Playhouse Square[®]



Jeacher Resource Guide: DISCOVERING THE PERFORMING ARTS



The lessons and activities in this guide are driven by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects (2010) which help ensure that all students are college and career ready in literacy no later than the end of high school. The College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language define general, cross-disciplinary literacy expectations that must be met for students to be prepared to enter college and workforce training programs ready to succeed.

21st century skills of creativity, critical thinking and collaboration are embedded in the process of bringing the page to the stage. Seeing live theater encourages students to read, develop critical and creative thinking and to be curious about the world around them.

This Teacher Resource Guide includes background information, questions, and activities that can stand alone or work as building blocks toward the creation of a complete unit of classroom work.

Community engagement and education programs at Playhouse Square are made possible by the generous support of foundations, corporations and donors.



Before the Show

Musical Theater 101 Elements of Production Why is Musical Theater Important? Glossary Coming to the Theater

Pre-Show Activities

- Evolution
- Everyone's a Star!
- Inspiration

Post-Show Activities

- Debate
- Improvisation for the Classroom
- Critical Response Questions
- Resources

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Before the Show MUSICAL THEATER 101

What is Musical Theater?

Musical theater is defined as the presentation of a story using the elements of music, singing and dancing on a stage in front of a live audience. This art of telling stories either through or with songs dates back to time immemorial. The ancient Greeks included music and dance in many of their stage comedies and tragedies as early as the 5th Century B.C. Staged in open-air amphitheaters, these plays featured humor, political and social satire, jugglers, and anything else that might entertain the masses. While these plays had no direct effect on the development of musical theater as we know it, they prove that musicals have been around for at least 2,500 years.

History of Musical Theater

The origins of the musical trace all the way back to story telling ballads. The ballads were stories in songs, passed down orally from generation to generation. In 1597, *Dafne*, the first opera emerged. Like ballads, opera told stories through music. However, opera is written down and performed on stage. And from opera, the operetta, literally meaning "little opera," developed. Relative to its predecessor, operettas dealt with less serious topics and used more dialogue. Finally, in 1866, the very first musical, *The Black Crook* by Charles M. Barras and Giuseppe Operti, was performed in New York. However, American musical theater did not establish its own identity until after the turn of the twentieth century.

George M. Cohan – librettist, lyricist, and composer – was a powerful influence in creating a truly native musical art form. Not only were the settings and characters of Cohan's musicals thoroughly American, but his dialogue, lyrics and melody had the spirit of energy and pride that were unmistakably American. Cohan also established some of the procedures governing musical-comedy writing. Any plot, however improbable, was possible just so long as it could be the frame for songs and dances. For many years, American musicals were governed by this principle.

However, efforts were made to break loose from the rigid formula. The greatest revolution in American musical theater up to that time came in 1927 with *Show Boat* by Oscar Hammerstein II and Jerome Kern. The show featured popular music, such as jazz and gospel, which separated *Show Boat* from both operetta and all the musicals before it. Here was a complete integration of song, humor and production numbers into a single and inextricable artistic entity; a musical with a consistent and credible story line, authentic atmosphere and three-dimensional characters. Then came the first of the Rodgers and Hammerstein masterworks, *Oklahoma!* in 1943, with which musical theater finally became a significant American art form. According to Rodgers, "By opening the show with the woman alone onstage and the cowboy beginning his song offstage, we did more than set a mood; we were, in fact, warning the audience, 'Watch out! This is a different kind of musical.'" The national tour of *Oklahoma!* ran for an unprecedented ten years, playing before a combined audience of more than ten million people. In 1955, *Oklahoma!* was made into a film where it also found great success.

During the late 1950s and early 1960s, popular music began to change with rock 'n roll becoming more main stream. This trend influenced musicals such as *West Side Story* (1957) and *Bye Bye Birdie* (1960) to feature more popular, contemporary music. *Hair* in 1968 continued this movement by incorporating rock music and storylines based on the hearts of the younger generation.

