



Resource Guide | for Educators and Audiences

We include information about our production along with creative activities to make connections both before and after the show. For educators, all activities are aligned to the Common Core Standards and North Carolina Essential Standards. Look for the symbol below throughout the guide.



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1: Analyze literary texts and performances. NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1.1: Recall the basic parts of a story, such as characters, setting, and events.

Mainstage production

Recommended for ages 6 and older



By Christopher Parks, Rahsheem Shabazz and Ron Lee McGill

Director

Christopher Parks

Music Director

K. Osei Williams

Summary of *GRIMMZ Fairy Tales*

Jay and Will Grimmz, the hip-hop fable story dance-pop sensation, have come back home to the city where they grew up to give a concert. They're known not just for their sounds, but for their powerful storytelling, an inventive remix of familiar classics. The brothers put a modern spin on valuable life lessons in Snow White and the Seven Shawties, Down with Rapunzel, Hanzel & Gretel: Lost in the Hood, and their featured first Granny-winning song, Break, Cinderella, Break!

Audience expectations

You may wish to have a discussion with your students about their role as an audience member. Live theatre only exists when an audience is present; their energy and responses directly affect the actors in performance.

Younger audiences should know watching live theatre isn't like watching more familiar forms of entertainment: there is no pause or rewind button, there are no commercials for bathroom breaks, and they can't turn up the volume if someone else is talking. Encourage your students to listen and watch the play intently so they may laugh and cheer for their favorite characters when it is appropriate. At the end of the play, your applause is an opportunity to thank the actors for their performance. Here are some other guidelines to remember as well:

- Respect other audience members. Stay seated and keep your hands to yourself.
- Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance.
- Photography and recording of the performance is prohibited by copyright law.
- We do not permit food and drinks in the theatre.



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.CU.2: Understand the traditions, roles, and conventions of theatre as an art form. NCES-TheaArts.3.TA.CU.2.1: Illustrate theatre etiquette appropriate to the performance situation.

The BIG QUESTIONS about the show

1. The stories told through hip-hop music in the show are based on classic fairytales. What is your favorite fairytale, and why?
2. If you could choose a fairytale to re-tell in today's times what would it be? How would you change it to the year 2020?
3. Hip-hop music is used in this story, what other types of music could you use to tell these stories? Which is your favorite? How would that change the stories?

Themes explored

understanding and appreciation,
helping others, the power of music



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.(K-5).2: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media. NCES-TheaArts.2.TA.A.1.2: Analyze the relationships between events, characters, and settings.

Learn more about the fairytales used to create the show

How the Grimm Brothers Saved the Fairytale:

<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2015/marchapril/feature/how-the-grimm-brothers-saved-the-fairy-tale>

5 Facts About the Brothers Grimm:

<https://www.biography.com/news/brothers-grimm-facts>

Who Were the Brothers Grimm?:

<https://www.wonderopolis.org/wonder/who-were-the-brothers-grimm>

The Brothers Grimm Brought German Folklore to the World:

<https://www.thoughtco.com/brothers-grimm-german-folklore-4018397>

History of Hip-Hop

Want to explore how hip-hop music and dance got started?

Check out these resources:

Hip-Hop Dance:

<https://www.centralhome.com/hip-hop-history.htm>

Birth of Hip-Hop:

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/hip-hop-is-born-at-a-birthday-party-in-the-bronx>

History of Hip-Hop Music:

<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/music-hip-hop.htm>

The Historical Roots of Hip-Hop:

<https://teachrock.org/lesson/the-historical-roots-of-hip-hop/>

For more activities and content surrounding this show, [click here](#) to access Children's Theatre of Charlotte's Pinterest boards.



THEATRE CORNER

Every play Children's Theatre of Charlotte produces is created by a talented team of designers, technicians, actors and a director. As a class, discuss what you experienced when you saw the performance.

1. Name three things you noticed about the set. Did the set help tell the story? What sort of set would you have designed?
2. What did you like about the costumes? Did the costumes help tell the story? What sort of costumes would you have designed?
3. What role did lighting play in telling the story? How did the lights enhance what you were seeing?
4. Talk about the actors. Were there moments you were so caught up in the story you forgot you were watching a play?
5. Were there any actors who played more than one character? What are some ways you can be the same person but play different characters?



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1: Analyze literary texts and performances. NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.AE.1.2: Understand how costumes [and technical elements] enhance dramatic play.



Write to Us!

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CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.(K-5).1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Recommended Reading

If you enjoyed the show, check out these books at your local Charlotte Mecklenburg library branch. Check availability at cmlibrary.org.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe

Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti by Gerald McDermott

Grumbles from the Forest: Fairy-Tale Voices with a Twist by Jane Yolen

Ninja Red Riding Hood by Corey Rosen Schwartz