



SERVANT
STAGE

LIFT EV'RY
VOICE
STUDY GUIDE

making exceptional theatre accessible to everyone in our community
INSPIRE • EDUCATE • CHALLENGE • ENTERTAIN

WWW.SERVANTSTAGE.ORG | 717-455-0255

SERVANT STAGE

WHO WE ARE

Servant Stage Company exists to serve our community with outstanding musical and theatrical experiences; make the arts accessible to all, especially those with financial or physical limitations; provide a creative outlet for artists in our community to develop and share their talents; create performances that inspire, educate, challenge and entertain...and have fun while doing it!



REJI WOODS - WRITER

Reji has performed throughout the United States as well as in Paris, Amsterdam, and India! Reji is the co-founder/owner Bending Threads Cabaret Company based in New York, NY, and the founder of Reji Woods Productions based in Lancaster, PA. Broadway: Rocktopia. New York/Off-Broadway: THE WIZ, BLACK NATIVITY, ROMEO & JULIET, and ARCHBISHOP SUPREME TARTUFFE, AIN'T SUPPOSED TO DIE A NATURAL DEATH. Tour/Regional: TITANIC, BIG RIVER, SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE, DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, SEUSSICAL: THE MUSICAL, JAMAICA, GUYS & DOLLS, WEST SIDE STORY, CHESS, JONAH, MOSES, IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?, and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. A lover of the stage and screen, Reji is thrilled to have had featured roles in Orange Is The New Black and the Marvelous Mrs. Maisel and was recently featured on Season 16 of America's Got Talent as a member of JW's Inspirational Singers.

THE CREATORS OF LIFT EV'RY VOICE



KYLIE JO SMITH - DIRECTOR

Kylie Jo most recently worked with Servant Stage as director of JINGLE BELL JUKEBOX! You last saw her on stage at Magic & Wonder when she kicked off the SUNDAY NIGHT CABARET SERIES. Before that, she was Sarah in RAGTIME. Kylie Jo currently performs with Sight & Sound Theatres. She has also recorded, released, and performed original music in Nashville, and co-hosts a podcast with her amazing husband. Learn more at kyliejomusic.com / NixMythPodcast.com

"These are real-life stories of hope, determination, and perseverance that I hope will inspire you to appreciate the accomplishments of Black Americans. People of all ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds can share in the celebration of Black History (our American History) through this show!"

THEATER ETIQUETTE

Clap when you like what you see.



Keep talking/whispering to a minimum or no talking at all.



Stay seated through entire show.



Do not record, stream, or take photos of the show at any point.



Keep phones, watches etc. silent.

BIOGRAPHIES

These are the historical figures whose speeches, letters, and diaries are quoted in Lift Ev'ry Voice.

- ◆ **FREDERICK DOUGLASS** (February 1817 or February 1818 – February 20, 1895) was an American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. He became the most important leader of the movement for African-American civil rights in the 19th century.
- ◆ **WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON** (December 10, 1805 – May 24, 1879) was an American abolitionist, journalist, and social reformer. He is best known for his widely read anti-slavery newspaper *The Liberator*, which Garrison founded in 1831 and published in Boston until slavery in the United States was abolished by the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865.
- ◆ **HARRIET ELISABETH BEECHER STOWE** (June 14, 1811 – July 1, 1896) was an American author and abolitionist. She came from the religious Beecher family and wrote the popular novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852), which depicts the harsh conditions experienced by enslaved African Americans.
- ◆ **THEODORE DWIGHT WELD** (November 23, 1803 – February 3, 1895) was one of the architects of the American abolitionist movement during its formative years from 1830 to 1844, playing a role as writer, editor, speaker, and organizer. He is best known for his co-authorship of the authoritative compendium *American Slavery as It Is: Testimony of a Thousand Witnesses*, published in 1839.
- ◆ **WILLIAM STILL** (October 7, 1821 – July 14, 1902) was an African-American abolitionist based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was a conductor of the Underground Railroad and was responsible for aiding and assisting at least 649 slaves to freedom. Still was also a businessman, writer, historian and civil rights activist.
- ◆ **LEVI COFFIN** (October 28, 1798 – September 16, 1877) was an American Quaker, Republican, abolitionist, farmer, businessman and humanitarian. An active leader of the Underground Railroad in Indiana and Ohio, some unofficially called Coffin the "President of the Underground Railroad."
- ◆ **HARRIET TUBMAN** (March 1822 – March 10, 1913) was an American abolitionist and social activist. After escaping slavery, Tubman made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including her family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known collectively as the Underground Railroad.
- ◆ **ABRAHAM LINCOLN** (February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865) was an American lawyer, politician, and statesman who served as the 16th president of the United States from 1861 until his assassination in 1865. Lincoln led the United States through the American Civil War, defending the nation as a constitutional union, defeating the insurgent Confederacy, and abolishing slavery.
- ◆ **LENA HORNE** (June 30, 1917 – May 9, 2010) was an American singer, actress, dancer, and civil rights activist. Horne's career spanned more than seventy years, appearing in film, television, and theatre.
- ◆ **MARILYN MONROE** (born Norma Jeane Mortenson; June 1, 1926 – August 4, 1962) was an American actress, model and singer. Known for playing comic "blonde bombshell" characters in the 1950s and early 1960s. She was a top-billed actress for a decade, and her films grossed \$200 million (equivalent to \$2 billion in 2022) by the time of her death in 1962.
- ◆ **THOROUGHGOOD "THURGOOD" MARSHALL** (July 2, 1908 – January 24, 1993) was an American civil rights lawyer and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1967 until 1991. He was the Supreme Court's first African-American justice.
- ◆ **BARACK OBAMA** (born August 4, 1961) is an American politician who served as the 44th president of the United States from 2009 to 2017. A member of the Democratic Party, he was the first African-American president in U.S. history.
(All info taken from Wikipedia)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE QUESTIONS