And setting a pattern that would redefine Broadway, *Cats* premiered in 1982, introducing opulent sets, extravagant costumes and makeup, and over-the-top special effects. The visual spectacle was unlike the painted backdrops and simple costumes seen in the past. *Cats* became the longest-running show in Broadway history with 7,493 shows. But in 2006, *The Phantom of the Opera* took over as the longest running show on Broadway and still continues with 11,439 shows and counting!

Then came *Rent* in 1996, which revolutionized the very concept of musical theater around the world. Rent blended pop, dance, salsa, rhythm and blues, gospel and rock music together to tell its moving tale of hopes and dreams, while also addressing the serious and controversial issues of homelessness, AIDS and drug addiction. Rent not only challenged the mainstream, but reinvented it. Shows following Rent such as Ragtime (1998) and Wicked (2003) also contained intricate storylines and unique styles of music, while addressing social and political issues. Fun Home (2013), the five-time Tony award winning musical is currently playing on Broadway. This groundbreaking musical is based on the acclaimed graphic novel by Alison Bechdel. The cartoonist relives her unique childhood playing at the family's Bechdel Funeral Home, her growing understanding of her own sexuality and the looming, unanswerable questions about her father's hidden desires and sudden death.

ELEMENTS OF PRODUCTION

A musical is much more than the two and a half hour show the audience sees. The production process often takes many months, even years, to complete.



Creative Team No musical would be possible without the imagination or inspiration of its **authors**. Many times, the idea for a show grows from an existing book, play, article or movie. Other times,

authors write musicals from an original idea or concept. Once an idea is developed, **composers** and **lyricists** begin to write the songs. The music needs to not only fit the overall tone and pace of the musical, but also contain lyrics that help the audience understand the story and its characters. The **choreographer** designs dance sequences for the performers. The dances are intricate movements that allow the performers to express the meaning of each song. The **director** works with all of them to help guide the overall artistic vision of the show.

Cast

The director works with the **casting agent** to **cast** both the **principal performers** and the **ensemble** or **chorus** members. Each performer must have a well-trained singing voice, acting skills and the ability to dance, and fit the look of his/her character. These elements are all evaluated during the audition process. Actors are generally asked to bring a **headshot** as well as perform two pieces, one **up-tempo song** and one **ballad**. Those who are not chosen for a principal role through the **auditioning** process sometimes become **standbys** or **understudies**, who take over the part when the leading actor is unable to perform. There are also **swings**, who serve as backups for ensemble or chorus members.



Rehearsal

The cast will do an initial **read-through** of the script, without singing or dancing, followed by additional practices with the **rehearsal**

pianist. The music director or conductor teaches and rehearses the music with the orchestra and is responsible for the musical aspect of the production. The dance captain, sometimes together with the choreographer, teaches and rehearses the dance sequences with the performers. During rehearsals, the director coaches the actors' reading of the lines and emotions and also gives them their **blocking**, line by line, scene by scene. Next, the cast does a sitzprobe, where they sit and sing with the orchestra before incorporating any staging, scenery, costumes or props. Eventually, the cast does a wandelprobe, where they run through the show, including movements and dancing, while the orchestra plays. The technical rehearsal is when the full cast and crew walk through the entire show, ensuring every light cue, sound effect, microphone, etc. works as planned. This rehearsal is mainly for the tech staff. The cast and crew will also go through a dress rehearsal, many times more than one, to bring all the different elements (costumes, music, dance, lights, sound) together.



Crew

The **set designer** creates the locale and period in which the musical occurs. While some sets are very simple and focuses the audience's

attention on the show itself, some are lavish and extravagant, providing visual appeal. The head carpenter is responsible for building the actual set. The lighting designer decides where the lighting instruments should go, how they should be colored, and which ones should be on at any particular time. The **electrician** implements the lighting designer's work and makes sure the lights are set properly and safely. The property (props) master is in charge of obtaining or making and maintaining all props used in the show. He or she also sets the props in their proper places before the show begins. There is also a flyman, who operates the flying system (if necessary), and controls the raising and lowering of backdrops, light set pieces and the curtain itself. When young performers (18 and younger) need extra guidance and direction, the child wrangler helps them through the rehearsals and production for a smooth and successful show. The stage manager is responsible for the overall integrity of a

production. He or she assists the director by calling out forgotten lines during rehearsals, and "**calls the show**," making sure each performance runs as smoothly as possible.



