

ORPHEUM THEATRE ANNOUNCES FREE 2011-12 EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Written by Kate Francis

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Galesburg, IL. The Orpheum Theatre announced its 2011-12 line-up of education programs for pre-kindergarten through fifth grades today. The theater's annual Lights! Camera! Learn! program brings nationally-touring musical productions to the community that are based on literary and/or historical studies appropriate to the current academic curriculum. Significant grants and contributions allow the Orpheum Theatre to offer the program at no cost to schools, parents or students (except the cost of transportation). Reservations are required and are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

The first installment of the Lights! Camera! Learn! program is a production of "We the People" presented by TheatreWorks USA which brings American government textbooks to life. It's a new musical revue that sets civics lessons to a rock and roll beat and addresses democracy, elections, the two legislative houses, constitutional amendments and diplomacy. The show encourages young people to get involved and make a difference. "We the People" is offered for fourth and fifth grade students on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The second installment of the Lights! Camera! Learn! program, "Jigsaw Jones," is a perennial favorite of teachers and students alike. Theodore "Jigsaw" Jones is his school's self-proclaimed detective. When someone in Mrs. Gleason's class begins playing practical jokes it's up to Jigsaw Jones and his friend Mila to catch the culprit. Brimming with music, charm, and humor, ArtsPower's new production – based on the book by renowned author James Preller - will make audiences laugh and think as they learn the secret codes that Jigsaw must decipher to solve the mystery. "Jigsaw Jones: The Case of the Class Clown" is offered for second and third grade students on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The final installment of the Lights! Camera! Learn! program is also an ArtsPower production and draws from the popular Kids of the Polk Street School series by two-time Newbery Honor-winning author Patricia Reilly Giff. "Fish Face" tells the tale of Emily Arrow who is great at everything; that is, until a new girl in school proves to be better at anything Emily can do. When the new girl steals Emily's beloved unicorn, Emily must learn a few things about honesty and growing up. "Fish Face" is offered for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade students on Tuesday, February 13, 2012 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The Orpheum Theatre's Lights! Camera! Learn! program is open to all public, private and

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home schools at no cost due, in part, to generous funding from the Galesburg Community Foundation, Galesburg CUSD #205, the Illinois Arts Council, BNSF Railway Foundation, businesses and individuals.

Reservations for all Lights! Camera! Learn! programs are required and seating is limited. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the Orpheum Theatre's education program or to make reservations, please call [309-342-2299](tel:309-342-2299) or email tickets@theorpheum.org

The Orpheum Theatre contributes to the region's quality of life by providing quality entertainment and education opportunities and programs; and serves as a civic gathering place and tourism partner for our communities.

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