Hairspray continues to be one of the most widely produced musicals today, not only because of its wit and charm, but also because of the beautiful message of acceptance and progress that it portrays.

A cast and crew of more than 50 Baldwin School and community members are featured in this production of Hairspray, directed by Baldwin drama teacher Aileen McCulloch, with music direction by Baldwin music teacher Lee Hagon-Kerr. Set is designed by Alyssa Morales ’19, costumes are designed by Andrea Coler ’19 and lights are designed by Rebecca Resnick ’20.

Caption: (From left to right) Audrey Senior as Amber Von Tussel, Mariana Leone as Velma Von Tussel, Melia Hagino as Tracy Turnblad, Lionel McCulloch as Edna Turnblad, Julia Maenza as Penny Pingleton and Ashley Tate as Prudy Pingleton.

About the Baldwin School
The Baldwin School is an independent, all-girls college preparatory school for pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students. The school was founded in 1888 by Florence Baldwin under the traditions of academic excellence, integrity and community. Today, Baldwin develops talented girls into confident young women with vision, global understanding and the competency to make significant and enduring contributions to the world. For more information, visit our All-School Open House on April 18. You can also visit www.BaldwinSchool.org or call 610-525-2700.