Sound The sound designer plans the layout of all sound playback and equipment for the show and adjusts the pitch, volume, duration and overall

quality of the music to meet each specific scene's needs. The **sound operator** executes the sound designer's plans and handles the mixing equipment for the show. Music and sound must fit the context in which they are used. The adjustments are made using the **soundboard**. The **sound effects designer** is responsible for creating or enhancing sounds distinct from music and dialogue, such as doorbells or running water.



Costumes and Makeup The costume designer first researches the setting of the musical. Costumes must be appropriate for the time period and culture of the show

while also practical enough to all for movement and dance. He or she then decides which styles and fabrics to use and draws the costumes in renderings. Through costume fittings, the **tailor** adjusts the outfits to fit each individual performer. During dress rehearsals and performances, actors have dressers to help put on his or her costume. The ensemble or chorus members also have **dressers** to help them change during quick character or scene transitions. The **makeup artist** is responsible for applying cosmetics to each performer's face and body to increase visibility, enhance certain features and modify the actor's look to resemble his or her character. In addition to makeup, certain roles call for a specific hairstyle. The **wig master/ mistress** obtains the wigs, styles and shapes them, and helps the actors put them on.

Audience

At the front of the theater, audience members will see a marquee displaying the name of the show being performed that night. After purchasing tickets at the box office and entering the theater, audience members will receive a program, which provides information about the show, actors' biographies, a song listing, characters, scenes and possibly a synopsis. An usher escorts them to their seats, which may be in the boxes, orchestra, mezzanine or gallery sections. Each show typically begins with an overture and is separated into two acts by a fifteen-minute intermission. At the end of intermission, the entr'acte plays, signaling the start of act two. The show ends with the finale. Audience members will then give a standing ovation if they felt the show was exceptionally good. The house manager oversees all aspects of the audience, including supervising the ushers and contacting the stage manger about any audience delays for starting the show or ending intermission.

WHY IS MUSICAL THEATER IMPORTANT

Musical theater can help students grow academically, aesthetically and personally. Musical theater writers, lyricists and composers have long looked to literature for their inspiration and subject material. As a result, students have the opportunity to engage in literary analysis of both the story and its inspiration. Elementary students can begin to explore plot and characters, while junior high and high school students can delve into theme, symbolism and historical context.

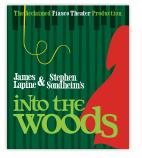
Students will also have the opportunity to discover how music, dance, lighting, backdrops, etc. contribute to the

show. Musical theater allows young people to explore the elements of production beyond television and film, and gain a greater appreciation for the arts.

Musical theater can bring students together, build confidence and solidarity, and stimulate discussion. Furthermore, with shows that address political or social issues, musical theater encourages young people to reflect on these issues, explore alternative options for action and build a personal commitment to change. Playhouse Square*



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INTO THE WOODS fiascotheater.com/into-the-woods-3/ January 10-29, 2017 Distance Learning: January 24 THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME curiousonbroadway.com/ March 21 – April 9, 2017 Distance Learning: March 28

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S THE KING AND I

kingandibroadway.com/ February 7-26, 2017 Distance Learning: February 14

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS anamericaninparisbroadway.com/ June 20-July 9, 2017 **SOMETHING ROTTEN!** rottenbroadway.com/ April 25-May 14, 2017



GLOSSARY

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Author - the writer of a musical script

Auditioning – to perform in order to get a role in the production; usually includes singing, dancing and reading scenes from the show

 $\ensuremath{\textbf{Ballad}}$ – a slow, romantic song for actors to showcase vocal clarity

