

**The Music Center  
Performing Artists  
in Schools and  
Neighborhoods**



**Exciting  
Dance  
Music  
Theatre  
Storytelling  
Performances  
Come To You**

# **MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD**

## **Revolution!**

# Let's Get Started!

Enclosed is a packet of information about the scheduled program. Please review all of the documents carefully, as they are the materials you will need to host a successful program.

## THE DAILY SCHEDULE

It is important that the daily schedule be maintained as specified on the confirmation document. If special circumstances occur, notify The Music Center staff as soon as possible. Changes may be accommodated pending artist availability (which can be limited). We request that all participants be seated in the performance area and ready to begin at the scheduled times.

## YOUR FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

You After the performance, you'll receive an invoice via email. have 30 days to pay upon receipt of the invoice. We do ask that you wait until you receive the invoice before sending payment.

## ARTIST INTRODUCTION & STAGING REQUIREMENTS

Please introduce the artist with the enclosed introduction. There is also specific information you will need to prepare for the arrival of each artist. Please give the tech sheet to the personnel in charge of setting up the performance area well in advance of the scheduled dates. Be sure to have ready any equipment which may be required.

## PRESS RELEASE AND POSTER

A template press release is included should you wish to publicize the event. If you wish to use it, simply copy the text into a word document and fill in the blanks with the appropriate information. A premade poster is also included to let your community know about the upcoming event.

## CURRICULUM CONNECTION FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

These pre- and post-event classroom activities are designed to deepen the understanding and engagement of the program. Please duplicate this preparation material and distribute to all teachers whose students will be attending the event to allow them to fully prepare the students.

## STUDENT SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL SITES

In accordance with California law, The Music Center requires that a classroom teacher be present with students at all times. It is expected that teachers will attend events with their class and actively participate in the learning experience.

We applaud your commitment to arts education and look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 213-972-4310.

## Performance Introduction

"I would like to introduce today's performance which is presented by The Music Center of Los Angeles County. Musical Theatre Guild's "Revolution!" features selections from many Broadway musicals including "1776," "Ragtime," "Newsies," and "Hamilton," all of which are based on real people and events from history. Please welcome Musical Theatre Guild! "



Feel free to encourage the adult members of your audience to share the experience on social media!

Tag us on X, Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok at @MusicCenterLA and we might repost your photos!

## SPACE

- 25' wide x 10' deep x 10' high minimum
- Portable stages must be sturdy and securely lashed

## SURFACE

- Freshly mopped (not waxed)
- Irregularities covered with tape
- Extraneous clutter removed

## EQUIPMENT

- One table and chair
- Two electrical outlets (three-prong and grounded)
  - Bottled water

## ARRIVAL

- 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up

## PARKING

- Two spaces near the venue for loading and unloading

## ASSISTANCE

- Please have a representative ready to welcome the performers and to stay and help as needed

## START TIME

- Please prepare to start the program on time
- Audiences should be in the venue, seated and ready to begin at the listed times

## MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD—Revolution!

**ART FORM:** Theatre

**STYLE:** Contemporary

**CULTURE:** American

### MEET THE ARTIST:

“Revolution!” is produced and presented by members of Musical Theatre Guild. Drawing from the book, music, and lyrics of various musicals, writer Kevin McMahon, director Lee Martino, and musical director John Massey have collaborated to create this entertaining and educational musical revue. Musical Theatre Guild is a non-profit company with a large membership of professionals who are committed to keeping this American art form alive by performing staged, concert versions of wonderful, but almost-forgotten musicals with live accompaniment. Since its inception in 1995, the Guild has produced over sixty such performances, winning the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle’s “Margaret Harford Award” for sustained excellence in the theatre. The artists in this production are professionals who have been trained in many performing arts skills. Physical and vocal characterization, singing, dancing, projection, diction, improvisation, and script analysis are just a few of them. Collectively, they become a singing quartet representing four major singing ranges: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Baritone. Individually, they have appeared in many other plays and musicals at some of our nation’s top theatres.

### ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

In every age and century, the world has changed. History has been written by the acts of the brave souls who have dared to think differently and defy the status quo. History has also been shaped by a series of revolutions, both large and small. Unique unto itself, the musical theatre genre has been able to capture many of revolutionary American historical events, making them accessible to people of all ages. Musical Theatre Guild’s fast-paced revue features a diverse cast of four who capture moments that challenged conventional thinking and behavior of the times. These powerful stories include: the forming of the United States (“1776,” “Hamilton”); the American Civil War (“Shenadoah”); organized labor movement (“Newsies”); turn of the 19th Century in New York (“Ragtime”); The Great Depression, told through comic strip characters (“Annie”); and social revolution (“Hair”). “Revolution!” inspires students to look at these real life, history-making individuals in a whole new light. Throughout the performance, students will develop a deeper understanding of how revolutions begin. These historical events created a strong emotional, social, and political response that caused people to stand up and demand change and justice.

### PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:

Musical theatre is a form of performance in which music, songs, spoken dialogue, acting and dance are equally combined. All of these forms of expression enhance the emotional aspects of a story. Music and theatre have been combined in performances since Greek and Roman times. The more modern form came into its own in the 19th century. Some of the earliest musicals, called “light opera”, were written by British collaborators Gilbert and Sullivan, and American creators Harrigan and Hart, and George M. Cohan. Musical theatre is closely related to the theatrical form of opera, but the two are uniquely different. Opera singers often sing in German, French, and Spanish to what would be considered classical music, while musicals usually focus more on spoken dialogue and sing in the language of the audience to the popular music style at the time. Many opera singers are not trained as dancers and actors, however musical theatre performers are usually trained in singing, acting and dance; also known as ‘the triple threat.’

The heightened world of musical theatre is the perfect showcase for larger than life figures and their stories. The Broadway hit “Hamilton,” written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, created a new approach that took historical events and figures from one period of time and combined it with musical styles and language from another period—and worked to bring a fresh view along with a cast of diverse actors. “Hamilton” is a musical of such astounding grace and skill that it reaches across generations and art forms to speak to all of us. Not only does it entertain, but it also makes us rethink any preconceptions we have about musicals. This is the transformational power of musical theatre; it evolves and changes with the times and culture.

American Founding Fathers, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson crafted the birth of a nation. Henry Ford’s creation of the automobile changed the world. The newsboys of New York waged a labor war at the turn of the 19th century. All of these revolutions occurred; the characters, except for those in “Annie,” were real people. There were many layers of events, conditions and political, social and economic factors that led to revolutions—and they continue to occur in America and throughout the world today.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Have you ever heard any of the songs in “Revolution!?” If so, which ones? Where did you hear them?
- What was your favorite song in “Revolution!?” Why?
- What are the three main elements in a musical? (book, song, dance)
- If you could play any of the characters you were introduced to in the performance, which one would you choose? Why?
- The revue featured musicals from different time periods. Which musical took place at the turn of the 19th century (“Newsies”)? Which musical took place in the 1960s (“Hair”)?
- What similarities did you notice between the scene from “1776” and the scene from “Hamilton?” How were they different? Describe.
- Define the word “Revolution.” Can you name two different revolutions featured in the performance?
- Do you know of any other revolutions that have happened in other countries? If so, tell us what you know.

## FRAMEWORK FOCUS—SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY:

The musical “1776” is based upon the events of the American Revolution and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The characters in the play are based on historical figures, such as Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and George Washington. Study American history in the colonial time period prior to the revolution, focusing on the issues that led to the decision to separate from England (taxation without representation, and the Boston Massacre, etc.). Have students research and report on our nation’s forefathers, noting each one’s major contributions. Locate the libretto to “1776” and the Broadway cast recording. Read the play aloud in class with students, taking turns in the various roles. Listen to each song in its appropriate place in the read-thru. Discuss and evaluate how American history was translated into a work of musical theatre. Look at pictures of the Broadway production and see how the costume design was based on colonial dress and how the set design reflected the famous painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

### California Arts Standards: Artistic Processes

- Cr** Creating
- Pr** Performing/Producing/Presenting
- Re** Responding
- Cn** Connecting

Learn more at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ArtsStandardsCA>

## ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

**Re** Watch a musical that has been made into a feature film. Some examples featured in this performance are “Newsies,” “Hair,” “1776,” and “Annie.” Evaluate how music, dance and dialogue combine to create the art form.

**Cr** Select a core literature book to use as a basis for original musical scenes. On the board, make a list of the main characters and key plot points. Analyze the characters’ thoughts and motivations which might be revealed in song and/or dance. Divide the class into song-writing teams to develop music and lyrics which depict and extend the story into a musical form.

**Cn** Research early musical entertainment and theatrical forms in America: minstrel shows, vaudeville and burlesque. Describe the key characteristics of each and find photographs of the actual performers and copies of posters and playbills from historical productions.

**Re** Develop a list of criteria for a review or critique sheet used to evaluate student performances. The list may include: the ability to create believable characters; the use of vocal projection and articulation; the skill shown in the techniques of blocking and staging; and the appropriate choice of design elements.

**Cn** Look at a program from a professional musical theatre production, noting the many different jobs credited in the making of a musical. List all of the jobs you can identify. Research the responsibility of each occupation: producer; director; composer; lyricist; writer (book); choreographer; set designer; costume designer; lighting designer; sound designer; casting director; actor, musical director; orchestra musician; conductor; etc. Jobs behind the scenes include: stage manager; technical supervisor; property master; production assistant; and press associate.

## SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

DK Publishing and Elaine Paige. *Musicals -The Definitive Illustrated Story*. DK Publishing, 2015.

Green, Stanley and Sinell, Cary. *Broadway Musicals—Show by Show*. Applause and Cinema Books, 8th Edition, 2014.

