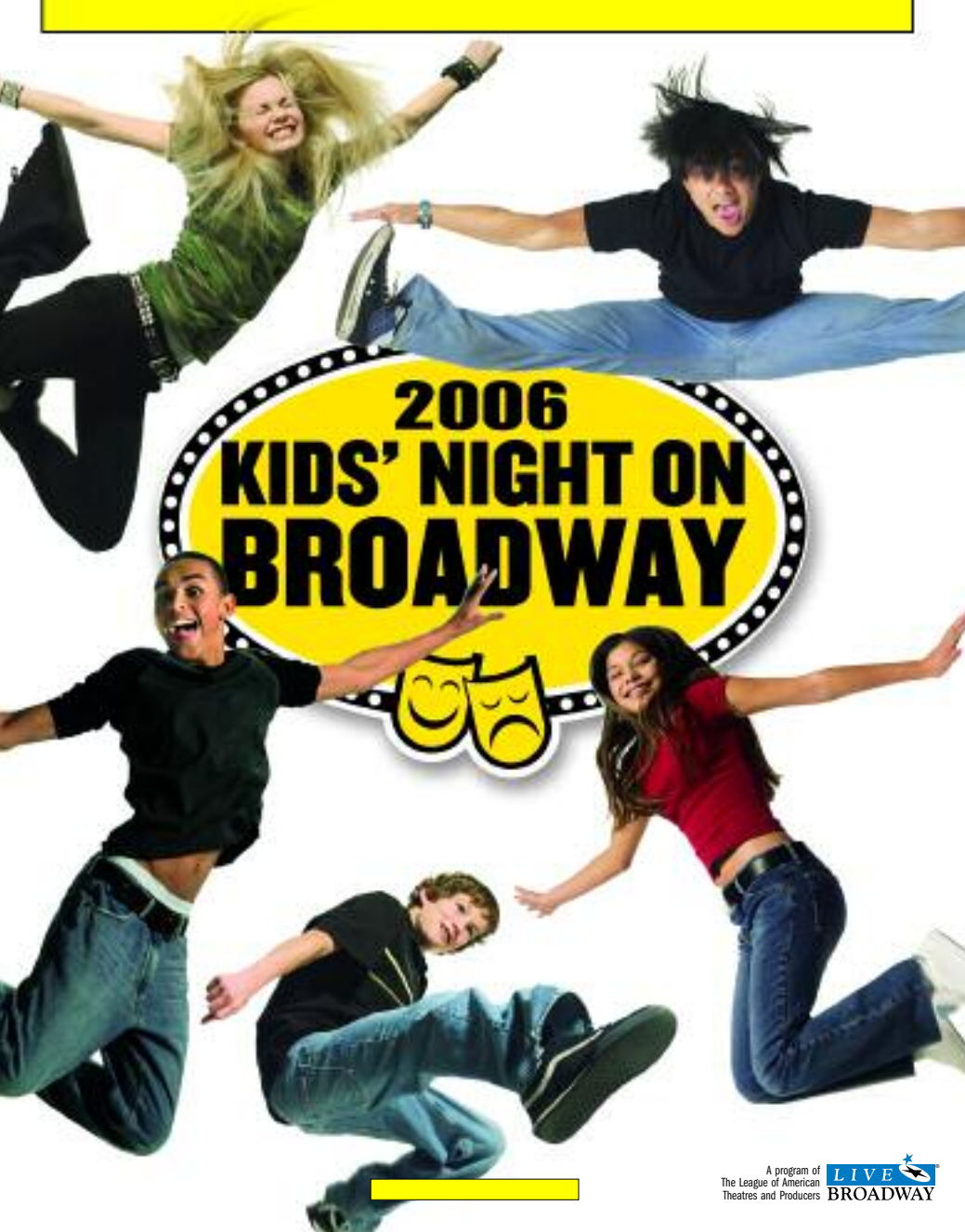


PLAYBILL®



A program of
The League of American
Theatres and Producers

LIVE
BROADWAY

Contributors



Holland Hamilton
Age 16
New York, NY



Julia Keimach
Age 15
New York, NY



Sohail Mathur
Age 17
Brooklyn, NY

EDITOR

Ben Pesner

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

David LeShay

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Branden Huldeen

DESIGNER

Kathie Rokita, Blue Sky Design, Inc.