Blocking - the specific movements of actors on stage

Box - a separate compartment of seats usually elevated on the sides of the theater

 $\ensuremath{\text{Box office}}\xspace - a$ booth inside the theater where tickets are sold

Calling the Show – the process of calling out the lighting, sound and scene-change cues during a performance, usually done by the stage manager

Casting – the process through which actors are chosen for roles in the production

 $\label{eq:casting agent} \ensuremath{\mathsf{Casting agent}}\xspace - \ensuremath{\mathsf{one}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{who}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{castors}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{space}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{agent}}\xspace \ensuremat$

Child Wrangler – one who works with child performers

Choreographer – one who designs dance sequences

Composer – one who writes music

Conductor - one who directs the orchestra

Dance captain – one who teaches and rehearses dance sequences with the performers

Director – one who supervises the creative aspects and guides the artistic vision of the production

Dress Rehearsal – rehearsal in which performers practice with costumes and props

Dresser – one who assists performers with their costumes during dress rehearsals and shows

Electrician – one who works with the lighting designer to adjust and operate lighting instruments

Ensemble / Chorus – a group of singers, dancers or actors who perform musical numbers

 ${\bf Flyman}$ – one who pulls the curtain before and after performances and operates the flying system, if one is used

Gallery – the section of seats in a theater farthest away from the stage; separated into front gallery and rear gallery

Head Carpenter – one who builds the sets for the production

Headshot - a photograph of an actor from the shoulders

House Left – the left side of the theater, when facing the stage (audience's point of view)

House Manager – one who oversees all aspects of the audience; responsible for ushers and audience safety

House Right – the right side of the theater, when facing the stage (audience's point of view)

Lighting designer – one who decides where the lighting instruments should go, how they should be colored, and which ones should be on at any particular time to affect mood, visibility, and to showcase costumes and sets

Lyricist – one who writes the words to a song

Makeup Artist – one who applies cosmetics to a performer's face and body

Marquee – a signboard projecting over the theater's entrance

Mezzanine – the middle section of seats in a theater between the orchestra and the gallery; separated into front mezzanine and rear mezzanine

 $\ensuremath{\textbf{Music}}$ $\ensuremath{\textbf{director}}$ – one who teaches and rehearses the music with the orchestra

Orchestra – the section of seats in a theater immediately behind where the orchestra sits

Principal performers – the leading actors, those who portray the major roles

Program – a listing of the order of events, names of the cast and crew, and other relevant information for the production

Property (props) Master – one who manages all items used on stage that cannot be classified as scenery, electrics or wardrobe

 $\ensuremath{\textit{Read-through}}$ – the cast reads through the script without movement or music

Rehearsal Pianist – one who plays the piano for early-stage rehearsals

Set designer – one who creates the scenery for the stage

Sitzprobe – the first rehearsal with both the performers and the orchestra, with no staging or dancing

Sound Designer– one who plans and executes the layout of all sound playback and equipment for the show

Sound Operator – one who handles the sound playback and mixing equipment for the show; works with the sound designer

Sound Board – a desk comprising a number of input channels where each sound source is provided with its own control channel through which sound signals are routed into two or more outputs; changes the quality of the sound

Sound Effects Designer – one who creates or enhances sounds that are not part of the music or dialogue

Standby / Understudy – one who studies a role and is prepared to substitute the principal performer when needed

Stage Left – the left side of the stage, when facing the audience (performer's point of view)

Stage Manager – one who is responsible for the quality of the show's production, assists the director and oversees the show at each performance

Stage Right – the right side of the stage, when facing the audience (performer's point of view)

Swing – one who is prepared to substitute for ensemble or chorus members who are unable to perform

Tailor – one who alters garments to fit a person's specific measurements

Technical Rehearsal - rehearsal incorporating the technical elements of a show, such as the scene and property shifts, lighting, sound, and special effects

Up-tempo song – a fast, upbeat song for actors to showcase dancing and acting ability

