

Theatre for Youth

and Outreach Program

30th

ANNIVERSARY

Maxwell C.
King Center
for the performing arts
Eastern Florida
STATE COLLEGE kingcenter.com



2017-2018



Let Your Imagination Take You Places!

Chicken Little:
An Appalachian Musical Jamboree
Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 am

With Special Thanks

For additional copies visit
kingcenter.com
click Theatre For Youth
section & proceed to
Study Guides &
Resources.



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Season 2017-2018

Dear Friends and Patrons of the Arts,

Thank you for your interest in the King Center Theatre for Youth (TFY) Program. The mission of TFY is to inspire, nurture and sustain a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts among our youth theatre patrons. This is accomplished by the diverse array of entertaining and educational performance arts offerings.

Study resource materials made possible by each artist and their management teams are being provided to augment the live theatre experience. We hope you find the materials useful.

A live theatrical experience can leave a memorable impact even after the show is over...now, *Let Your Imagination Take You Places!*

We are looking forward to your attendance at the show.

Yours in the arts,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen".

Karen Wilson
Director,
Theatre for Youth Program



CHICKEN LITTLE

*An Appalachian
Musical Jamboree*

STUDY GUIDE

Use this Study Guide to enhance the educational experience of this fantastic musical show!



ALL ABOUT A.C.T. For Youth

A.C.T For Youth is an acclaimed professional touring theatre company based in Orlando, Florida.

Each year, the Atlantic Coast Theatre performs hundreds of shows for thousands of students throughout the U.S.

ACT For Youth's high-quality educational programming is recognized nationally by theatres, schools, art councils, libraries, and festivals- not to mention the thousands of children & families who see A.C.T. shows each year!



The theatre has been awarded placement on:

- ~2008-2010 Florida State Touring Roster~
- ~Hillsborough County Artist Roster~
- ~Broward County FL Artist Roster~
- ~SC Arts Commission Roster Of Approved Artists~
- ~Raleigh/Wake County, NC United Arts Roster~



Visit Our Website!

www.atlantic-coast-theatre.com

The Appalachian Mountains...

Who, What, & Where!

WHO?

The people of the Appalachian Mountains come from a diverse mix of cultures. Immigrants from England, Scotland, & Germany settled in the Appalachians in the 1700's. In the 1800's & 1900's people came from Ireland, Wales, France, Italy, Holland & Africa. For more than 1000 years before that, Native Americans from the Cherokee & Shawnee nations lived in the Appalachians.

WHAT?

The Appalachians are a chain of mountains that were formed around 480 million years ago. The Rocky Mountains are only around 175 million years old. Because of Erosion, the Appalachians are not as tall and jagged as the Rocky Mountains today, but scientists think the Appalachians may have been even bigger than the Rocky Mountains.

WHERE?

The Appalachians stretch from Newfoundland in Southern Canada all the way into Alabama in the United States. The Blue Ridge Mountains, White Mountains, Green Mountains, Berkshire Mountains and many more are all a part of the Appalachians. CHICKEN LITTLE takes place in Southern Appalachia which runs through Kentucky, southeastern Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

The Appalachian Mountain Chain



The Music Of The Appalachians

Appalachian music has a sound that is a combination of the music of the many different groups of people who settled there. There are Scottish, Irish, and African influences in the Appalachian sound.

Mountain Musical Instruments Used In The Play

BANJO

The banjo is thought to have its origins in Africa. The banjo has 5 strings and generally played by "Picking" with the thumb, forefinger, and middle finger.

Handmade wooden banjos are a specialty of experienced craftsmen in the Appalachians.

MANDOLIN

The Mandolin is an 8 string instrument, similar in many ways to a violin– which only has 4 strings, but the same tuning. While a Violin is played with a bow, the Mandolin is played by strumming the strings with a pick. Sometimes the strings are strummed very fast!

HARMONICA

The harmonica is a popular instrument throughout the world. The small size makes the harmonica a great portable instrument. A harmonica has a series of holes. Each hole contains multiple reeds to make the sound. Notes are obtained by blowing air into each hole. Sucking the air from each hole gives a different note.

WASHBOARD

Before there were washing machines, people would do their wash by scrubbing clothes on a washboard with metal ridges. These ridges also make for a great percussion instrument. Washboard players often use sewing thimbles on their fingers to get a good scraping sound.

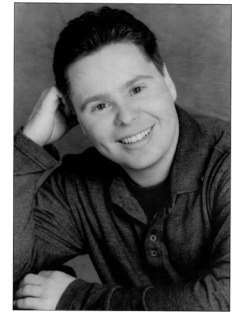


Noel Holland

All About The Actors

Noel Holland & Don Gruel

You will be seeing professional actors!
That means they act for their jobs!
An interesting fact about the actors:
They started acting when they were YOUR age!



