

Welcome to THE CHILDREN'S THEATER COMPANY

GLOBAL ETHIC MUSICAL THEATER RESIDENCIES



Building Character On Stage®

Children's Theatre Company



Building Character Onstage™
Children's Theatre Company

Contents

- 3** **MISSION:** What we do
- 4** **VISION:** How do we do it?
- 5** **WHAT MAKES CTC UNIQUE?**
- 6** **OUR PARTNERS**
- 7-8** **IN-SCHOOL PROPOSAL**
- 9** **AFTER-SCHOOL PROPOSAL**
- 10** **OUR PRODUCTION CATALOGUE**
- 11-16** **MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS**
- 17-18** **CREATIVE TEAM**
- 19** **TESTIMONIALS**
- 20** **NEW YORK TIMES**
- 21** **THANK YOU SPONSORS**

WHO DO WE SERVE?

Any school, child, parent or artist who believes in the power of the arts to transform and the potential for youth to move the world.

Employing an **ABCD: Asset Based Community Development model- a strength-based approach to building community**, CTC ensures that under-served children and youth are **not viewed as 'at risk'**, victims or clients, but viewed as equal partners in the theater & community-building process. We take inventory of the 'assets' of the community **we serve and empower ALL.**

Several CTC After-School residencies serve under-served communities comprising of 91% African American; 9% Hispanic and 96% low-income families – who qualify for "NY State Free Lunch Program"



The Children's Theater Company

MISSION:

UTILIZING THEATER AS A TOOL FOR MORAL REASONING, CTC is rooted in the belief that through the magic of musical theater, children and youth can be the **voices of positive change and the agents of healing in their communities.**





VISION: How do we do it?

CTC's Award Winning catalogue of original musicals, provides ground breaking, **values-based themes & curriculum- rooted in global and ethical education.** In partnership with public schools, parents, **UNITED NATIONS** NGOs, and community leaders, CTC provides a new model of **civic engagement** where children, parents, artists, and benefactors are equal partners in a common vision to celebrate the **triumph of the human spirit through the magic of theater.**



WHAT MAKES CTC UNIQUE?

- **Ethical / Global Education** through Musical Theater (*In & After-School Residencies*)
- **Professionally Composed & Produced Musicals** - Broadway level composers & writers
- **4 Age-Groups / 4 Musicals** - 5-19 yrs old: 4 separate groups = everyone gets a big part
- **Multi-disciplinary program** - Four disciplines: acting, dancing, singing, ethical education
- **Broadway professional** teaching and recording artists
- **(4) Professional theater venues** and rehearsal studios in NYC; 4 LOCATIONS (*Greenwich Village, West Village, Queens, Peekskill*)
- **Recording Studio** of Cast Album by all participants
- Performances at the **United Nations** & other major media / venues
- **Weekly Parent Café** Parents engaged as Stakeholders (not Bystanders)

ACCOLADES:

- **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS**
- **THE NEW YORK TIMES**
- **TONY AWARD WINNING** collaborators
- **CAMERON MACKINTOSH** (*Bway Les Miserables, Miss Saigon, Phantom, Mary Poppins*) selected CTC as his “...*favorite educational musical theater program*”
- **Celebrating 16 years** as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.
- **Appearances include:** GOOD MORNING AMERICA, LIVE WITH REGIS, VERIZON LITERACY AWARDS, SESAME STREET, READING RAINBOW ...



Four Age groups participate in age-appropriate musicals with themes tied into Social and Ethical SCurriculum. Culminating into tudies PUBLIC PERFORMANCES & RECORDING STUDIO SESSION WHERE PARTICIPANTS RECORD THEIR OWN CAST ALBUM.

OUR PARTNERS

Join our partners who have directly impacted the development of thousands of children and youth in NYC who have sponsored CTC performances and scholarships.