SPECIAL THANKS: **Sarah Aziz, Bihata Bennett, Liz Bommarito, Michael Borowski, Alice Eve Cohen, Amanda Cooper, Stephen DiMenna, Carol Fineman, Bob Fennell, Carrie Friedman, Alyssa Hart, TDF Education Director Marianna Houston, Britt Marden, Tahra Millan, Eleanore Speert, and Don Summa.**



PRESENTS



WITH

The New York Times

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT



Kids' Night on Broadway® is a program

of the **League of American Theatres and Producers**, the national trade association for the Broadway industry. Each year, League members bring Broadway to nearly 25 million people in New York and on tour across the US and Canada.



The 2006 Kids' Night on Broadway® Playbill was produced

by **Theatre Development Fund**, the nation's largest not-for-profit service organization for the performing arts. TDF's mission is to foster works of artistic merit by supporting new productions and to broaden the audience for all the performing arts.

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Nick Reuchel (1), Manuel Harlan (2), Paul Kolnik (3, 10, 15), Joan Marcus (4, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16), Andrew Eccles (5), Chris Bennione (6), Oleg Mischev (7), Carol Rosegg (9, 12, 17)

Welcome!

Kids' Night on Broadway is turning 10 years old this year, and as the biggest kid in town, I was thrilled to be chosen as its spokesperson. I know from personal experience how theatre can impact one's life. I myself practically grew up in the theatre. My father was an actor and director. And look at me now!

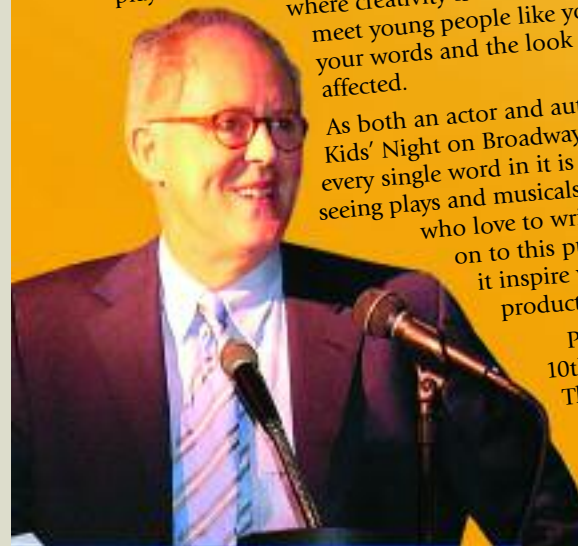
As a parent, I know how important it is to introduce young people to the arts beginning at an early age. A few of you may go on to perform in the theatre, or work backstage. But seeing plays and musicals is equally important because they introduce you to the limitless possibilities that exist within the four walls of the playhouse. The theatre is a domain where the imagination knows no bounds, where creativity is unsurpassed. When I have the good fortune to meet young people like you after a performance, I can tell by your words and the look on your faces that your lives have been affected.

As both an actor and author, one of my favorite aspects of Kids' Night on Broadway is this special souvenir *Playbill*. Nearly every single word in it is written by young people who love seeing plays and musicals. What a wonderful combination: kids who love to write, and who love the theatre. So hold on to this publication. Use it as a resource, and let it inspire you as you learn about how theatrical productions are created.

Please join me in wishing a happy 10th birthday to Kids' Night on Broadway. Thank you for being part of the celebration, and enjoy the show you are seeing tonight. I hope you will continue to make theatre-going a part of your life for many years to come.

John Lithgow

John Lithgow is a two-time Tony Award®-winning actor who most recently created the role of Laurence Jameson in Broadway's *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. He is the author of six best-selling books for young people, and, most recently, of *A Lithgow Palooza: 101 Ways to Entertain and Inspire Your Kids*, a unique collection of ideas and activities for parents to teach to their children.



PRESENTS



We wanted to find out what kids think is so great about seeing a play or musical performed live. So we asked some experts—NYC high school kids participating in TDF's Theatre Education Programs.

Ask the Experts: What Makes Theatre So Cool?

Anastasia Usinowicz

Midwood H.S.
Grade 12 **OD**



Theatre is so great because of its **power to transport the audience**. Much like a

movie or even a book, it can take one to another place, another time. What makes theatre better is that it's live; the audience feeds off of the energy of the performers, and vice versa. It's the extra **energy and excitement** that comes from live actors that makes theatre cool.

Nervana Gaballa

Midwood H.S.
Grade 12 **OD**



Going to the theatre and watching a Broadway show not only enables a

person to walk in a character's shoes, but it also gives a wonderful opportunity for a person to witness that character's life unfold right before his/her eyes. A Broadway show is a **story-book told with actions and movements**, so it's more fun and easier to see a character's actions and expressions on stage than it would be if you read the action in a book.

