P.L.A.Y.  
PERFORMANCE = LITERATURE + ART + YOU

STUDENT MATINEES  
2019-2020 SEASON

Geva Theatre Center  
EDUCATION

ESL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
Geva Theatre Center 47th Season  
19/20

LA CAGE aux Folles  
The Niceties  
A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
LOOKS LIKE PRETTY  
WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS?
LA CAGE AUX FOLLES
September 26th at 10:30am
Recommended for middle school and up
Georges and Albin run a glamorous St. Tropez nightclub with fabulous drag performers. Their existence is turned upside down when Georges’ son announces that he is engaged to the daughter of one of France’s most conservative politicians. One of musical theatre’s biggest all-time hits.

Topics for Discussion
Tolerance and acceptance | Adaptations | Drag culture | Generational divides | Identity | LGBTQ illumination | Family

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
December 3rd, 5th, 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th
All performances at 10:30am
Recommended for all audiences (age 5 and up)
This famous tale of the redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge, the most despised man in London, will awaken the heart and rekindle the spirit in Geva’s critically acclaimed adaptation.

Topics for Discussion
The works of Charles Dickens | Celebrity and social justice | The use of art to affect change | Poverty in 19th century London | Literary adaptations | Class divisions | Ethics in business | Cultivating empathy | Redemption

THE NICETIES
October 31st, November 5th, and 14th
All performances at 10:30am
Recommended for high school audiences
Zoe, a driven black student, and respected white professor Janine meet to discuss a paper Zoe is writing about the American Revolution. A polite conversation quickly becomes a powder keg of race, history, and power. An explosive and provocative nail-biter.

Topics for Discussion
Privilege | Power dynamics | Teacher/student relationships | The American Revolution | Ownership and conflicting versions of history | How history is taught/teaching methodologies | How to effectively and empathetically engage in polarizing discourse | Generational and racial chasms | Finding shared humanity amid conflicting experiences

LOOKS LIKE PRETTY
April 16th and 21st
All performances at 10:30am
Recommended for middle school and up
In 1963 in a lab at Kodak Park, Mr. Walters and his younger colleague Charlie are putting the finishing touches on the newest color film technology. When Gloria, a new African American employee at Kodak, questions the authenticity of color in the film, the success of the whole project is at stake.

Topics for Discussion
1960s Rochester and Civil Rights history | The evolution of color photography | Identity | Women and race in science and society of the 1960s | Social ramifications of science and corporate ethics | Sacrifice and determination | Kodak | Visibility

WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS?
April 28th, 30th, and May 5th
All performances at 10:30am
Recommended for middle school and up
With pulsing rhythms and original rhymes set to a live, looped soundtrack, Brian Quijada’s electric one man show is a hip-hop autobiography about falling in love with performance, the power of family, and growing up Latinx in a world that categorizes everyone in black and white.

Topics for Discussion
Identity | Visibility | Heritage | Ancestry | Latinx history and culture | Finding your voice | Finding your purpose | Discovering your history | The power of family | Contemporary rhythmic storytelling styles | Coming of age
We provide all the tools - your P.L.A.Y ticket includes:

Teacher Workshops
You are invited to Geva two weeks prior to every student matinee production to join in a discussion of the play with our artists and staff. Share curriculum, inspiration, and have your questions answered first-hand by those who are hard at work on the production you will see. A teacher workshop is not offered for A Christmas Carol.

Teacher Previews
Teachers who would like to attend a performance prior to bringing a group to a student matinee may request a complimentary preview ticket.

Discovery Guides
Packed with information about the play, relevant context, suggested discussion questions, and related activities, the Discovery Guide unlocks every production’s essential issues and avenues for exploration.

Discovery Workshops
These interactive workshops are free, easy to schedule, take place in your own classroom and, most importantly, make a personal connection with students before they come to the theatre. A professional artist-educator will travel to your school to explore the play’s themes and production values, and inspire curiosity for the production. Discovery Workshops are not offered for A Christmas Carol.

Talkbacks
Performances are immediately followed by a dialogue with cast members so that students and teachers may respond to the performance and ask questions about the creative process.

Actor Visits
Invite an actor to walk off the stage and into your classroom. Direct contact with our theatre artists will extend and enhance the dialogue that begins with each Discovery Workshop and performance.

“A student declared that this was the best experience he had ever had!”
Educator, East High School

“From beginning to end the preparation and presentation of the play was outstanding.”
Educator, Henry Hudson School

Let us help you arrange your P.L.A.Y. experience. It’s this easy:

☐ Select a performance date and call Eric Evans, Education Associate: (585) 420-2035.

☐ We will gladly work with your local BOCES program, Young Audiences of Rochester, your school, or other organizations to arrange payment for your ticket order.

☐ We’ll give your group 1 free chaperone ticket for every 15 student tickets purchased. Tickets are $20 each.

☐ We can provide seating accommodation for persons with disabilities.

☐ We offer free and convenient bus parking.

☐ We’ll guide you through all the logistics of your performance day, booking a Discovery Workshop, and share teaching resources for before and after your visit to the theatre.

“A Christmas Carol, 2018 from beginning to end the preparation and presentation of the play was outstanding.”
Educator, Henry Hudson School

We provide all the tools - your P.L.A.Y ticket includes: 

“Think Geva communicated the relevance of the production well. Curriculum connections were reinforced especially with the pre-visit Discovery Workshop.”
Educator, Nativity Prep Academy

A Christmas Carol, 2018
Every year we select the productions we most want to share with student audiences for our P.L.A.Y. Student Matinee Series. You bring your students to an exceptional, professional school-day performance; we’ll make it easy, enriching, and fun!

We produce work that celebrates the human experience. The purpose and power of a theatrical event has always been to come together in the theatre to discover a new understanding of ourselves.

Common Core Learning Standards say our students will be able to “interpret, analyze and evaluate narratives, poetry, and drama by making connections to other texts, ideas, cultural perspectives, eras, personal events, and situations.”

In the theatre, making such connections is the work we do each and every day; Geva’s Education department is here to share the inquiry and discovery with your students.

Let us pose new questions and share fresh insights. You and your students will explore each play this year as we do, inside and out. Experience the vibrant detail of a fully-staged production and the expressive power of ideas brought to life by phenomenal artists. Then talk with those artists at the theatre or in your own classroom.

When you make a student matinee reservation, you’re buying more than a ticket; you’re choosing a complete educational journey for your students.

"They were fascinated with the production, talked about it most of the way home, and asked questions in class the next day!"
Educator, English Language Arts

Additional Resources For Teachers:

Education Subscription
We want you to become more familiar with Geva and enjoy the full range of our productions as you plan your students’ experiences.

Geva offers a discounted Education Wilson Stage subscription package for as low as $120. A current school ID for full-time teachers, student teachers, principals, guidance counselors, and school librarians is needed for verification. This offer excludes some performances and seating locations.

To learn about our Education Subscription, call the Geva Box Office: (585) 232-4382.

Evening and Public Performances
We also welcome student groups to our evening performances and public matinees – with all the benefits of our P.L.A.Y. programming. A complete performance schedule is available on our website: www.GevaTheatre.org.

To reserve tickets for evening performances or public matinees contact the Box Office at (585) 232-4382.
Every year we select the productions we most want to share with student audiences for our P.L.A.Y. Student Matinee Series. You bring your students to an exceptional, professional school-day performance: we'll make it easy, enriching, and fun!