- **UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY** (*performed with NELSON MANDELA, JAMES EARL JONES, HARRY BELAFONTE*)
- **NYU DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**
- **UNICEF & UN WOMEN'S SUMMIT**
- **PEGGY KERRY** (US State Dept)
- **RAINN WILSON** (Star of TV series)
- **SENATOR JAMES SANDERS JR.** (CTC Far Rockaway School Residencies)
- **LEHMAN COLLEGE DEPT. OF THEATER & COMMUNICATION**
- **NEW YORK HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB**
- **DYCD: NYC DEPT OF YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
- **ABC HOME & CARPET FOUNDATION** (CEO – Paulette Cole)



Left to Right: RESCUE ME: MUSICAL HISTORY OF WOMEN, the UGLY DUCKLING, HORTON THE ELEPHANT, HENRY BOX BROWN

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM 1-2

- Two CTC Teaching Artists (*as well as visiting guest-artists*) will co-direct a global-ethnic musical, in a collaborative partnership with an *in-school* faculty member which will take place during *in-school hours*
- CTC Creative Team and Teaching Artist can work independently or collaboratively with an **in-school faculty member** in implementing the following:
 - ✓ Three (3) **fully-staged 45-minute / One Act Musicals** (per age group) based on a United Nations themes (ie *human rights, environment, race amity, literacy, advancement of women, religious tolerance*)
 - ✓ Integrate a thematically corresponding global-ethnic curriculum, lesson plans and value-clarification exercises



IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM 2-2

DIRECTOR'S TOOL KIT

Each student and faculty member will receive:

- o Scripts, Peacemaker quotes (per student)
- o Songbooks, Music Scores
- o Tutorial Videos
- o Tutorial Vocal CDs (per student)
- o Vocal Warm-up CDs (per student)
- o Orchestral CD
- o Sound Affects CD
- o Study Guides, Vocab Assessment, Ethical Education Lesson plans

▣ PRODUCTION TOOL KIT:

- o Costumes (per student)
- o Set pieces (light weight / portable)
- o Headshot Marquee & in playbill
- o Professional Playbill programs with published bio-essays by students
- o CD Recording Studio Session (all students / faculty)

▣ CULMINATING EVENTS:

- o In-School performances
- o UN performances (peacemaker quotes & musical highlights)
- o CTC's professional theater venue in Greenwich Village
- o CTC's invitational theater venue in West Village (the Cell Theater)
- o By invitation performances (ie fundraisers for school etc)



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Two CTC Teaching Artists will co-direct and produce an age-appropriate global-ethic musical for (3) three age-groups- during after-school hours (*and if needed, weekend hours at CTC's Greenwich Village or West Village theater venues*).

An *in-school faculty member* will accompany designated rehearsals to ensure consistent level of attendance, engagement, learning, and as needed, production status.

- ✓ Three (3) **fully-staged 45-minute / One Act Musicals** (per age group) based on a United Nations themes (*ie human rights, environment, race amity, literacy, advancement of women, religious tolerance*)
- ✓ Integrate a thematically corresponding global-ethic curriculum, lesson plans and value-clarification exercises
- ✓ A robust global-ethic curriculum, lesson plans, games and exercises.

📌 CULMINATING EVENTS:

- ✓ In-School performances
- ✓ UN performances at the General Assembly & for NGOs (UNICEF & Women's Summit)
- ✓ Multiple performance run at a professional theater venue in Greenwich Village
- ✓ CTC's invitational theater venue in West Village (the Cell Theater)
- ✓ By invitation performances (*ie fundraisers for school etc*)

Each student and faculty member will receive 📌 FULL DIRECTOR'S KIT as on previous slide

COMMUNITY-BUILDING & OUTREACH OPPROTUNITIES:

As a community-building device, CTC can reach out to the nearby community of children and youth, and host auditions – allowing neighborhood children an opportunity to earn ensemble roles, chorus roles or unfilled roles, as needed.