Usher – one who guides audience members to their seats

Wandelprobe – rehearsal in which the performers practice singing and dancing on stage while the orchestra plays

Wig Master/Mistress – one who obtains and customizes wigs for performers to wear



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Coming to Playhouse Square

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Playhouse Square is an exciting field trip destination! As the country's largest performing arts center outside of New York, the not-for-profit Playhouse Square attracts more than one million guests to 1,000+ performances and events each year. Playhouse Square thus acts as a catalyst for economic growth and vitality within the region. When you visit, be sure to note the GE Chandelier, the world's largest outdoor chandelier, and the retro Playhouse Square sign with its 9-foot-tall letters!

Tips for a great field trip:

- Students and teachers will be escorted by a RedCoat volunteer or staff member through Idea Center to the Westfield Insurance Studio Theatre.
- If you are bringing brown bag lunches, please make sure your lunches are clearly marked with your school name so they do not get mixed up with another school's lunches.
- Students will be participating in three performing arts workshops: acting, dancing and improvisation.
- Success of the workshops depends on <u>complete</u> student participation. Workshops are not for sitting and observing.
- Students should wear comfortable shoes (i.e., tennis shoes) and clothing that they can easily move in (no skirts or dresses, please).
- There is no food, drink or gum permitted in any of the workshop areas.
- We ask that teachers wait until the end of each workshop to take pictures as it can be distracting for both the teaching artists and students.
- After the workshops, a RedCoat will escort you to your bus for your trip back to school. Please make sure everyone has all of their personal belongings.







Pre-Show Activities EVOLUTION

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

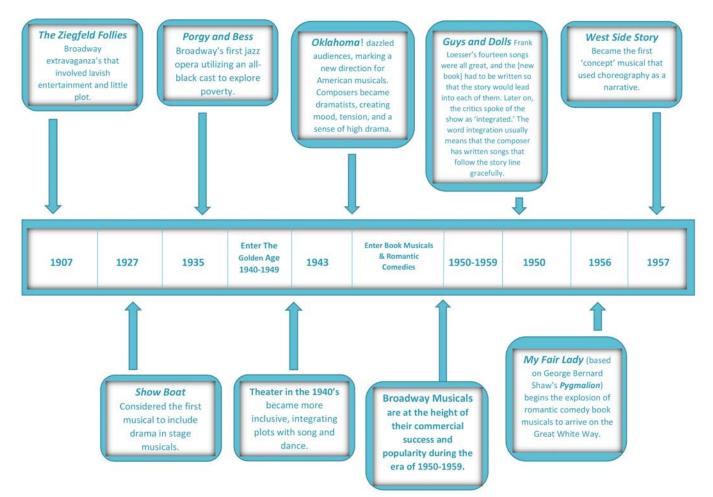
Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization and analysis of content. W.K-5.2

Make strategic use of digital medial and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations. SL.K-5.5

Objective: to learn the major shows throughout the history of musical theater.

Action: Have students create a timeline of the major musicals (*Show Boat, Oklahoma, West Side Story, Bye Bye Birdie, Hair, Cats, Rent, Ragtime, Wicked*) and draw pictures to represent each one. (Create timeline with dates below but not so juvenile-looking)

Materials: construction paper, crayons/markers/colored pencils



Musical Theater Timeline

EVERYONE'S A STAR!

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally. **SL.K-5.2**

Objective: to learn the elements of production in musical theater, stimulate imagination, develop teamwork skills, build self-confidence.

Action: As a class, choose a story and act it out, incorporating music with real or homemade instruments.

Suggested Stories: Hansel and Gretel, Little Red Riding Hood, Three Little Pigs, Johnny Appleseed, Rapunzel, Rumpelstiltskin

Materials: homemade or real instruments, props (optional)



INSPIRATION

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. **RH.6-12.1**

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse medial and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

RH.6-12.7

Objective: to learn how historical context affects and inspires musical theater, develop research and public speaking skills

Action: Have students choose a musical to research and present on how the show reflects the times in which it was created, including historical figures and relevant social or political issues. Encourage students to watch videos of the show, study song lyrics and research the time period in which the musical was written.

