



WALNUT STREET THEATRE



TOURING OUTREACH COMPANY STUDY GUIDE

"A Philly Phairy Tale"

Written By Tom Quinn

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Once upon a time in the city of brotherly love... There was a girl named Cindy who was kind to all, but did not receive the same treatment in return. Throughout her life, she went through many difficulties, but always remained kind. One day, while doing her chores, Cindy heard that the Prince was having a ball. Cindy wanted to go, but her evil Stepmother was determined to keep her away. With a little bit of help from the Philly Phanatic, Rocky Balboa, and a BIG talking cockroach, Cindy takes a chance on herself and attends the ball. Will she find her happily ever after?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE THE SHOW

- Have you ever been in a hard situation and you felt really overcome by anger? Did you take your anger out on those around you?
- Have you ever wanted to ask for help with something, but were too embarrassed to admit that you could not do it on your own?
- Have you ever heard the saying, "fight fire with fire?" Do you think that this is a good saying? If you do not know what that means, do you think when someone is mean to you that you should be mean back?
- What is hope? Why is it important to have hope?
- Why is your opinion of yourself the most important? What does it mean to have confidence and believe in yourself?
- What does it mean to make the most of a bad situation?
- Is it worth it, to you, to be kind?



AFTER THE SHOW

- What did Cindy teach you about how to act in hard situations?
- Would Cindy have found her happily ever after if she had not accepted help from those around her?
- If Cindy had taken her anger out on her Stepmother & Stepsisters, would that have made the situation better?
- Throughout the story, did Cindy ever lose hope? Why was it important that she didn't give up?
- Do you think Cindy had confidence at the end of the story?
- How did Cindy make the most of her bad situation?
- Was it a good idea for Cindy to remain kind and hopeful throughout the story?

LIKE THE SHOW? LET US KNOW!

Send letters or drawings to:

Walnut Street Theatre

ATTN: Education Department

825 Walnut St.

Philadelphia, PA 19107

"I'm at my first play, what do I do?!"

**If you have
a cellphone,
turn it OFF!**

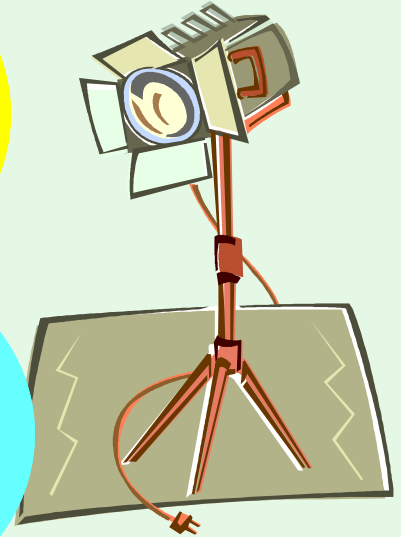
Use the
bathroom
before the
show

*Laugh and
clap for the
actors*

**Don't talk
during the
show!**

*Stay in your
seat unless
you're asked to
move*

**Enjoy the
show &
have fun!!**



"What do I need to know about this play?"

A Philly Philly Tale Character Sheet

Cindy — A very kind girl with very bad luck. Always stays true to herself. She may remind you a little bit of Cinderella!

Philly Phanatic — Your favorite local mascot! In this play, the Phanatic is not only bringing you smiles, but advice too.

Rocky Balboa — A boxer, known for the *Rocky* movies that your parents used to love! He's come back to Philadelphia to read this tale.

Besty Ross — A very famous lady born in Philadelphia a very long time ago. She created the first American flag in history.

The Fresh Prince/Jazzy Jeff — You may know the Prince's theme song that describes his journey to Bel-Air. These fellows are back to make you laugh and bust some rhymes.

Cindy's Mom & Dad — Very sweet parents who taught their daughter to always believe in herself.

Evil Stepmother & Stepsisters — Cindy's family. The word evil says it all...

Mummers — You may not have seen these guys since New Year's Day, but they're back and determined to find what they're looking for.

Huge Cheesesteak, Pretzel, and Cockroach — They were once tiny, but now they're supersized and ready to help the show go on!



Theatre 101

Ever wondered how to put on a play?

There are many different elements that go into putting what's written on the page up on its feet. Please review the following terms with your students:

PLAYWRIGHT The playwright writes the script.

DIRECTOR The director is in charge of orchestrating the

entirety of the production. They lead the actors, designers, and production crew to put the show on its feet.

COSTUME What the actors wear during the show.

SCENERY Everything on stage (*except props*) used to represent the setting, or place in which the story takes place.

PROPS All physical items on stage with the exception of the scenery. This includes lamps, chairs, pens, paper, books and more!

LIGHTS Stage lights illuminate the actors so that they look their best. The colors used, focus of the light, and amount of lighting can really set the mood and environment of a scene.

SOUND Everything that you hear during a performance that does not come from the actors.

ACTORS The actors are the people that perform the show onstage.

AUDIENCE The lucky people that get to watch the show.