OUR CATALOGUE

Global Ethic & Value-Based Musicals for (4) Age Groups:

Group 4: 15-17 years old

Henry Box Brown: A blues & R&B musical set in the 1850's – where a Virginia Slave is aided by white and black abolitionists to ship himself to freedom in a dry good's box.

Rescue Me: A Musical History of Women: Tracks the advancement of women through the iconic songs and lyrics of the Top 40 songs of the last 100 years.

Nickel & Dime: Rock & Folk musical based on Barbara Ehrenreich's novel about a three month experiment surviving on minimum wage as a waitress, hotel maid, cleaning lady, and nursing aid.

Group 3: 11-14 years old

King Kunka Bunka & the Rotten Royal Rascals: Princesses Proudaska, Jealousina, Chatterina and their royal brothers, Rudekov, Slackoff and Coughkov- are banished to working jobs to discover the secret to true happiness...

Wayward Knight: The King's loyal Knight sets out to serve his King but is distracted by robbers, monks and more...

Providence: The Story of Roger Williams: Accused of treason and sentenced to hanging for defending Native Americans, this courtroom drama is the true story of Roger Williams – told through the eyes of his daughter.

Stone Soup: A group of musical gypsies travel from town to town with their songs and stories...but shut out by each village, until they serve up soup from stones...

Group 2: 8-10 years old

Butter Battle Wars: A Dr. Seuss inspired musical about two ethnic groups (yooks vs. zooks) divided by a wall of intolerance over which way to butter their toast.

The Lorax: A Dr. Seuss inspired rock and roll musical where an over-zealous entrepreneur chops down trees and builds more and more factories to chop down more trees to make thneeds, which everyone needs. The dark side of free-enterprise gone sour.

Horton the Elephant: A Dr. Seuss inspired flamenco style musical about Mayzie who swindles the faithful elephant to take care of the egg in her nest while she romps around Miami Beach. A musical court-room drama puts Horton on trial....to find out who the real parent is.

Farmer Rabbit's Fiesta: Farmer Rabbit learns that sharing is more fun than feasting alone.

Group 1: 5-7 years old

Yertle & Myrtle the Tyrant Turtles: Yertle & Myrtle demand that all the other turtles pile up higher and higher- so that they can see higher and higher....until Mac, at the bottom of the stack...burps.

Sneetches: Stars on your belly or off your belly is the latest craze...and the brother's McBean laugh all the way to the bank.

Miss Spider's Tea Party: Beetles, bugs and bumble bees gossip about Ms. Spider's tea party and web- until a tiny wet moth tells the truth of her generosity.

The Ugly Duckling: High School bullies and mis-fits see their reflection in the Hans Christian classic, the Ugly Duckling.



HENRY BOX BROWN

In collaboration with three-time Tony Winner, Hinton Battle.

A blues & R&B musical set in the 1850's – where a Virginia Slave is aided by white abolitionists to ship himself to freedom in a dry good's box.

[Sample](#) video or links

Slides: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5N0NM3_AISg

Adult Production: <https://vimeo.com/user6593142>

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

Where Have You Been



Jump the Broom Groom



Soon I Will Be Done



Rescue Me: A Musical History of Women

Tracks the advancement of women through the iconic songs and lyrics of the Top 40 songs of the last 100 years.

Sample video or link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpB1r_1On-Y

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

As Long As He Needs Me

Betty Boop: I Wanna Be Loved by You

Baked a Cake

These Boots Were Made for Walkin'



KING KUNKA BUNKA & THE ROTTEN ROYAL RASCALS

A Russian-Style Musical romp about rotten royal rascals...

Princesses Proudaska, Jealousina, Chatterina and their royal brothers, Rudekov, Slackoff and Coughkov- are banished to working jobs to discover the secret to true happiness...

Sample video or link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUgiO6tRAEc>

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

They Have It All



Off to Play



Providence: The Story of Roger Williams

Accused of treason and sentenced to hanging for defending Native Americans, this court-room drama is the true story of Roger Williams – told through the eyes of his daughter.

