



## YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS RESIDENCY

For High School students interested in playwriting

**This program and the tickets are offered at NO COST to the school and students.**

TDF developed the Young Playwrights Residency, an intensive theatre arts program that brings the skills of playwriting and importance of theatre into the classroom. Young Playwrights Residency integrates playwriting into the curriculum, giving students an opportunity to make artistic choices and experience the joy of creative expression. Along with the completion of a ten-minute play, the students experience a sharpening of academic abilities, such as listening skills, focused writing, public speaking and problem solving, as well as the meaningful development of important life skills, such as teamwork, patience, responsibility and self-esteem.

The students take part in a total of twelve workshops per semester led by a TDF teaching artist. Through extensive collaboration, the teaching artist and classroom teacher develop a curriculum that best serves their population of students. Each spring, a showcase is held to honor the student work. This showcase can occur on site at the school or off site in a theatre or rehearsal space provided by TDF. Attended by students, school officials, family and TDF staff, the event includes staged readings by professional actors of student plays. The teachers participate in a professional development workshop in both the spring and fall, which help them acquire tools to bring playwriting into their classrooms, as well as discover the artist in themselves. A documented TDF RAP curriculum guides the program.

Students also attend a Broadway or Off-Broadway production that serves as a model and inspiration for their own playwriting.

The program, the teaching artist, the training, and the shows are all offered at no cost to the school. We can work with up to 4 classes in one school during the school day as part of the Young Playwrights Residency, and we partner with one teacher who is the lead administrator and facilitator for the program. We are also expanding the program to after school, allowing for a student opted in "club" or "after-school" workshop that operates once a week. The students must be able to commit to attending and being consistent in their accountability.



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The following are the various components of the program required of the classroom teacher:

- Teacher workshop per semester (*professional development opportunity*)
- One or two in-depth planning session with teaching artist per semester
- 12 class periods with teaching artist per semester or roughly once a week
- Consecutive scheduling of periods for in class workshops
- Obtain permission slips from students for show trip
- On-going communication with teaching artist throughout project
- Attend show with students
- Assess & evaluate impact of the residency & the project using online survey tools provided

**Evaluations:** Teachers are asked to complete an evaluation at the conclusion of each residency

**Show Policy:** The selection of the Broadway/ Off Broadway show included in the program is made by the Education Department at tdf, and is based on whether a show is *worthy of study*. Since TDF **pays** for the tickets, which are distributed *free* to the students, the choice of shows is limited by the availability of reduced rate tickets.

Because careful consideration goes into the show selection, it is TDF's belief that **any show of quality** can provide students with an enriching experience for a show unit.

The Broadway/ Off Broadway show can be seen at the beginning **or** the end of the residency and serve as an inspiration or a culminating event for the project.

