



WORLD "ON THE ROAD" SCHOOL TOUR

Be the **one school** to host 1 of 5 international performances by children!

A **once-in-a-lifetime** visit, performance and experience for your students!

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1. Wednesday June 8, afternoon

**TRUE NORTH YOUTH THEATRE ENSEMBLE
(AUSTRALIA)**

A Kid Like Me

Recommended audience: Grades 7 – 10

personal and societal impact of these issues, illuminating the road to social change and personal transformation along the way. Audience members are fully engaged in the drama via zig zag controllers that allow them to vote and interact with the actors as the play evolves and shifts direction.

Through The True North Youth Theatre Ensemble plays and workshops, award-winning theatre maker, Alirio Zavarce, helps young people in the northern suburbs of Adelaide find their authentic voices. The result is a vibrant display of creative confidence, performance skill and buckets of youthful energy.

Producer: Juliette Zavarce, AJZ Productions

Running time: 55 minutes

Fee*: \$350

2. Thursday, June 9, morning

**THE CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
(UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)**

As You Like It

Recommended audience: Grades 7 – 10

This ensemble cast of young Australians take aim at the social issues that challenge today's youth. Bullying, social justice, social anxiety, consumerism, sexism, peer pressure and the pressure to succeed are just some of the troublesome topics that these actors attack head-on.

The Company:

Through dynamic mini-plays, the True North Youth Theatre players work through the

The Children's Shakespeare Theatre company from New York should feel right at home in Stratford, Canada's hotbed of Shakespearean theatre. But when the actors playing Rosalind, Orlando, Celia and Oliver take the stage for Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, it will become apparent that this is the Bard with a youthful twist.

For one thing, this excerpt from the full play is set in the 1960's with a Beatles

soundtrack. And nobody is having trouble with Shakespeare's English and its deeper meaning.

The Company:

This American company uses one of Shakespeare's frothier and more romantic plays to explore gender and how fluid it can or might be. "We believe this is an important discussion that is happening around the world now and we are trying to be part of the conversation with this offering and others in our current season," says Artistic Director, Diana Green. Love, as always, is the central theme.

This big experiment in children's theatre began in late 1999 when Diana first gathered some kids at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. The response to their first production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was so positive that Diana and her young thespians kept going. This independent children's theatre organization has now performed 55 productions of almost all of Shakespeare's plays. The company is comprised of children ranging in age from 8 - 18 who come from Rockland County, NY and surrounding areas.

"Our mission is to bring classical theater to local audiences of children and families as well as to visit local schools in an educational capacity."

Running time: Just under an hour

Language: English

Fee*: \$350

3. Thursday, June 9, morning

RACE PRIMARY SCHOOL (SLOVENIA)

Children's Eyes See It All ...

Recommended for grades 4 - 6

Children are astute observers of life and they are constantly learning. So we shouldn't be surprised about what they notice and what they internalize. What Johnny learns, Johnny knows.

This play is about what children see in their homes, in their schools, in their communities, and in the world. We watch as the child actors observe and monitor

situations, relationships and people. Then they play it back through motion and song, showing us what they understand. By varying the pitch and pace of their voices, they transmit different emotions and reactions.

The Company:

This production received a gold award at a state festival for theatre groups in Slovenia. This is the first time the Race Primary School theatre company will appear at an international festival.

Take a minute and find out how children see the world. You might be surprised.

Vice Headmistress: Romana Zupancic

Running Time: 25 minutes

NOTE: This is a fairly brief production, probably 25 minutes, but two things would make this a good fit for a school. 1. The chance for the kids to talk informally after the show. 2. There is a possibility that the Ambassador from Slovenia to Canada may be in attendance.

Fee*: \$350

4. Monday, June 13, morning

DIVADLO VYDÝCHÁNO (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Jednou v Chelmu (Once in Chelm)

Recommended audience: Grades 7 – 10

The Polish town of Chelm provides the backdrop for this charming story of two misfits and their love for each other. It is looking like these two square pegs, Lemel and Tzipa, might never find love, or a partner in life, until their parents engage a matchmaker who brings them together. It is love at first sight.

After he is engaged to Tzipa, Lemel embarks on a journey of discovery to find his vocation. Unfortunately, our simple and kind-hearted hero is cheated and tricked by many along the way. In the end, he returns to his love and is just plain happy.

Once in Chelm treats us to a delightful array of Jewish music and customs, and Israeli dancing. For reasons unknown, Chelm is regularly portrayed as the “town of fools” in Eastern European Jewish folklore.

The Company:

Divadlo Vydýcháno (Theatre Breathed Up) is a theatre group devoted to cultivating both the individual actor’s talent and the group’s skills in collaboration and co-operation. Their repertoire of children’s stories and fairy tales is a regular feature of theatre festivals across Europe. Once in Chelm is a relatively new production written by the Director.

Director: Michaela Homolová

Running time: 30 - 45 minutes

Language: Czech

Fee*: \$350

5. Monday, June 13, morning

TEATRO LA FRAGUA (THE FORGE) CUBA

Para ser mejores (To Be Better)

Recommended audience: Grades 7 – 10

Cuba’s Teatro la Fragua children’s troupe will pay homage to 19th century Cuban writer, poet and philosopher, José Martí, with their play Para ser mejores (To Be Better). Havana-born Martí was known as the “Apostle of Cuban Independence” during the time that Cuba was pushing away from Spain, and he wrote many texts for children.

The Company:

Teatro La Fragua is a children’s theatre network that extends throughout Central America and the Caribbean. Its name means “The Forge” and the youth companies literally forge a national and cultural identity in environments where poverty is a day-to-day reality. Theatre is their medium.

The troupe of child actors arriving from Cuba are all 12 years old and have never travelled outside of their homeland before. A collective of Cuban artists is currently raising money for their trip through art sales.

Para ser mejores presents several short vignettes in a theatrical game that speaks to the universal values of love for human kind and for Nature, friendship, solidarity, equality, intelligence and freedom.

Director: Armas Zulema

Running Time: 25 minutes

Language: Spanish

Fee*: \$300

DETAILS

Booking: Contact Dana Phillips (Foundation) 519-527-0111 xt 239 or foundation@fc.amdsb.ca

Deadline for Booking: May 30th

Payment: Payment can be by cheque and made out to “Stratford International Children’s Theatre Festival”. Please send to:

SICTF

c/o Dave Bean

71 Sir Adam Beck Rd.

Stratford ON N5A 8B9

**Payment fees, through the Stratford International Children’s Theatre Festival, go to the performing groups.*

Requirements: Space should be either a stage or a gym floor.

Arrival Times: Exact arrival times will be communicated a few days before the visit.

Other info:

Each group will travel with two university student “ambassadors”, most of whom are Canadian theatre students, as well as the director and technician if the group brought one.



Avon Maitland has sponsored the performing groups transportation costs to visit Avon Maitland schools. **Participating schools from other boards will be invoiced for transportation costs.**

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The Foundation for Education is facilitating the World Festival of Children’s Theatre ‘On The Road’ tours.