Sample video or link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3z8J-jo_NE

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

Mercy, my Lord

Traitor



THE UGLY DUCKLING

High School bullies and misfits see their reflection in the Hans Christian classic, the Ugly Duckling.

Sample video or link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ap9gnsuXmao>

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

What is this?



What if I don't belong here?



LORAX & MONEYBAGS

Dr. Seuss inspired rock and roll musical where an over-zealous entrepreneur chops down trees and builds more and more factories to chop down more trees to make "Thneeds", which everyone needs. The dark side of free-enterprise gone sour.

SONG HIGHLIGHTS

Thneed
Biggering



CREATIVE TEAM



MEHR MANSURI - *Founder / Artistic Director*

Jury Member of the National Endowment for the Arts
Horace Mann School- Language Arts Teacher (SOH- Minority Achievement Program)
Directed over 40 Musicals with children and youth
Trained over 200 Professional Teaching Artists & 15 New York City Independent & Private Schools
Writer / Co-composer of over 15 CTC musicals

Acting Coach: Films: PRECIOUS (Oscar Winning), Broadway: FENCES, LION KING, ANNIE
Critics Choice reviews in NY Times, Time Out, Daily News, Backstage for her acting in *PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST*, British productions of *RED DEVIL* and *ROAD* and numerous roles at the PARK CITY UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

Awarded: National Endowment for the Arts & New York State Council on Arts
MFA /BA in Acting UC Irvine Theater



HINTON BATTLE - *Guest Teaching Artist / Recording Artist / Musical Consultant*

The **THREE-TIME TONY WINNER** - NAACP AWARD WINNER - MEDIA CHOREOGRAPHER AWARD WINNER - FRED ASTAIRE AWARD WINNER - SCREEN ACTORS GUILD nominated performer was born in Germany and raised in Washington, D.C. where he studied at the renowned JONES & HAYWOOD SCHOOL OF BALLET. He moved to New York City at the age of 13 to study ballet under George Balanchine at the premier School of American Ballet. Hinton went on to become soloist with the Dance Theatre of Harlem, under the direction of Arthur Mitchell, and the Chicago Lyric Opera, under the direction of Maria Tallchief.



ERIC DOZIER - *Resident Composer / Music Director*

Eric is National Director of Arts and Education for One Human Family Workshops, Inc., which addresses social, religious, racial, gender, and cultural discrimination. He also served as the musical director for the world famous *Harlem Gospel Choir* and the award winning *Children's Theatre Company* of NYC as well as music for various syndicated television series. As a recording artist- Eric has teamed up singer/songwriter and producer *JBEckl (Santana, WAR, Ozomatli)* with whom he has toured across the US and Canada. Eric has a PHD from Duke University, in African American Music History.



KARIDA GRIFFITH - *Resident Choreographer*

Karida is a principal dancer with *Cirque Du Soleil* on Broadway and a member of the legendary *Radio City Rockettes*, and most recently the critically acclaimed MacArthur awarded, *Dorrance Dance Company* garnering a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap." Karida has performed at the Kennedy Center, as well as on Broadway in *an Ode to Frank Sinatra* at the Radio City Music Hall. She has also performed in the critically acclaimed *The Beat*, which was featured at the Harare International Festival of Arts in Zimbabwe.

CREATIVE TEAM



KRISTINA GOLMOHAMMADI - *Education Director and Associate Director*

Kristina is a Senior Teaching Artist Trainer for the Center for Arts Education in New York City. She also leads workshops for the 21st Century Learning program, the English language and literacy learning through the Arts program and Arts Engage Initiative which integrates theater with Social Studies Curriculum. She is also a Co-facilitator at the New York Department of Education. Kristina is also a member of the largest theatre company in Sweden, the National Touring Company of Sweden and the International Theatre Company of Bratislava. She combined her 30 years of acting directing experience with her acting and directing career, Pedagogy and Educational with a BA from the University of Stockholm where she specialized in theatre as instruments for ethical development.