1. What month of the year is black history month?
2. The _____ was a secret path to freedom that used private homes, churches and schools to bring freedom to the enslaved.
3. Who was president of the United States during the entirety of the Civil War?
4. What was the type of new music that came out of the Harlem Renaissance including tunes like "Take The A Train," "It Don't Mean a Thing," and "Lady is a Tramp"?
5. What color did The Tuskegee Airmen paint the tails of their planes so they could recognize each other?
6. Name two celebrities that spoke out about the bullying of segregation in the entertainment industry.
7. What was the name of the movement that happened in the 1950s and 1960s that led to changing the laws to end legalized racism in America?
8. Discussion question: How do you think it might feel if you were an African American and were turned away from eating in a restaurant because of the color of your skin?
9. Name three of the modern items that were invented or made possible by African Americans.
10. Discussion question: after seeing the production of Life Ev'ry Voice, what does the phrase "lift your voice" mean to you?

Answers: 1. February 2. Underground Railroad 3. Abraham Lincoln 4. Jazz 5. Red 6. Named were: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Betty White and Marilyn Monroe 7. The Civil Rights Movement 8. Discussion question 9. Named were: potato chips, peanut butter, super soakers, horseshoes, lawnmowers, mops, traffic lights and elevators.

6TH - 12TH GRADE QUESTIONS

1. How many Africans were shipped to the Americas to be enslaved?
a. 10,000 b. 500,000 c. 1,500,000 d. 12,000,000
2. What is the term used for a person who wanted to end slavery?
3. When a group of southern states formed the Confederate States of America, it set the stage for the _____.
4. What renaissance was the golden age in African American culture, creating an artistic explosion in literature, music stage performance and art?
5. What was the nickname for The Tuskegee Airmen during World War II?
6. After World War II, a series of laws were made that were designed to segregate, discriminate and intimidate African Americans. These were called the _____ laws.
7. What was the name of the movement that happened in the 1950s and 1960s that led to changing the laws to end legalized racism in America?
Discussion question: if you were an African American during the civil rights movement, how do you think it would feel to go to restaurants, schools and other gatherings during that time. Do you think you would have participated in marches, boycotts and sit-ins? Why or why not?
8. What year was Barack Obama elected as the first African American president of the United States?
Discussion question: after seeing the production of Life Ev'ry Voice, what does the phrase "lift your voice" mean to you?

Answers: 1. d. 12,000,000 2. Abolitionist 3. Civil war 4. Harlem Renaissance 5. Red tails 6. Jim Crow 7. The Civil Rights Movement 8. 2008



Youth Companies

Servant Stage Youth Companies are training grounds for performers ages 10-19 who wish to continue to hone their theatre skills and are considering pursuing theatre as an interest beyond high school. Students receive weekly classes in acting, dancing, and singing from an experienced panel of instructors. Students also receive specialty lessons in audition preparation, headshot/resumes, networking, and general theatre disciplines. Auditions for Youth Companies take place in January.



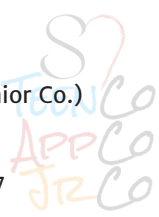
SPRING COMPANIES

- 2 Spring Companies (Junior Co. & Kid Co.)
- For Students Ages 10-14
- Classes on Monday evenings, March-April



SUMMER COMPANIES

- 3 Summer Companies (Teen, Apprentice & Junior Co.)
- For Students Ages 12-19
- Classes on Monday evenings, May-August
- Showcase Performance on Saturday, August 17



Drop-In Classes

Join us on Monday nights for pay-what-you-will classes taught by local professionals across a variety of disciplines including acting, singing, dance, improv, stage combat, audition prep, and more!

Registration is encouraged but not necessary. For a full listing of upcoming classes and to register, visit servantstage.org/mondays



Winter YOUTH PRODUCTIONS



ANASTASIA
THE MUSICAL
YOUTH EDITION

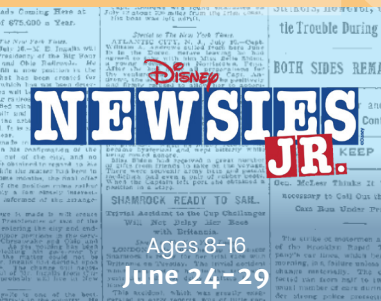
Ages 8-16
Rehearsals
January 2-25
Performances
January 26-28



Seussical™

Ages 12-19
Rehearsals
January 2 - February 1
Performances
February 2-11

Summer THEATRE CAMPS



NEWSIES JR.

Ages 8-16
June 24-29



The Wizard of Oz
Young Performers Edition

Ages 8-16
July 8-13



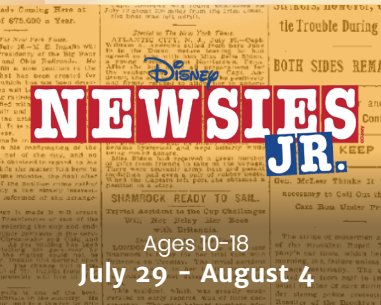
Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR.

Ages 10-18
July 15-20



The Sound of Music
YOUTH EDITION

Ages 8-16
July 22-27



NEWSIES JR.

Ages 10-18
July 29 - August 4



Get More Info!



FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
servantstage.org/education • 717-455-0255

SEUSSICAL, NEWSIES JR, and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR are presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.MTIShows.com. THE SOUND OF MUSIC: YOUTH EDITION, THE WIZARD OF OZ: YOUTH EDITION, and ANASTASIA: YOUTH EDITION are presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com.