Start With A Warm-Up: "Me too!"

DIRECTIONS

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Speaking
Critical Listening
Focus
Collaboration

- ◆ Have students form a circle with chairs.
- ◆ For this activity, you must have one less chair than participants.
- ◆ There will always be one person standing in the center.
- ◆ Have a volunteer or assign a student to be the first person in the center.



- ◆ They then say something about themselves that may be true of certain classmates as well (i.e. *"anyone with a summer birthday"* *"anyone who is wearing blue"* *"Anyone that was born in Philadelphia", etc.*)
- ◆ Students are to move and find a different seat if the characteristic announced also pertains to them.
- ◆ The person unable to find a new seat will now be the person in the center and announce a new characteristic.
- ◆ *The object of the game is to give students a chance to learn and celebrate the commonalities and differences between their classmates that they may not ordinarily know.*

TRY IT YOURSELF!

DIRECTIONS

Give students a chance to act out our sample scene from *A Philly Phairy Tale*. Before jumping into the performance, think about all of the elements that go into a play. Are there any props that we can use to help improve the scene? Where are the characters when this scene is taking place? What might the scenery look like?

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Interpretation
Collaboration
Script/Text

Design
Direct
Focus

VARIATIONS

- **Write it down!** Before putting this scene up on its feet, have students read through the scene and write down how they would “direct” the scene. Can you find any clues in the script that indicate specific staging or designs?
- **Rehearse it!** Break into groups and assign a director, designers, & actors. Give groups enough time to rehearse & prepare.

“A Philly Phairy Tale” Sample Scene:



Prince: Hello there. I love your dress

Cindy: Thank you I just ran up the steps I am sure I'm a mess.

Prince: You looked surprised to see me

Cindy: I am and you look pretty dreamy

But I thought you might be dressed kinda nice

Prince: What's wrong with my look? Doesn't it make you look twice

Cindy: I guess it's the cheesesteak on your chest

Prince: Why this is my family crest!

My name is Pat and my dad is the king of the steaks

Someday I will be king and I love milk shakes

Cindy: That made no sense and you lost your thought

Prince: It's just that you are so pretty and I got caught
Why looking at you is something I could do all day

Cindy: You shouldn't do that for soon I must run away

Prince: Why would you run? You should really stay

Cindy: Sorry, there is a plot to follow. Don't blame me, blame the play.

Step Mother: There you are prince we thought you ran away

Prince: Rats! I thought I had lost them for today.

Cindy: Don't you like them? I am sure they must be quite kind

Prince: Are you kidding there is nothing nice about them I find

The mother is just plain mean and her daughters are scary

I find the tone of their laughter quite contrary.

Cindy: I see what you mean that sound is pretty bad.

Prince: They sound like hyenas and the noise makes me quite mad.



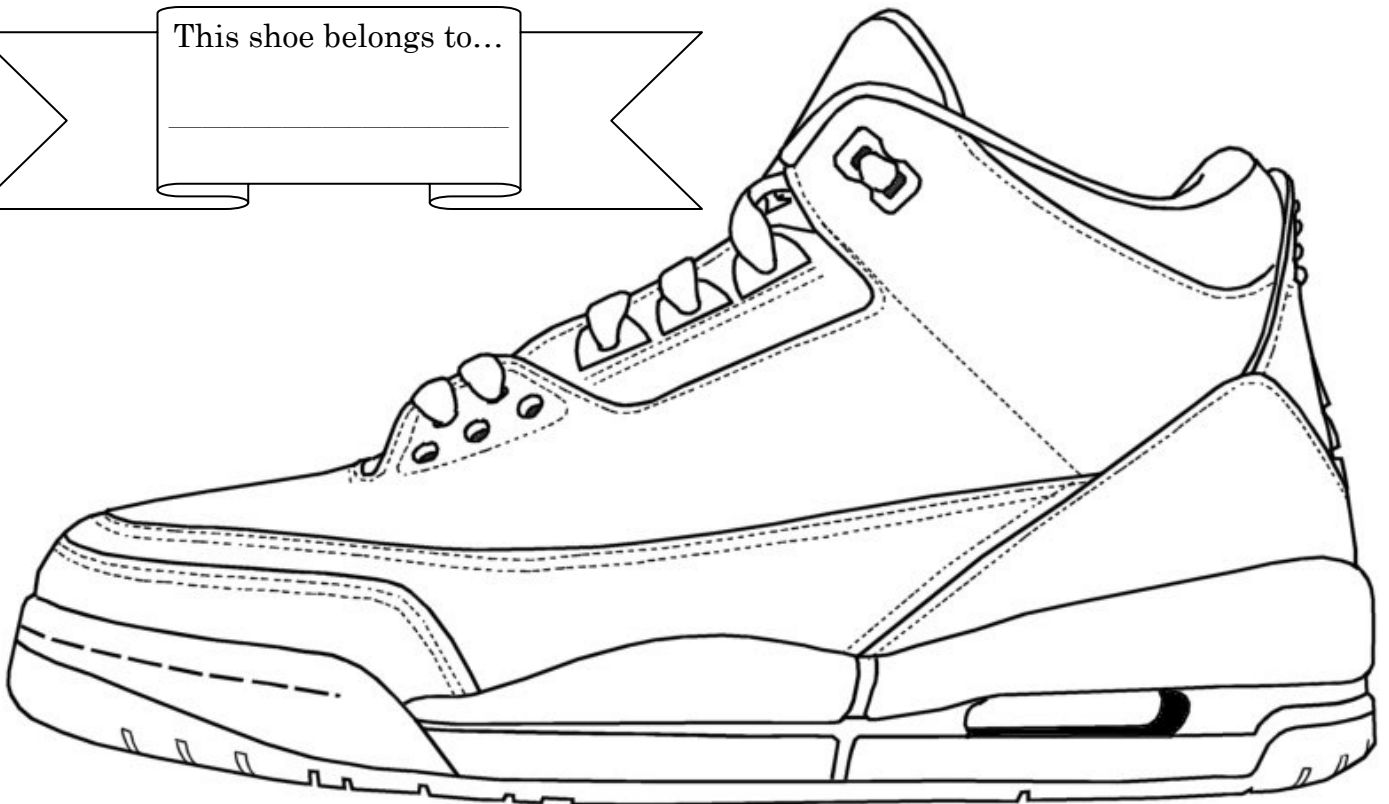
STUDENT HAND-OUT: WHAT WOULD YOUR SHOE SAY ABOUT YOU?