JILL BOLSTRIDGE - *Co-Artistic Director*

Jill is currently the Middle School Drama Teacher and Director at Poly Prep Country Day School in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn. She holds a MA in Theatre from Long Island University, C.W. Post and a BA in Theatre & English Literature from Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. Jill has served as the co-Artistic Director of *The Children's Theatre Company* in Manhattan since 2004, where she has directed more than 30 productions featuring children and youth ages 4-19. She has also written and/or co-adapted several CTC plays and musicals. Jill has launched and taught at the CTC chapters in Boston, Los Angeles, Peekskill, New York, and Valley Stream, Long Island. Prior to her work at CTC, Jill was an instructor and director at The Drama Training Institute in Newton, Massachusetts, and was head of the after-school drama program at the Reynold's Arts Magnet School in Bristol, Rhode Island.



LORY LAZAURUS - *Resident Composer*

Lory has been a resident-composer for CTC for over 9 yrs, and is author of almost 350 songs. Lory writes about peace and unity, including his musical, *Attack of the Elvis Impersonators*, about the spirit of Elvis returning to Earth to unite mankind. Lory has written the CTC mini-musicals, including interpretations of Yertle the Turtle and The Lorax, and is the writer of the hit song "One World," which has been receiving radio airplay. He wrote 23 songs for *Barney & Friends* on PBS, and the theme songs for *The Healthy Kids Show* (Family Channel;) and *Hot Properties* (Life Time Network). He also was a staff writer for the Cartoon Network's *Courage, the Cowardly Dog*.

TESTIMONIALS



PEGGY KERRY - US Delegate to the United Nations, and sister of Secretary of State, John Kerry
Children's Theater) speaks to values, **values they urgently need to incorporate into their lives**, which is why I think [CTC] parents are so excited, which is why I was so excited when I started to follow and attend their performances over three years ago...I really think CTC's productions need to be used in EVERY public school, not just five or six schools. **We need to figure out how to incorporate CTC's transformative musical program into public-school-education!**



RAINN WILSON - Star of hit series, the Office
The first time I saw these **beautiful children was at an event with Nelson Mandela**, where they each recited these amazing and highly literary quotes from great social thinkers, philosophers and human beings and I knew I wanted to get involved and help them raise money and bring attention to this life changing an truly educational and empowering program.”



EARVIN "MAGIC" JOHNSON JR. – Basketball Star & Philanthropist
“The missing link in academic education is filled by the Children's Theater Company's unique character-education program. This Company has introduced a **NEW, FRESH and COMPELLING VOICE IN THE AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER**...but perhaps more importantly, they has **created a unique theater model** where we see the village raising the child, and the youth as true mentors to their community.”

NEW YORK TIMES says:

"...mature words that sound all the more stirring when uttered by young voices."

🔗 "...includes a civil rights medley, **SEVERAL ROUSING SONGS** by the group's music directors, Eric Dozier and Lory Lazarus..."

"**Acted with GREAT BRIO**, this tuneful fairy tale emphasizes the **VALUE OF SERVICE WITHOUT BEING PREACHY...**"

"...an **ACROBATICALLY ENHANCED** King Kunka Bunka and the Rotten Royal Rascals ..."

"an **INTRIGUINGLY ORIGINAL** musical with **rousing Russian-style music** and dance...and a salsa-fied..."

"..."Yertle & Myrtle," a **pithy statement** on the abuses of power..."

"...Performed with **HILARIOUS MUSIC** by Lory Lazarus, it includes a country-western odes by Mack and Jack, the turtles who are literally at the bottom of society."

"...stirring..."

"hilarious"

"...intriguingly original..."

"...rousing songs..."

"... colorful and lighthearted..."

"...pithy statement on the abuses of power..."

"...acted with great brio..."

"...tuneful fairy tale..."

THANKS TO CURRENT SPONSORS

The Children’s Theater Company is supported in part by generous contributions from the following supporters:



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