Don Gruel

NOEL HOLLAND– I cannot remember a time when I was not singing. As a child, I would sing to anyone who would listen– if nobody was there to hear, I would sing to myself! I started acting and dancing because I loved performing on stage. My sister and I would put on plays for our parents in the living room! When I was in middle school and high school, I decided that I wanted to be a performer. After I graduated college with a degree in music, I became a professional actor- working for theatres all over the country. Now, I have my dream job– owning a theatre. I am so proud to be a part of the Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth. It gives me all kinds of opportunities to sing, act, write songs, and use my imagination. I so enjoy creating shows that children love because I loved theatre and music so much when I was a child!



Noel & her little sister, Meredith, putting on a play for family.



Don as the Easter Bunny in his 3rd Grade School Play

DON GRUEL– I grew up in Beaufort, South Carolina. When I was little, I would make up plays using my “Star Wars” Action Figures as the actors. I started doing school plays when I was in Kindergarten, but my first play outside of school I was in the musical OKLAHOMA when I was 10 years old. I really liked the feeling of being able to pretend to become other people in other places. I kept doing plays throughout Middle School & High School and decided to study Theatre in college. I graduated from the University Of South Carolina in 1993 and have worked in professional theatre ever since. I have always loved using my imagination. As an actor, I get to be creative every single day.

You can try acting too!
Get involved in a play at school or in your community!

From The Story To The Stage

Every good play has to start somewhere.

Sometimes the idea for a play comes completely from the playwright's imagination.

Sometimes the idea is created from a book or a story.

The writer uses the original book or story as an inspiration.

ADAPTATION

~A New Play Based On A Book Or A Story~

CHICKEN LITTLE: An Appalachian Musical Jamboree

is an adaptation based on the traditional children's tale, "Chicken Little"

The playwright used his imagination to make a new musical which takes place on a farm in the Appalachian Mountains.

"WRITE YOUR OWN PLAY" ADAPTATION ACTIVITY

PLAYWRITING TIPS

1. Pick characters that will best tell the story. You can also create new characters. Remember it is *your* adaptation!
2. Make a 'Road Map' – outline the plan of how you want your play to be written. Don't be afraid to change your mind. Sometimes creativity needs to take a detour!
3. Write your dialogue (what the characters say). Try to write dialogue that is realistic – not too formal. It will sound closer to how people really talk.

Write A Letter

To The Actors Activity

A.C.T. For Youth loves to receive letters from our audience!



You will write letters all of your life—in school, to correspond with friends and family, and for your job one day.

It is very important to know how to write a good letter.

Your teachers may want you to write your letter in a proper letter-writing style or format. Here is an example of one style!

A.C.T. For Youth
8297 Champions Gate Blvd. #188
Champions Gate, FL 33896

Dear Audience:

The Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth would like to thank all of you for showing us such fantastic audience manners during the show! Everyone was so respectful during the performance. You laughed when things were funny, but you were also able to quiet back down so that everyone could hear. I don't think that we heard anyone talking while the actors were on stage. That was great! You made our job so much fun.

Thanks so much! You were wonderful!

Sincerely,

Don Gruel & Noel Holland

Send your letters to:

Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth
8297 Champions Gate Blvd. #188
Champions Gate, FL 33896

Before The Show Activities

- Discuss as a class the differences between television/movies and a live theatre production. How are you expected to behave at a play? What does it mean to have good theatre manners?
- Find the Appalachian Mountains on a United States map. Find out how many of your classmates have been somewhere in the Appalachians.

After The Show Activities

- Part of the CHICKEN LITTLE story is that she talks to a stranger, Foxy Loxy, and gets into trouble. Talk with your teachers about what you should do if a stranger talks to you. How can you stay safe?
- Read the original story of Chicken Little. Compare it with the play you just saw. How was it the same? How was it different?
- Chicken Little's Imagination runs wild with her in the play. She imagines that "The sky is falling", when it is only pieces of sheep's wool in the wind. Think of a time when your imagination ran wild. Draw 2 pictures...make 1 the thing that you imagined was happening and make the second what actually happened. You can write a story telling about what you had imagined.
- You were watching an original musical. The actors not only sang, acted, played instruments and danced in the play- but Noel and Don wrote and choreographed the play too! Now it's your turn! Work together in groups or as a class. Find a story that you think would make a great musical. Write the script and the songs to make the story come to life. Add dances to the songs by planning out the choreography. Practice! Practice! Practice! Once you have your musical rehearsed, perform it for other classes, the school, or your parents. Theatre is a performance art- without an audience, you are just pretending. You can even send A.C.T. For Youth a copy of your musical for the actors to read and enjoy... or send us a videotape or DVD of your performance!