Yiovanny Madera

John F. Kennedy H.S.
11th Grade **TH**



Going to the theatre is so cool because it gives us an opportunity to **use our**

imagination to travel somewhere our lives don't take us. Going to the theatre is so cool because it gives us a chance to learn something new.

Jennelle Baptiste

Midwood H.S.
Grade 12 **OD**



Theatre is cool because it is a chance for us to break the mold and think out-

side the box. We don't have to like what we see, but we are certainly asked to think and to react, and to form our own opinions. Theatre offers us a **chance to escape from the real world** (if only for a moment) as we delve into the woes and worries of strangers. For an hour or two we are captivated and captured by a whole new realm, and the rest of the world fades away. As young people, we often find ourselves smack dab in the middle of a cultural wasteland, but through the stage we are exposed to true, genuine art and entertainment.

Lina Li

Townsend Harris H.S.
11th Grade **OD**



What isn't cool about going to the theatre?! With every-one going to watch

movies, the experience of the theatre is more than unique. With the live actors and live music, the theatre is a trip where **all your senses are heightened and thoughts are provoked**. Going to a theatre each time is like opening a gift, clichéd as it may sound. You may think you know everything, yet the power of the performance will still shock you. Everything, and I mean everything, is amazing about the theatre.

Melanie Mitta

Dewitt Clinton H.S.
9th grade **RAP**



Something cool about theatre is that it unleashes the opinions of not

only the playwright, but the audience as well. It's a simple and unique way to make a difference in this society....**It's exciting to see plays that might conquer your mind.**

Krystal Hartley

Townsend Harris H.S.
11th Grade **OD**



You know the feeling of just being able to be; to forget the feeling of insecurity,

how much money you have, or where you're from. That's how I feel sitting in a theatre seat. It's that moment when everyone in the audience is hypnotized by the action on stage and the emotions that are evoked. It is [an experience] that enables us to be in our individuality, and yet be joined by others.

It is the joy of just being me, and feeling like I belong—in a place of lights, beauty, and magic!

Ester Puente

Lafayette H.S.
9th Grade **SD**



What is cool about going to the theatre is hearing the people singing live.

I get goose bumps every time.

Niamkha Berlinger

Lafayette H.S.
10th Grade **SD**



Going to the theatre is magical. Theatre is a place for comedy, tragedy,

and, last but not least, wonder. Theatregoing is **a fascinating mix of the expected and the unexpected**. There is nothing that is not cool about going to the theatre. Anything is feasible at the theatre. It is a world for the mind to explore [with many different aspects of imagination.

John Santucci

Townsend Harris H.S.
11th Grade **OD**



The theatre allows us to escape reality. As soon as the curtain goes up and the

orchestra begins, **we are welcomed into another world** where we can see another reality. I have only been to theatre a few times, yet each time feels like the first time. The theatre, for me, has been a place to sit back and enjoy. We are privileged to learn lessons in life and take on new adventures.

Jonathan Nelson

Lafayette H.S.
9th Grade **SD**



The thing that is cool about going to the theatre is the excitement. The joy of

being in the theatre is watching something live. Whenever I see a play **I feel like jumping into the action with the actors.**

Key

SD Stage Doors—introduces middle and high school students to live theatre through classroom workshops

RAP Residency Arts Project—an intensive in-school playwriting program

OD Open Doors—matches groups of high school students with theatre professionals as mentors who guide their introduction to professional live theatre.

TH Talking Hands—serves students with hearing loss by providing open captioned and sign language interpreted performances of Broadway shows.

For information on these and other programs, visit www.tdf.org.

4 Shades of Purple

By Sohail Mathur

The Color Purple at the Broadway Theatre is a wonderful experience made all the more enchanting by its four youngest cast members. Zipporah G. Gatling (age 12), Chantylla “Chauncey” Johnson (8), and Leon G. Thomas III (12) each play several roles in this musical based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker and the film of the same title. Corinne McFarlane (13) has the challenging task of being a “swing,” meaning she is the stand-in for all three of the other kids.

The Color Purple follows the life of Celie, a poor, uneducated black woman who triumphs over adversity and reunites with her long-lost sister, Nettie. When the show begins, Chauncey and Zipporah are the first performers the audience sees (they play Nettie and Celie as little girls). They handle the responsibility very well. When I went backstage this fall, Zipporah told me that it is important that they do a wonderful job because they set the tone for the rest of the play.

Both Zipporah and Leon have performed on Broadway in *The Lion King*. Leon was also in *Caroline, or Change*, so they know

something about juggling their schoolwork and acting. “It’s not easy, but you have to do it,” says Leon. “I try to do my homework during the show, but if I can’t I have to do it some other time.” Corinne does hers in the car on the way to the theatre. “And,” she adds, “I study once I get here.”

