At CTC, our mission is to Educate, Challenge, and Inspire our multigenerational audience. This Audience Resource Guide is just one of the ways through which we aim to enhance your experience and further your engagement, beyond just seeing the shows on our stage. Use these articles, conversation starters, and activities both before and after you see Cinderella!
CINDERELLA
November 3, 2019 – January 5, 2020
UnitedHealth Group Stage
Best enjoyed by everyone!

Adapted by John B. Davidson | Original Music and Arrangements by Victor Zupanc
Directed by Peter C. Brosius | Choreography by Linda Talcott Lee | Music Direction by Jason Hansen

You’re invited to a beautiful Victorian Holiday party—but be prepared to check your coat, and all sense of tradition, at the door. ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE IN THIS GLORIOUS HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR! We’re really not supposed to say, but there may be… A kiss cam? Cake? T-shirt cannons? Jokes ripped straight from the headlines? Absolutely yes! With a track list filled with modern pop hits and an updated script that spins stunning elegance into madcap, sidesplitting comedy at high speed, this is one party you won’t want to miss!

Things to Know About the Show:
• This show is done in the British pantomime style, meaning it contains original music, traditional holiday carols, and current popular songs; jokes and references to pop culture; tons of audience interaction; and lots of slapstick comedy.
• Children’s Theatre Company has produced this show 15 times!
• Stick around after curtain: the performance ends in a dance party!

EDUCATE: Learn More About Cinderella
Use these resources to familiarize your family with the story of Cinderella, as well as the British panto style CTC uses to stage this fabulous fairy tale!

• Meet this year’s Cast: https://offbook.childrenstheatre.org/meet-the-cast-of-cinderella-372d3dbb6a4c
• Original ‘Cinderella or the Little Glass Slipper’ by Charles Perrault: https://www.pitt.edu/~dash/perrault06.html
• Cinderella Stories from Around the World: https://offbook.childrenstheatre.org/around-the-world-with-cinderella-d34edf3adf32
• 21 Cinderella Fractured Fairy Tales: https://www.weareteachers.com/the-best-fractured-fairy-tales-cinderella-2/
• The Laughing Stock Theatre Society: What is Panto?: http://thelaughingstock.ca/what-is-panto/
EDUCATE: The Music of Cinderella

Working on the music for Cinderella was a very special treat for me. This production at CTC is in the traditional British panto style, which essentially means that anything goes. The panto style encourages scenes of wild, outrageous, slapstick humor interspersed with scenes of absolute beauty and deep emotion. It’s a wonderful and challenging mix. The music that I have arranged and composed for this production covers that wide range and everything in between. You will hear parodies of famous pop songs old and new; it was extremely important to me that we include tunes that are familiar to six-year-olds, and others that will make the parents and grandparents smile.

There are also scenes that must be incredibly gorgeous and uplifting. When Cinderella undergoes her magical transformation, we must go on this journey with her. The music, along with the scenery and lighting, needs to transport the audience to a place of mystery and beauty. When we are at the palace ball it has to look and sound like we are there. We hear the music and immediately feel like we are right there alongside the dancers, twirling onstage in their immaculate, glowing gowns. And then, suddenly, when Cinderella’s family enters we blast into a polka or a disco number! That’s how this play goes from one extreme to another, over and over!

Another common aspect of traditional panto is the Olios. These are short “entertainments.” that happen in between scenes of the play. The curtain closes and the audience is entertained by singers, musicians, and dancers. These might be related to the play, but often are not. They are, quite simply, an opportunity to show off in front of the curtain while scenery is being changed behind it. For our production, we have chosen to feature several carols from around the world—very interesting and beautiful carols from Ireland, England, and Germany and Czechoslovakia. My hope is to introduce our audience to some music that they may have never heard before. There are thousands of songs out there, of which we are doing but a few.

So sit back and enjoy this wild ride. Allow yourself to go on this journey with us and we’ll transport you to other places. We’ll be performing the music live from the pit so come down and say hello!

- Victor Zupanc is CTC’s Resident Music Director and the Composer of Cinderella’s original music.
EDUCATE: Conversation Topics and Activities

Check out the ideas below for what to talk about, write about, create, and explore before and after you see Cinderella!

- Explore different adaptations of Cinderella. (Check out the Off Book article on Page 2!)
- If you had a fairy godmother, what would you wish for?
- Make the Fairy Godmother’s wand using popsicle sticks, glitter, pipe cleaners or other craft supplies.
- What was Cinderella feeling at the beginning of the play? What was she feeling at the end of the play?
- What do you think happens after “Happily Ever After?” What does “Happily Ever After” mean to you?
- Use an old shoe (ask permission first!) to construct a version of Cinderella’s slipper that doesn’t fall off!
- What emotions did you feel during the play? What part of the play surprised you?
- Write your own adaptation of Cinderella. How does the story change?
- Cinderella forgives her family for being mean to her. When was a time someone was mean to you? Did you forgive them?

AT THE PLAY: Visit the lobby pre-show for these two special activities!