Suggested Shows: Oklahoma, West Side Story, Bye Bye Birdie, Chicago, Annie, Rent



Post-Show Activities DEBATE

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse medial and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

RH.6-12.7, RI.6-12.6

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. **W.6-12.1**

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Conduct short as will as pore sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. W.6-12.7

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. **SL.6-12.1**

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Present information, findings and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose and audience. **SL.6-12.4**

Objective: to learn the differences between various media, develop public speaking and verbal expression skills, encourage self-expression

Action: Divide the class into three groups. Have each group choose a form of media – television, movies or theater – and debate one another on which medium is the best. Make sure students support their claims with specific benefits and limitations of each medium.



IMPROVISATION FOR THE CLASSROOM

Machine

Comprehension and Collaboration: 1

This is a great game that gives the kids a chance to express themselves creatively both physically and vocally. A leader begins by making some sort of noise and motion repeatedly (such as pushing their hand forward and honking), and participants join in one at a time, interacting with those already in play to create a human machine that moves and makes sound. This game can be used to encourage members to leave their inhibitions behind and collaborate in a silly game. This game is also useful in learning to play with different height levels, collaborating with other members, and repeating a motion/sound over and over. For more advanced/older kids, the machine can be made to actually accomplish a task, such as making a pizza.

Variations

Tell the players the machine goes into overdrive, until it explodes. Or tell the players the power's out, and the machine slowly grinds to a halt.

Viola Spolin (November 7, 1906 — November 22, 1994) was an important innovator of the American theater in the 20th century. She created directorial techniques to help actors to be focused in the present moment and to find choices improvisationally, as if in real life.

These acting exercises she later called Theater Games and formed the first body of work that enabled other directors and actors to create improvisational theater. Her book, "Improvisation for the Theater," which published these techniques, includes her philosophy,

as well as her teaching and coaching methods and is considered the "bible of improvisational theater."

Spolin's contributions were seminal to the improvisational theater movement in the U.S. She is considered to be the mother of Improvisational Theater. Her work has influenced American theater, television and film by providing new tools and techniques that are now used by actors, directors and writers.

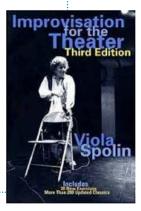


College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening Comprehension and Collaboration: 1

This works on peripheral vision and ensemble playing. One player is sent outside the room, and the others form a circle. The players in the circle decide on one of them to initiate the motion. That person starts some easy, repeatable motion, and the single player is brought in and placed in the center of the circle. The initiator changes the motion every so often; the person in the center tries to guess who the initiator is, getting three guesses. It is up to the caller to make sure that the initiator changes motion frequently enough and that the guesser doesn't take too long between guesses. If everyone in the group stares at the initiator, the guesser will have no problem. The trick is to look at someone who is looking at

someone, who looking at the initiator, who is in turn looking at someone else. The motion trickles outward from the initiator. It's up to the guesser to find the center of the pattern.





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Critical Response Questions After Discovering the Performing Arts

Students develop their comprehension when they reflect upon what they wondered about, noticed and felt. Ignite a classroom discussion with the following critical response questions:

- 1. How did you feel about reading scenes you have never seen before?
- 2. How do you talk about musical theater dance to people that have not encountered it?
- 3. After participating in Discovering The Performing Arts, what skills stayed with you? Why?
- 4. What questions did the workshops bring up after participating in Discovering The Performing Arts?
- 5. Name three tools you will use after participating in these workshops and why.
- 6. How will you use these new tools you were taught during other theater rehearsals and/or performances?

- 7. Tell me something you know now that you didn't know before participating in the acting, drams and improvisation workshops?
- 8. What was the most challenging workshop for you? Why?
- 9. Name one person in the arts that inspires you and why.
- 10. What was your thought about coming to Discovering The Performing Arts and did they change after your experience?