It’s not easy performing night after night, and on evenings and weekends. Zipporah points out, “We never have a day off. The other actors and actresses have a day off on Monday, but we have to go to school.”

However it’s not just all work and no play. These four young cast members still manage to hang out with their friends and enjoy each other’s company backstage when they aren’t performing. “We don’t have weekends, but that’s OK. [Being backstage] is like our weekend,” says Zipporah. “We get to cool down and hang out with each other.”

A highlight of being in *The Color Purple* was the opportunity to meet one of its producers, media mogul Oprah Winfrey. The kids joyously informed me that Ms. Winfrey gave them video

iPods and flew them out to Chicago to perform on her show. Leon was especially happy since he got to meet his favorite music artist, Beyoncé.

While these talented young performers have all learned a lot from acting in *The Color Purple*, no one knows that the “show must go on” better than Corinne. She has to learn all the parts and be ready to jump in to the show at any time in case of an emergency. Chauncey, the youngest, claimed she used to be very shy until the first time she performed on stage. She spoke for all four when she told me, “I’m so happy to be in this show.”



Sohail is a senior at Brooklyn Technical High School in Fort Greene. He spends most of his time swimming with his school and club teams.

Left to right: Zipporah, Chauncey, and Corinne. Front: Leon.



How I SPELLED My Way to Broadway

By Holland Hamilton

For my mom’s birthday this year, my dad decided to take the family to several Broadway shows. I was thrilled when I heard *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* was on the list! It’s a musical about teenagers who compete in a spelling bee, and before each performance several people from the audience are chosen to come on stage and participate in the show.

When we got to the theatre, my mom and I signed up as volunteers. How great are my chances of getting picked, anyway? I thought. I barely heard “Holland” when my mom shrieked, “That’s you. GO!” As I followed the stage manager and absent-mindedly listened to her instructions, I became increasingly nervous. I’m not a good enough speller. I was shaking when they called me up on stage. The set suggests a high school gym, and they seated me on the bleachers. Oh God, this is it. Then they began the bee.

Soon one of the other audience members was eliminated from the bee. OK, now I won’t feel so alone if I get out. Finally they called my name. Lisa Howard, who plays the host of the bee, made a joke that went something like, “Holland likes spending time with her two sisters, Norway and Ireland.” Ha ha. I don’t have two sisters! Oh wait, I get it. My word comes, and it’s “cow”. They’re kidding. They have to be kidding! I asked the actor playing the assistant principal, “May I have the definition please?” “Um...cow,” he replied. Embarrassed, I faithfully stuck to my “script.” “Can you use that in a sentence please?” He responded with, “Just spell the word, Holland.” I laughed. “C - O - W.”

Then came the song “Pandemonium.” I loved dancing with the actors, but then one of them came to the side of the bleachers and whispered, “Hold on.” WHAT? We started spinning. Oh my god, I’m going to die...I’m going to fly off and die. Later, in the song “Magic Foot,” I heard those dreaded words again — “Hold on.” I panicked. I just wanted to see an amazing show and maybe meet the actors—but we only moved about a half an inch. Relieved, I sighed; it was the first time I exhaled since my arrival onstage.



Inevitably, my turn to spell came again. I was still nervous, but more distressed that I was missing the seeing part of seeing the show. “CENACLE.” But I heard “cynical” and proceeded to spell that. The bell went off. As I walked back to my seat I heard people cheering. I couldn’t tell if it was out of obligation or because they really liked me. Oh, I guess it doesn’t matter, I thought. When I got to my seat I whispered to my dad, “Finally, I can watch the show!” But we both know what I was really thinking—When can I do it again?



FUN FACT: Holland Hamilton lives in Manhattan with her mom, her dad, and her cat, Nemo. She has absolutely fallen in love with *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and would one day like to be in it this time, for the entirety of the show.



1



3



2



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



12



11



13



14



15



16



17

All of the shows represented on this page are participating in Kids' Night on Broadway 2006. Can you match the photos to the show names below? (Answer key is on the Resources page)

Broadway

- Avenue Q
- Beauty and the Beast
- Chicago
- Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life
- The Color Purple
- Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
- Hairspray
- Mamma Mia!
- The Phantom of the Opera
- The Producers
- Rabbit Hole
- Rent
- Sweeney Todd
- The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
- The Woman in White

Off Broadway

- Altar Boyz
- Stomp

To get tickets and information about these shows, visit www.ILoveNYTheater.com

Get info on seeing these and other shows for \$25 or less at www.PlayByPlayOnline.org

Make your next trip to Manhattan's Theatre District complete with a visit to Madame Tussauds! Check out www.NYCWAX.com for more info.