DIRECTIONS

- Have students design what they think their shoes would look like if they were in *A Philly Phairy Tale*.
- Below the shoe, ask students to answer the question prompts.

Materials: something to color with & imagination!

This shoe belongs to...



FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS:

1. Why did you design the shoe the way that you did? Why did you choose the specific colors and designs?

2. If you were wearing these shoes to your own personal ball, where would the ball be? (Ex. Your favorite restaurant, a family member's home, you favorite place to play, etc.)

3. Who would be your fairy godmother? Is it someone you look up to, like one of your parents or a professional sports player? Why do you look up to this person?



WALNUT STREET THEATRE

BIOGRAPHY



Walnut Street Theatre has the unique distinction of being the oldest, continuously operating theatre in the English-speaking world, having served Philadelphia audiences for over 200 years!

Today, under the direction of Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard, Walnut Street Theatre is in its 34th season as a self-producing, non-profit theatre company. Walnut Street Theatre continues to entertain and enlighten diverse audiences with high quality theatrical programming. With more than 50,000 subscribers, the Walnut is also the most subscribed theatre company in the world!

Each season, Walnut Street Theatre holds a nation-wide search to recruit accomplished young professionals for Acting Apprenticeships. These actors form our Touring Outreach Company. Nearly 500 candidates are considered each year for these four positions. Last season, **172,000** children and adults were impacted by the Walnut's Education Programs: including our theatre school with classes for kids and adults, Camp Walnut, Our Touring Outreach Program to local schools and our artist in residency programs.

WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION STAFF

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Thomas Quinn

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EDUCATION APPRENTICE

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ACTING APPRENTICES

Anne Bragg

Alexa Cepeda

Dana Orange

Austin Turner

WEB

- Educational Drama Activities For Students

<http://plays.about.com/od/activities/>

- Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach Company

<https://walnutstreettheatre.org/education/outreach.php>



A Philly Phairy Tale Creative Team

PLAYWRIGHT

Thomas Quinn

DIRECTOR

Damon Bonetti

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Tom Quinn is the author of *The Berenstain Bears Hospital Friends*, *The Return of Nick Nutrition and His Dog Fiber*, *Only 13*, *No Easy Road to Freedom*, *The Boy Who Cried Bully*, *The Bully Buster Rides Again*, and *Mean Girls R Bullies 2*. Quinn also serves as the Director of Education at Walnut Street Theatre overseeing a program that reaches over 172,000 students each year. Quinn was a recipient of the Dorothy Haas Acting Fellowship from Walnut Street Theatre in 1991-92. Tom also performed in regional theatre across the country before obtaining a teaching degree and Masters in Education from West Chester University, along with a Masters in Educational Administration from Gwynedd-Mercy College. A former high school teacher and school administrator Quinn has also worked as a grant reviewer for the US Department of Education.

THANK YOU

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Anonymous (2) * Aqua America * Louis N. Cassett Foundation * Connelly Foundation * The Peter & Audrey Denton Fund * Dow Chemical Company * William Goldman Foundation * Hamilton Family Foundation * Hassel Foundation * Haverford Trust Company * Hellendall Family Foundation * Herman Goldner Company * Syde Hurdus Foundation * William Penn Foundation * Mutual Fire Foundation * Lincoln Financial Group Foundation * National Corporate Theatre Fund * PECO * TD Charitable Foundation * Theatre Forward * United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey * Vulcan Spring & Mfg. Co.