

High School Musical

SYNOPSIS

Troy, Gabriella and the students of East High must deal with issues of social expectations, peer pressure, crushes, friends, and family while balancing all of the stress that high school brings!

It's the first day after winter break at East High. The Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians and Skater Dudes find their cliques, recount their vacations and look forward to the new year.

Basketball team captain and resident jock, Troy, discovers that the brainy Gabriella, a girl he met singing karaoke on his ski trip, has just enrolled at East High. They cause an upheaval when they decide to audition for the high school musical, threatening the school's current leading stars, Sharpay and Ryan. This causes every clique's social standings to be questioned, much to the dismay of Troy's best friend and superjock, Chad; and Gabriella's new friend and resident genius, Taylor.

Plans are hatched to keep them from auditioning, misunderstandings occur, feelings are hurt, chaos ensues! Although many students resent the threat posed to the "status quo," Troy and Gabriella's alliance might just open the door for others to shine and share their passions and dreams as well.

The show ends with the barriers between the cliques gone, and all of the students come together to celebrate!

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Gabriella Montez

Gabriella Montez is the new student who's struggling to find her place at East High. She has many talents, so she doesn't fully identify with any of the cliques. She's taking her time – and realizing her confidence – along the way. Smart and independent, Gabriella can be shy and vulnerable at times. She comes into her own when she discovers her talent and love for singing with Troy.

Troy Bolton

Troy Bolton, the most popular student at East High, is the star of the basketball team who yearns to be more than what others – especially his dad, Coach Bolton – want him

to be. A natural athlete and leader with charm to spare, Troy discovers he loves to sing, but is afraid to admit it to his basketball buddies.

Sharpay Evans

Sharpay Evans is the dramatic and self-centered star of the school musicals. Between her and Ryan, she's the alpha twin – over-the-top, demanding, and always “on,” with a flair for the theatrical.

Ryan Evans

Ryan Evans is Sharpay's fraternal twin and, like her, he lives to sing, dance, and get loads of attention. Subordinate to his sister, Ryan generally follows Sharpay's orders and lets her have the spotlight, but he longs to break free from her shadow and assert himself.

Kelsi Nielsen

Kelsi Nielsen, the neo-feminist writer-composer of the winter musical, Juliet and Romeo, possesses a shy personality but has no tolerance for the egocentric meanness of Sharpay. She is a compassionate underdog with lots of intelligence and an uncanny ability to shoot zingers at Sharpay.

Chad Danforth

Chad Danforth, one of Troy's best friends, is a sports fanatic. Focused on winning the basketball championship, Chad slowly begins to understand that there might be more to life than ball - including his crush on Taylor!

Taylor McKessie

Taylor McKessie, the very put-together president of the Science Club, is super-assertive and very intent on Gabriella joining the Science Decathlon team so they can (finally!) win the competition. Confident and slightly pretentious. Taylor has a hidden soft spot for Chad, but would never let it be known that she's into a jock.

Martha Cox

Martha Cox, a proud, enthusiastic member of the Science Club, possesses a private passion for break dancing.

Jack Scott

Jack Scott, the school announcer with a larger-than-life personality, longs to be a D.J. A quirky radio personality with a unique sense of style.

Zeke Baylor

Zeke Baylor, Troy's other best buddy, is a basketball player with a sweet side. He has two secrets: a crush on Sharpay and a love for baking!

Ms. Darbus

Ms. Darbus is East High's eccentric drama teacher. Passionate and disciplined, she never stops trying to enrich the lives of her students through the wonders of live theater. Wacky, but has lots of heart and genuinely loves the art and her students.

Coach Bolton

Coach Bolton, the stern basketball coach and Troy's sometimes overbearing dad, lost the big game years ago and wants a second chance through his basketball-star son.

Ensemble:

- Brainiacs (Martha, Kratnoff, etc)
- Jocks (Chad, Zeke, Jason, etc)
- Cheerleaders
- Thespians:
 - **James**, an earthworm expressionist, no sense of pitch
 - **Susan**, overwrought with emotion
 - **Cathy**, a little too eager, no sense of tempo
 - **Alan**, has a flair for couture
 - **Cyndra**, overdramatic soprano, has operatic aspirations
- Skaterz:
 - **Ripper**, has a secret passion for the Cello
 - **Mongo**, a little out of it
- Rebels
- Students
- Teachers (Ms. Tenny, Decathlon Moderator)