And the Winners Are...

This autumn we held a writing contest for kids who love the theatre. We received dozens of entries from kids of all ages from every corner of the New York City metro-politan area.

Thanks and congratulations to all of you who took the time to submit an entry. We were thrilled with the response because we love hearing what you have to say.

So, without further ado, here are the two winning essays.

Why Theatre Is Important to Me

By Kimberly Carpluk

Imagine you're on a small, cramped stage, surrounded by people you didn't know until a few short months ago. These people are your fellow actors, your closest friends, your family. You exchange smiles with them as you squint, trying to block out the bright light that seems to be so focused on you. Music and lyrics emerge from your mouth, emerging with the voices of your peers and the brilliant Broadway music in the background. Thunderous applause rings out from the audience and you hold your final pose.

Theatre is important to me because it provides me with a family, whether I'm seeing a Broadway show or taking part in a community show at a local theatre group. Each new show I take part in holds new people who will soon become closer to me even than a sister or brother. You share everything with them; everything from the funny memories to the times when you were sick and tired at rehearsal and they comforted you. Eventually, we will forget the lines, lyrics, choreography, and even fellow actors, but for now we are a family. Theatre also brings natural families closer together. Seeing a Broadway show with you mom, dad, sister, or brother creates a strong bond through magic and enjoyment that means fun for the whole family. Discussion and praise of the show provides more bonding time.

Theatre is important to me because it means my time. The time that I spend obsessing over a show, learning the lyrics, listening to the CD over and over, and the time I spend trying to convince my parents why we should go see it. Theatre means the times I remember, my most precious memories. Like when I cried while watching Elphaba rise into the sky [in *Wicked*], or the time when we waited for autographs outside in the snow, and the lead came out to sign my *Playbill*. Theatre also means my time working, the hours I spent learning a song or waiting for the director to finish his speech.

Theatre is important to me because it is my passion. It's my originality, my identity. My passion for the arts is not normal or ordinary. It's an obsession that shows who was, who I am, and who I will someday come to be.



My Favorite Broadway Memory

By David Sheynberg

I was born with Broadway in my blood. From the day I first saw *Cats* to my most recent Broadway spectacle, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, I have loved nearly all of it. The excitement, the anticipation, and, finally, that one magic moment. I am going to tell you about just one of my memories.

It was quite a while ago, actually. I love *Cats*. My third time seeing it, I was sitting in the very first row, orchestra seats. It was amazing, the bright energy and vibrancy of the show, the beauty of the music...it was simply breathtaking.

A white cat with emerald eyes popped its face at my mother, startling her. The show unfolded like a flower bud, delicately and powerfully. Then Grizabella came out for her solo. The spotlight focused on her. The silence was wonderful and terribly scary all at once. Her face had a quiet, soft expression on it. Her clothes, gray, her slippers gray, the moment was simply, gray.

The music began to play. Grizabella began to move. Such a powerful, wonderful voice came from such a measly, quiet character. She sang maybe the most powerful words I've heard in my life, the song "Memory." She sang of hope, of finding something else. She won't ever give up.

Then the atmosphere of the room changed. It turned from simply sad, and gray, to...well I really can't say what color. Some people may call it pink, some may call it red, some may call it pearly white. But it changed. Everyone was looking at this "horrible" cat in a new light. Everyone was seeing Grizabella for the first time, and it was truly a moment that touched me. I saw myself in a whole new light.

I also loved *Rent*, *42nd Street*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and I could write an essay on each of them. Each show is special, and each show gives you its own special "memory." Who knows, maybe one day *Cats* will be revived on Broadway. And then I can give my children my memory. Or maybe, they can give me theirs. Until then, I will wait and "let the memory live again."



WINNERS

Kimberly Carpluk
Age 14
Laurence Harbor, NJ

David Sheynberg
Age 11
Oceanside, NY

FINALISTS

Casey Elizabeth Gill
Age 16
Califon, NJ

Alex Gold
Age 11
Chappaqua, NY

Aglaia Ho
Age 10
Forest Hills, NY

Courtney Pincus
Age 16
Oceanside, NY

HONORABLE MENTION

Catherine Barnao
Age 14
Brooklyn, NY

Melissa Chow
Age 14
Fresh Meadows, NY

Jennifer DiBella
Age 14
Bellmore, NY

Caitilin M. Kane
Age 14
Bethlehem, PA

Brittany Kramer
Age 17
Brooklyn, NY

Felicia Montalvo
Age 16
Queens Village, NY

Note: These essays have been edited slightly to fit the available space.



presents

RESOURCES

Theatre at Your Fingertips



Grab a book!

