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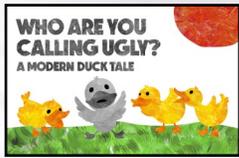
TEACHERS CAN BE SENT A LINK TO ONE OF OUR VIRTUAL TOURING PERFORMANCES TO SHARE WITH STUDENTS. LINKS ARE ACTIVE FOR THREE WEEKS AND CAN BE SHOWN TO STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM OR VIRTUALLY. STUDY GUIDES ARE PROVIDED. POST-SHOW Q&A CAN BE ARRANGED VIA ZOOM WITH THE EDUCATION DIRECTOR. VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE.

## FOR ELEMENTARY AUDIENCES:



### **Andrea & the Lion: A Gratitude Story**

Written by Sharon Miles; Featuring: Ethan Hartfield, Josiah Hite, Rylee McKenzie, Oluchi Nwaokorie, Marshall Robertson, and Chloe Vizier. Aesop's folktale classic, **Androcles and The Lion** has been produced in multiple countries all over the world! This story of gratitude, full of adventure, fun, and vital life lessons — comes to life in this new original stage adaptation; **Andrea and The Lion!** Andrea's parents have to work late, leaving her home to care for her younger, stir-crazy, zoom fatigued siblings-- in the midst of a global pandemic! Everyone is miserable! Andrea must think fast on her feet before the entire evening goes off the rails! This new, fast-paced, story-within-a-story celebrates the resourcefulness of the human spirit through selfless acts of kindness, compassion and team work. Join us for **Andrea and The Lion**, an innovative story of rediscovering the gift of gratitude.



### **Who Are You Calling Ugly? A Modern Duck Tale**

Written by Sharon Miles; Featuring: Ellie Boisseau, Jaymi Horn, Devin Hunter, and Christopher Sferra

This contemporary adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's Ugly Duckling will ignite the imagination and engage young audiences everywhere! This updated, fast-paced version follows the story of Una, a young duckling struggling to find her way in the 21st century. Children are invited to interact with the cast as they follow Una along her journey of self-discovery; meeting a host of colorful characters and acquiring new vocabulary and problem-solving skills in this 50-minute story.

## FOR MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL AUDIENCES:



### **If Not Us, Then Who? Freedom Rides to Freedom Summer**

Written by Sharon Miles; Featuring: Ellie Boisseau, Jaymi Horn, Devin Hunter, and Christopher Sferra. This original play with music chronicles two historic events that made an unforgettable impact on American history and Mississippi. In 1961 thirteen "Freedom Riders" began a journey to fight racial segregation. In 1964, Mississippians and out-of-state volunteers alike organized "Freedom Summer," a massive voter registration drive to give African Americans a voice in politics. Interspersed with freedom songs from the movement, this production encourages us to remember that America is at her best when we are working for the common good of all of its citizens. Featuring stories from famous participants like Fannie Lou Hamer and Senator John Lewis, as well as lesser-known heroes like James Zwerg, and Diane Nash, whose brave stories culminated in one historic summer will forever inspire us all.



### **The Debate for Democracy**

Written by Sharon Miles; Featuring: Ashia Benford, Devin Hunter, and Sharon Miles. The fight for democracy will always be led by the oppressed. During the monumental civil rights movement, national, and local leaders were unwavering in their belief that the promises foretold in the U.S. Constitution should apply to all its citizens. While the mission was unified, there was often heated debate about the best approach to change. In August 1964, a coalition of grassroots activists from Mississippi challenged the racially-exclusive political system of America. Mississippi Blacks seeking the right to vote were subjected to violence and intimidation. Therefore, when barred from participating in the state's Democratic Party, The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) was founded. **The Debate for Democracy** documents this landmark activism that questioned the morals and ethics of America. Explore behind-the-scene conversations, decisions, and the meeting that led MFDP delegates to decline President Lyndon B Johnson's two seat compromise. **The Debate for Democracy** examines the position of national civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., renowned community organizer Ella Baker, and Mississippi's own Fannie Lou Hamer.



### **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

Written by William Shakespeare; Adapted by Francine Thomas Reynolds; Featuring: Chance Anding, Lauren Gunn, Caleb Henry, Devin Hunter, Varah Potter, Jasmine Rivera, and Ben Rodenmeyer. One of William Shakespeare's most popular works, **A Midsummer Night's Dream** is widely performed across the world. Francine Thomas Reynolds' adaption keeps the beauty of Shakespeare's language and places the story in the soil of the Mississippi Delta—the heart of American Blues music. Hermia is brought in to see Theseus and Hippolyta because she wants to marry Lysander but her father expects her to marry Demetrius who Helena is in love with. The four lovers escape to a forest where they fall victim to Oberon and Titania's storm and where a company of blue-collar mechanicals are rehearsing a play for the Theseus' wedding day! What could possibly go wrong?! This adaptation of **Midsummer** captures the heart of the Delta Blues and delivers an engaging performance for all to enjoy.



### **Macbeth**

Written by William Shakespeare, adapted by Francine Thomas Reynolds; Featuring: Ellie Boisseau, Jaymi Horn, Devin Hunter, and Christopher Sferra. **Macbeth** follows the story of a Scottish nobleman approached by three weird sisters with a prophecy that he shall be king. Encouraged by his wife, he begins to embrace and create the future that was seemingly promised. Driven and inspired by the desire for power, Macbeth struggles with his conscience and chooses a tragic path. In this timely play, Shakespeare closely examines the soul of a man as he succumbs to ambition, the seduction of unchecked power, and fate verses free will. This physically and emotionally charged 60-minute abridged production is a superb introduction to the classic tragedy of Shakespeare's **Macbeth**.