Grode, Eric. *The Book of Broadway. The 150 Definitive Plays and Musicals*. Voyageur Press, 2015.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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**AND THE MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCE**

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**MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD TO PERFORM ON \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ and The Music Center today announced the upcoming performance of Musical Theatre Guild on campus. The performance is presented by The Music Center’s education department, part of TMC Arts, which provides many offerings including live performances, classroom workshops, scholarship and training programs, online arts curriculum, on-campus events and professional development.

The Musical Theatre Guild is a non-profit company with a large membership of professionals who are committed to keeping this American art form alive by performing staged, concert versions of wonderful, but almost-forgotten musicals with live accompaniment. Since its inception in 1995, the Guild has produced over fifty such concerts. The artists in these productions are professionals who have been trained in many performing arts skills. Physical and vocal characterization, singing, dancing, projection, diction, improvisation, and script analysis are just a few of them. Collectively, they become a singing quartet representing four major singing ranges: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Baritone. Individually, they have appeared in many other plays and musicals.

For more than 40 years, The Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods have been the premier resource for high-quality educational performances, offering one of the most compelling and diverse artistic rosters. The Music Center’s incredible artists bring the magic of live performance to audiences throughout Los Angeles County, with an emphasis on programs that are an excellent fit for educational and neighborhood settings. All Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods performances include standards-based curriculum materials that feature background information on the artists and their performance, as well as related classroom activities with connections to multiple curricular disciplines. Schools can choose from more than 60 performances in music, dance, theatre and storytelling from an internationally acclaimed roster of artists seen across the globe in films, theaters, concert halls, television shows and museums.

**About The Music Center**

The Music Center convenes artists, communities and ideas with the goal of deepening the cultural lives of every resident in Los Angeles County. The \$70 million non-profit performing arts organization has two divisions: TMC Arts and TMC Ops. TMC Arts, The Music Center’s programming engine, provides year-round programming inside The Music Center’s four theatres, on Jerry Moss Plaza, outside at Grand Park—a 12-acre adjacent green space—in schools and other locations all over Los Angeles County and on a digital platform called The Music Center Offstage. TMC Arts presents world-class dance with Glorja Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, free and low-cost public concerts and events, as well as live and digital K–12 arts education programs, workshops, performances, interactive experiences and special events. TMC Ops manages the theatres, the Plaza and Grand Park, which comprise \$2 billion in county assets, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. The Music Center is also home to four renowned resident companies—Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Master Chorale, LA Opera and LA Phil. For more information, visit [musiccenter.org](http://musiccenter.org). Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Instagram and X @MusicCenterLA.

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*For more information, please contact The Music Center at 213-972-3332. Members of the media are welcome to cover this performance. Please contact The Music Center prior to sending a reporter or photographer to the school.*

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Exciting  
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## MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD



**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_



musiccenter.org/performingartists  
@MusicCenterLA

THE  
MUSIC  
CENTER  
A TMC Arts Program



## ARTS INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIPS

Music Center teaching artists work in classrooms to empower student creativity and develop their artistic, workforce and life skills. The program deepens learning across the curriculum in collaboration with classroom teachers by combining dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts with content areas including English Language Arts, history, science and social emotional learning for students of all ages and abilities.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Music Center's professional development programs bring educators together to participate in an experiential and immersive approach to integrating dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts into their classrooms. The focus is on meeting educators where they are and building their capacity over time and in depth — both at school sites and at The Music Center. As but one example, each year The Music Center's Arts Integration Symposium engages participants in all grade levels, art forms and content areas.

## DANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

*Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center* offers Student Matinee performances during each season featuring world-class dance performances that celebrate the diversity of L.A. communities; invited rehearsals that provide young people with an inside look at the creative process of dance companies in residence; master classes focused on technique, choreography and dialogue with professional dancers; and creative residencies where local youth engage with visiting dance companies for multiple days, including the Ailey school residency program.

## STUDENT FESTIVALS

The Very Special Arts Festival engages students of all abilities as artistic creators and contributors. At the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival, fifth graders across the county experience live performances and dance together as a community.

## SPOTLIGHT YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM

A nationally acclaimed, free arts training and scholarship program that develops the creative capacity of high school performing artists in Southern California.

## ARTS GROWN LA

A new platform for artistic expression already thriving in communities throughout Los Angeles County. From performances at parks, community centers, libraries, senior centers and civic events, to Hip Hop dance parties and youth lessons, Arts Grown L.A. collaborates with community partners and neighborhoods to uplift artists and creativity, complementing existing local programs.

## ARTSOURCE®

The Music Center's Artsource® curriculum is designed to bring the expressive world of the arts into classrooms. The materials are available online free of cost.

## OTHER ON-CAMPUS MUSIC CENTER OFFERINGS:

*Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center*, Grand Park, Dance DTLA, L.A. County Holiday Celebration, Plaza Concerts, and Symphonian Campus Tours, among other activities

For all our offerings, please visit us at [www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)