These titles are available at the Drama Book Shop in NYC (www.dramabookshop.com) and at many libraries, including the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center.

BEST FOR YOUNGER KIDS

NTC's Dictionary of Theatre and Drama Terms, by Jonnie Patricia Mobley, Ph.D. (NTC Language Dictionaries). An easy-to-use-guide to theatrical terms, history, and forms of drama. Entries are concise and informative.

12 Fabulously Funny Fairy Tale Plays, by Justin McCory Martin (Scholastic). Humorous dramatic renditions of favorite fairy tales that help with reading aloud and together.

Timothy Mason: Ten Plays for Children from the Repertory of the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis,

edited by Marisa Smith (Smith & Kraus). An anthology of dramatic adaptations by playwright Timothy Mason of classic works of children's literature and folklore.

Mouth Sounds: How to Whistle, Pop, Boing, and Honk for All Occasions... and Then Some, by Fred Newman (Workman Publishing). Step-by-step instructions for making sound effects that help the actor impersonate, learn, and perform. Includes a CD.

Hope's Greek and Roman Designs: 380 Permission-Free Designs (Dover Publications) CD-Rom and book of neoclassical illustrations copied from ancient vases and statuary. Good for costume and design work. With the CD-Rom you can browse, print, crop and rotate the images.

RECOMMENDED FOR KIDS AGES 12 AND UP

Find Your Voice, by Jo Thompson (Hal Leonard). Improve your singing through a combination of simple exercises, straightforward advice, and practical hints.

Acting for Life—A Textbook on Acting, by Jack Frakes (Merewether Publishing). A textbook for students and their teachers to aid in discovering the joy and basics of stage and film acting.

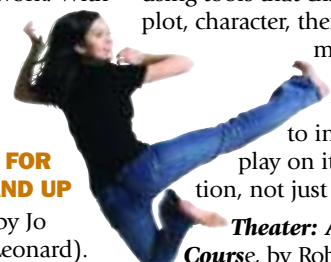
Speak With Distinction, by Edith Skinner (Hal Leonard). The basic book on stage speech technique, considered a classic.

Shakespeare Alive! Two-Minute Speeches and Monologues for Study, Audition, and Performance, edited by Fredi Olster and Rick Hamilton (Smith & Kraus). Shakespeare monologues with side-by-side vernacular translations to aid in understanding the text. Most are two minutes and under, and suitable for auditions.

Backwards & Forwards: A Technical Manual for Reading Plays, by David Ball (Southern Illinois University Press) A guide to play reading using tools that examine plot, character, theme, and more, giving the reader the tools to interpret the play on its foundation, not just its details.

Theater: A Crash Course, by Rob Graham (Watson-Guptil). A history of the theatre, covering a range of continents, centuries, and styles. With reference boxes and timelines.

Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus, by Marina Calderone and Maggie Lloyd-Williams (Drama Publishers). A thesaurus of action words from which the performer can refine an acting choice until he or she hits it right on. An essential companion for actors in rehearsal.



Costuming Made Easy: How to Make Theatrical Costumes from Cast-Off Clothing, by Barb Rogers (Meriwether Publishing). Over 100 costume designs, with photographs and diagrams, to help make costumes without knowledge of sewing, with a limited budget, and with very little time.

On the Internet

NEWS, REFERENCE, AND LISTINGS

Playbill® On-Line™
www.playbill.com

A major Internet resource for theatre news, listings, features, multimedia, history, tickets, and much more.

Play by Play
www.playbyplayonline.org
TDF's theatre newsletter written by and for teens (see back cover).

Theatermania.com and Broadway.com
Two of the best sources of information and listings.

OffBroadwayOnline.com
www.offbroadwayonline.com
All about what's playing Off Broadway.

Internet Broadway Database
www.ibdb.com
Production details on more than 12,000 Broadway shows from 1732 to the present.

I Love NY Theater
www.ILoveNYTheater.com
The definitive Internet guide to Broadway theatregoing in New York City, with everything you ever wanted to know about getting tickets and seeing shows. Available in six languages.

THEATRES FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES

Three theatre companies that stage works for family audiences:

New Victory Theater
www.NewVictory.org

TADA! www.tadatheater.com

TheatreworksUSA
www.TheatreworksUSA.org

PLAYS AND PLAYWRIGHTS

Plays Magazine
www.playsmag.com
The drama magazine for teens.