Critical Response Questions After Seeing a Broadway Show

- 1. Why do the characters sing instead of talk in a musical?
- 2. What role does music play in your life?
- 3. If you were to choose moments in your life to set to music, what would they be?
- 4. Which character in the performance is most like you? Why?
- 5. Which character in the performance is least like you? Why?
- 6. If you were writing a musical, what would the title be?
- 7. What emotion(s) did the performance make you feel? Describe the scene that stirred your emotions.
- 8. What is the plot of the musical?

- 9. Did the performance remind you of a book that you have read? What is the title? How are the performance and book similar?
- 10. How did the set add meaning to the performance?
- 11. What information did the costumes give you about the characters?
- 12. How did the story end? How would you change the ending?
- 13. Is there a part of the performance you would change? What would you change (script, lighting, music, set, costumes, etc.)?
- 14. What five words best describe the performance?
- 15. What skills and knowledge are needed to create a performance?



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Books

Broadway Costumes on a Budget: Big Time Ideas for Amateur Producers by Janet Litherland, Sue McAnally. Meriwether Publishers 1996.

Acting Games: Improvisations and Exercises: A Textbook of Theatre Games and Improvisations by Marsh Gary Cassady. Meriwether Publishers 1993.

The Costume Designer's Handbook: A Complete Guide for Amateur and Professional Designers by Rosemary Ingham, Liz Covey.

*The Drama Teacher's Survival Guide #2: Activities, exercises, and techniques for the theatre classroo*m, by Margaret F. Johnson. Meriwether Publishing, 2011.

Elegantly Frugal Costumes: The Poor Man's Do-It-Yourself Costume Maker's Guide by Shirley Dearing. Meriwether Publishers 1992.

Let's Put on a Musical!: How to Choose the Right Show for Your School, Community or Professional Theater, by Peter Filichia. Back Stage Books; Revised edition (July 24, 2007)

Musicals!: Directing School and Community Theatre by Robert Boland, Paul Argentini, William Gibson. Scarecrow Press 1997.

Stage Makeup Step-By-Step: The Complete Guide to Basic Makeup Planning and Designing by Rosemarie Swinfield. Betterway Publishing 1995.

Stage it With Music: An Encyclopedic Guide to American Musical Theatre by Thomas S. Hischak. Greenwood Publishing Group 1993.

Stage Lighting in the Boondocks: A Lawman's Handbook of Down-To-Earth Methods of Lighting Theatricals with Limited Resources by James Hull Miller. Meriwether Publishers, 1987.

Staging a Musical by Matthew White, Stella Mary Newton. Routledge 1999.

Staging Musical Theatre by Deborah Novak. Betterway Publishing 1996.

Theater Games for the Classroom: A Teacher's Handbook by Viola Spolin. Northwestern University Press 1986.

Way Off Broadway: A Complete Guide to Producing Musicals with School and Community Groups by Lynn M. Soeby.

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Web Sites

http://www.backstage.com

http://www.broadwayleague.com

www.BroadwayNewYork.com

http://www.broadwayworld.com

http://www.didhelikeit.com

http://www.dramatists.com

http://www.ipayweb.org

http://www.mtishows.com

http://www.musicals101.com

http://lists.neohiopal.org/listinfo.cgi/neohiopal-neohiopal.org

http://www.nypl.org

http://www1.playbill.com/playbill

https://www.playscripts.com

http://www.samuelfrench.com

http://www.stageplays.com

http://www.tadatheater.com

http://www.TalkinBroadway.com

http://www.tamswitmark.com http://www.theatrelibrary.org/links/ActorsHistory. html#theatre

http://www.theaterscript.com

http://www.tonyawards.com

http://www.vl-theatre.com

Retail Stores

Drama Book Shop 250 West 40 Street, NYC 212-944-0595 www.dramabookshop.com

Theatre Circle Shop 1 Shubert Alley, NYC 346 West 44 Street, NYC 212-586-7610 800-223-1320 http://www.theatrecircleshop.com