- Write a letter to the Stepmother! Bring it with you on the day of the show and it might be read onstage as part of the show!
- Learn about the costume design process for Cinderella, then pick a fabric swatch to inspire your creativity and design your own costume!
**CHALLENGE: Character Interview**

Familiarize yourself with the story of *Cinderella*: read books, watch the Disney movie, or wait until you see the show! Then, use your imagination to invent backgrounds, justify actions, and answer questions from one of the character’s perspectives. This activity works best with a partner or a group!

One person should volunteer to play Cinderella. The rest of the group will play the roles of news reporters who are interviewing Cinderella for the local paper.

**Sample questions**

- “How did you feel about living with your stepsisters and stepmother?”
- “Why did you help the beggar woman?”
- “Why did you want to go to the ball so badly?”
- “Who do you consider to be your family?”
- “What do you like most about living in the castle with the Prince?”
- “Why did you choose to forgive your stepsisters?”

When you're finished with the interview, think of how Cinderella's answers were informed by her character. For example, if Cinderella answered that she helped the beggar woman because it was the right thing to do, or because she felt sorry for her, it might be because Cinderella is kind and generous!

**Mix It Up:**

After interviewing Cinderella, do the same for other characters in the story such as the Stepmother, Prince, or the stepsisters!
**CHALLENGE: I’m the Fairy Godmother!**

Use your body and imagination to become different characters! Choose someone as the leader – this person should have a wand (it can be an actual wand, or something as simple as a marker) and will begin the activity by saying, “I’m the Fairy Godmother and I turn you all into (insert object or person).” It works well to have the first prompt be something stationary and calm, such as a tree, to establish expectations. Others playing will take five seconds to shape their body like a tree.

When ready, the Fairy Godmother will wave the wand again and say, “I’m the Fairy Godmother and I turn you all into” and fill in the blank with something else. This can be a character from a book, an animal, an object, etc. Switch up who gets to be the Fairy Godmother, so everyone has a chance to flex their creative muscles in different ways! Whoever has the wand becomes the Fairy Godmother. Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo!

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**CHALLENGE: Object Transformation**

The Fairy Godmother magically transforms a pumpkin into a carriage and mice into horses. Stretch your imagination to think outside the box like the Fairy Godmother in this fun activity about object transformation!

Take a small cardboard box or similar everyday object and reimagine a potential alternative use for the object. Take 10–15 minutes for exploration and brainstorming. What else can you make out of your object?

After the brainstorm session, choose your favorite idea and create a 30-second commercial for the new product! Write a script to pitch your product to a viewing audience.
**Challenge: Cinderella Around the World**

Over 340 cultures have their own version of the *Cinderella* story! Match each *Cinderella* name with the country from which they originated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angkat</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cinduri</td>
<td>Phillipines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adelita</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pear Blossom</td>
<td>China</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodencloak</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yeh-Shen</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Rhodopis</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Damura</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rashin-Coatie</td>
<td>Laos</td>
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<td>Punchinella</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<td>Aschenputtel</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
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<td>Nyasha</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
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<td>Abadeha</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jouanah</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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INSPIRE: Paper Bag Stories

Just like Charles Perrault created the story of Cinderella that CTC uses as the base for our production, you can create your own original stories with unique characters, settings, and plots!

Collect paper bags and assign a prompt from the table below for each bag (we’ve provided a few examples, but encourage you to think up your own!). Write examples of these things on slips of paper and place them in the matching bag. Write enough slips to have one for each person creating a story in each bag.

Choose one prompt from each bag, and use your imagination to write a story that includes each of the prompts!

Mix It Up: Trade your final stories with someone else! Read the story you were given, and re-write it from the perspective of a different character! Share your originals and your adaptations with each other and discuss what changed between each author’s interpretation!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Bag Prompts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Objects (Examples: stick, apple, frying pan, basketball, backpack, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotions (Examples: joyful, sad, angry, determined, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals (Examples: Horse, cat, bird, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Actions (Examples: running, mixing a potion, shopping, laughing, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settings (Examples: the forest, the town, a castle, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characters (Examples: a prince, a mysterious visitor, a gallant knight, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once upon a time, Cinderella lived with her stepmother and stepsisters who treated her poorly. And every day, they made her work as a servant. Until one day, the fairy godmother granted her wish to go to the ball as long as she is home by midnight. Because of this, she was able to meet the prince at the ball, but lost a glass slipper in her rush to return home to her life as a servant. Only to find out the prince was searching for her. Finally, Cinderella and the Prince were reunited. And ever since that day, Cinderella lived in the palace and no longer had to work as a servant.

Once upon a time ________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

And every day ___________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Until one day ____________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Because of this __________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Only to find out __________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Finally _________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

And ever since that day __________________________________________

______________________________________________________________
INSPIRE: Cinderella’s Carriage

Cinderella rode a carriage transformed from a pumpkin. Design your own carriage in the blank space below. Of what materials is your carriage made? Where is your carriage going?
Cork Board Conversations

Use the sticky notes below to think critically about *Cinderella*.

Three adjectives that describe this play are...
1. 
2. 
3. 

This play made me feel...

This play made me think about...

A question I still have is...

A status I would post on my social media after seeing the show is...

This play taught me...

My Rating of *Cinderella* at Children’s Theatre Company