Young Playwrights Inc.
www.youngplaywrights.org
Information on contests, after-school playwriting workshops, and summer programs for writers ages 18 and younger.

OTHER RESOURCES

Generation Broadway
www.GenerationBroadway.com
A Web site for parents and teachers that provides tools to introduce young people to theatre, with show listings, activities, extensive links, and more.

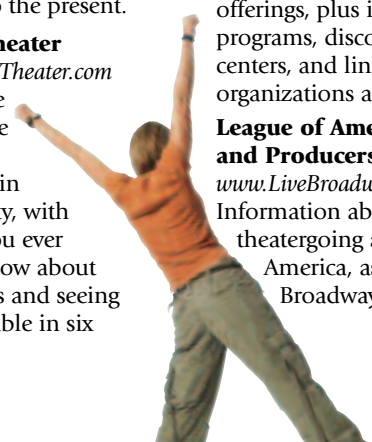
Official Tony Awards® Site
www.TonyAwards.com
A multimedia Web site that's all about the American Theatre Wing's Tony Awards®.

Theatre Development Fund
www.tdf.org
Up-to-the-minute news about NYC theatre, dance, and music offerings, plus info on school programs, discount ticket centers, and links to art organizations around the globe.

League of American Theatres and Producers
www.LiveBroadway.com
Information about Broadway theatregoing across North America, as well as special Broadway events.

ANSWER KEY FOR CENTERFOLD

- Avenue Q**
Barrett Foa with "Rod"
- The Woman in White**
Jill Paice, Maria Friedman, and Angela Christian
- The Color Purple**
LaChanze and Renee Elise Goldsberry
- Rent**
Matt Caplan and Cary Shields
- Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life**
Chita Rivera
- Hairspray**
John Pinette and Keala Settle
- Stomp**
- Mamma Mia!**
Lauren Mufson
- Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**
Norbert Leo Butz and members of the company
- Sweeney Todd**
Patti LuPone and Michael Cerveris
- The Phantom of the Opera**
Howard McGillin and Sandra Joseph
- Chicago**
Brenda Braxton and company
- Rabbit Hole**
Cynthia Nixon and John Slattery
- The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**
Jesse Tyler Ferguson
- The Producers**
Hunter Foster and John Treacy Egan
- Beauty and the Beast**
Ashley Brown
- Altar Boyz**



THE SOUNDS OF RENT

By Julia Keimach

I love *Rent*. I had seen the show once before; I just saw the movie; and I've listened to the cast album so many times it is almost memorized. But even though I am a technical theatre major, I never really thought about the sound elements of *Rent* until I found myself sitting on a piece of equipment one night watching the sound board operator work the show.

I arrived at the Nederlander Theatre and was introduced to Brian Ronan, who has worked on *Rent* since it opened on Broadway in 1996. He told me that what is unique about the sound of *Rent* is that it is not your traditional musical, but rather a full-blown rock opera set on the gritty Lower East Side of Manhattan. Part of the show's aesthetic is that the sound elements aren't hidden. Unlike in most shows, the actors' microphones and their battery pack are clearly visible. The five-part rock band is located on the stage, not hidden in the orchestra pit. The choice to make the elements visible was because part of the spirit of *Rent* is about being honest. The equipment is there, so what's to hide?

Many people don't know what the sound board operator does. Brian has cues for sound effects such as telephones ringing, microphone echoes, and Mark and Roger's answering machine. He must also mix each individual voice, as well as the band, to create a blend of sound that balances the actors with the music. According to actress Ava Gaudet, who plays Maureen, the actors rely heavily on Brian



Julia and Brian at the sound board

to control the volume of their microphones. Ava has previously sung in rock bands. She said that in a band you can control your own volume by changing the distance from microphone to your mouth, but on a show you have to trust the board operator to control it for you.

I was curious as to whether Brian has to alter the sound for understudies, or if an actor has a cold. He answered that he

has to make adjustments nightly.

Perhaps an actor has a sore throat, or is having an especially good day.

Either way, Brian needs to compensate for their volume. Occasionally, he will give actors a boost when they are struggling to hold a note, or lower their volume if they are singing especially loud.

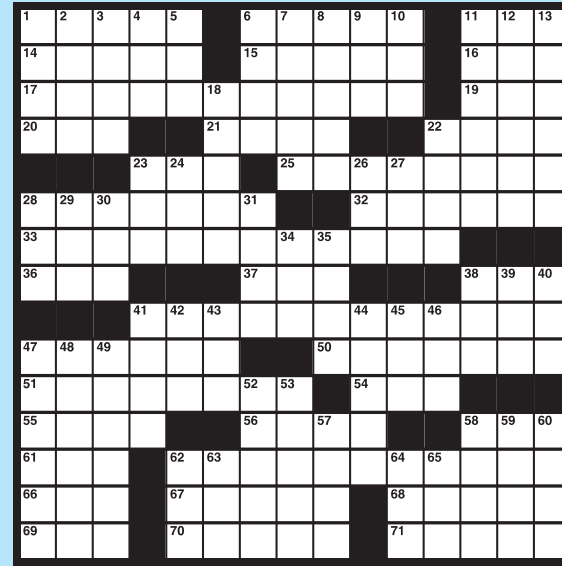
The main sound board is located at the back of the house, but there is another, smaller board backstage. A second operator creates a separate mix that is sent through speakers facing the actors. On this show especially, it is essential for the actors to hear themselves sing, which is difficult to do when there is a rock band playing ten feet away from you.

For a show like *Rent*, the sound is as important as any other element. After having worked on the show for nearly ten years, for Brian it is past memorized. It is, as he put it, "in your blood."



Julia Keimach is a sophomore technical theatre major at LaGuardia High School of the Arts. She has been to many Broadway shows since the age of five and plans to pursue a career in theatre or film, specifically in costumes, makeup, or acting.

Now Playing by Frank Longo



ACROSS

- 1 "Beauty and the ___"
 6 Capital of Ghana
 11 Tavern
 14 Person who may win a Tony Award*
 15 "Give My Regards to Broadway" composer George M. ___
 16 French equivalent of "a"
 17 Musical based on a Disney film: 3 wds.
 19 Brand of TV's and VCR's
 20 Garden tool
 21 ___-do-well (good-for-nothing)
 22 Strong, focused stage light, for short
 23 Old screen siren West who said, "Come up and see me sometime."
 25 Monty Python musical
 28 "Evita" movie star
 32 Plausible
 33 Neil Simon revival of 2005: 3 wds.
 36 U-Haul vehicle
 37 Highest point
 38 Period
 41 Rick Najera play
 47 Australian slang for a girl
 50 Where Broadway is: 2 wds.
 51 Musical featuring Abba songs: 2 wds.
 54 Not Republican: Abbr.
 55 Native of Iraq or Jordan
 56 Pull along
 58 Service charge
 61 106, in Roman numerals
 62 Stephen Sondheim revival of 2005: 2 wds.
 66 Kenan's pal on Nickelodeon
 67 Instrument often used at rehearsals for musicals
 68 "___ Rotten Scoundrels" (Broadway musical)
 69 Method: Abbr.
 70 Poet Edgar ___ Poe
 71 Czechs, Serbs and Slovaks

- 30 Bear's hangout
 31 First part of a Broadway show: 2 wds.
 34 Ending for ball, bass or buff
 35 "Once ___ a Mattress" (old Broadway musical)
 38 Twosome
 39 "___ the land of the free..."
 40 "Shame on you!"
 41 Large tree branch
 42 State neighboring Fla.
 43 ___-o'-shanter (Scottish cap)
 44 Shelf
 45 Have unpaid bills
 46 Workout room
 47 Hits
 48 "Fiddler on the Roof" star Fierstein
 49 Contacts through the Internet: Hyph.
 52 Perfect
 53 Place for sporting events
 57 Author unknown: Abbr.
 58 "It's ___ good cause": 2 wds.
 59 1999 Matthew McConaughey film: 2 wds.
 60 Big ice cream brand
 62 Where to get a massage or facial
 63 Actor Wheaton of "Stand By Me"
 64 Units of three feet: Abbr.
 65 "___ Him" (song from "The Producers")

DOWN

- 1 Alternative to a shower
 2 Bounced-back sound
 3 To ___ (exactly): 2 wds.
 4 Do, re, mi, fa, ___, la, ti, do
 5 Prefix meaning "three"
 6 Zits
 7 Popular soft drinks
 8 Sound from a bird or cricket
 9 Jogged
 10 "Hulk" director ___ Lee
 11 "The Color ___" (Broadway musical)
 12 Nerdy or dweebish
 13 Actor Warren ___
 18 Make one's hair stand ___: 2 wds.
 22 "For heaven's ___!"
 23 Cattle call
 24 "The King ___ I"
 26 Swiss mountain
 27 \$1,000,000, slangily
 28 "The Real World" network
 29 "Caught ya!"
 30 Bear's hangout
 31 First part of a Broadway show: 2 wds.
 34 Ending for ball, bass or buff
 35 "Once ___ a Mattress" (old Broadway musical)
 38 Twosome
 39 "___ the land of the free..."
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