Dear Teachers,

The staff at the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center welcomes you to the Kaleidoscope Series for Youth. We appreciate your selection of the Gallagher Bluedorn for your students’ cultural experience. The staff will make every effort to ensure your visit to our facility is educational, engaging, and enjoyable.

The materials about each individual performance in the Study Guide are designed by educators to help plan for your field trip. This information usually includes a synopsis of the production, pre- and post-show activities for the classroom, and bibliographies. Please feel free to print and copy the information that is appropriate to your classroom lesson plan. In addition, students and parents are encouraged to investigate the study guide materials together.

Along with study guide information, this packet will also provide you with valuable information about the performance experience and logistics of your trip, including information about the Gallagher Bluedorn, directions for travel, parking, and attendance information.

Thank you for your interest in the Kaleidoscope Series for Youth, and we look forward to having you visit our classroom — the Great Hall of the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, where inspiration becomes a reality!

Amy Hunzelman,
Director of Education and Special Programs
Field Trip Information For Teachers

BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE...

Time of Arrival
We suggest you arrive approximately 20–30 minutes prior to curtain time.

Parking and Unloading
School buses arriving at the Gallagher Bluedorn will approach via University Avenue. Enter campus from the east at the traffic light onto Campus Street. The Gallagher Bluedorn drive-up lane is directly on your left. Please line up behind any buses waiting to unload students. Unload students quickly and move them onto the sidewalk. Gallagher Bluedorn staff will direct traffic and assist in the unloading.

When empty, school buses will move to the parking lot located on the north side of the Gallagher Bluedorn, unless ushers indicate otherwise. Once parked, buses cannot leave the lot until after the performance. If your bus needs to leave during the show, they should return no later than 10 minutes before the end of the performance and park in the drive in front of the Gallagher Bluedorn. If your students are staying on campus for lunch or a tour and will not be getting on the bus immediately after the show, please notify parking staff so it is parked appropriately.

Home Schools/Private Patrons
When you arrive, please proceed to the B lot south of University Avenue. Parking is free and no parking voucher is needed. A limited number of parking spaces for those with handicap designations or special needs are available in the lot north of the Gallagher Bluedorn. Please plan accordingly and arrive early.

Tickets
You will receive a voucher for your group order. Ushers will have lists of schools attending and seating assignments. Present your voucher to the ushers as you enter the Gallagher Bluedorn lobby.

Seating
The ushers will direct groups to their seats. Our seating policy is to seat students and teachers together as indicated on the order form. Each busload of students receives an usher and may enter a different door but will be seated in the same area in the auditorium.

Special Seating
Please inform Molly Hackenmiller at (319) 273-3682 if you have a student with special seating needs (if not previously noted on your order form) so we can arrange appropriate seating. Please provide at least two weeks’ notice if possible. Due to the large number of students attending most shows, we may not be able to accommodate special seating if we do not have prior notice.
Field Trip Information For Teachers

DURING THE PERFORMANCE...

A Few Reminders on Theatre Etiquette
- Food and drink are not permitted in the Great Hall.
- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed.
- You may talk before and after the performance begins, but please do not talk during.
- Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices.
- Clap and cheer when appropriate.
- Most importantly, enjoy the show!

Chaperones
Please see the section below on guidelines for Kaleidoscope chaperones.

Duration
The performance will last approximately one hour unless otherwise noted on the website, confirmation letter, and voucher. If your students are staying on campus for lunch or a tour and will not be getting on the bus immediately after the show, please notify parking staff so it is parked appropriately.

AFTER THE PERFORMANCE...

Loading
At the conclusion of the performance, stay seated and wait until your assigned bus number is called by the Gallagher Bluedorn employee onstage. Please wait patiently as groups are dismissed to their buses. A Gallagher Bluedorn volunteer will escort your group to your bus safely. Home schooled students and chaperones may exit at the conclusion of the performance through the east exit.

Evaluation
Teacher surveys will be conducted online. The contact name on your group order will receive a link via email after the performance. Please share this with other teachers on the field trip. We appreciate your feedback for future Kaleidoscope performances!

Guidelines for Kaleidoscope Chaperones
As a chaperone for a Kaleidoscope performance, you are an important factor in making the performance enjoyable for the entire audience. Here are some guidelines to help make the most of your Kaleidoscope experience.

- Before entering the hall, assist the teacher by keeping students in line and by reminding them that chewing gum, eating, and drinking are not allowed in the hall. Make sure to take notice of the bus number assigned to you by a Gallagher Bluedorn employee.
- Be ready to let the ushers know what school you represent when you arrive. This information helps the ushers show you to your seats in an efficient manner. Please be patient if several people ask you the same question.
- If you need assistance for any reason, ushers are wearing white shirts and black pants and will be wearing nametags.
- Sit amongst the students during the performance. Please ask students to remain in their seats and to refrain from talking during the show. We want all students to be able to hear and enjoy the show.
- At the conclusion of the show, wait to exit until your assigned bus number is called by the Gallagher Bluedorn employee onstage once the show is over. Please wait patiently as groups are dismissed to their buses. When exiting the hall, please help the teacher keep your class together.
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ARTSPOWER NATIONAL TOURING THEATRE
Gary W. Blackman
Mark A. Blackman
Executive Producers

THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD™ EARNED HER WHISTLE
Based on the Classic Book by Watty Piper
Adapted by Greg Gunning
Music by Richard DeRosa
Lyrics by Greg Gunning
Costumes by Fred Sorrentino
Set by Tiger Scenic

Study Buddy Written by Veronica Heller

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The Little Blue Engine and the Little Red Engine are part of the Piney Vale Railroad. They both dream that someday they will get to pull real cars, just like the Silver Engine (who is in charge of the trainyard), the Shiny Gold Engine, who pulls the passenger cars, and Rusty, an aging train who pulls the Piney Vale Express cars that are full of toys.

But that dream looks like it may never come true, especially for the Little Blue Engine. She wants to please Silver, but it seems Silver can’t be pleased. Silver is always angry with her, and even her friend Red resents the trouble she is having with Silver. The Little Blue Engine starts to think she’ll be just a little switcher engine forever.

But things change when Silver forces the aging Rusty, who is the Little Blue Engine’s best friend, to retire. He gives Rusty’s job of pulling the Piney Vale Express to Red. Now, Red certainly wants nothing to do with the Little Blue Engine. Red is no longer just a switcher engine – she is a real engine of the railroad!

It looks like the Little Blue Engine’s dreams are all over until Red hurts her wheel and can’t pull the Piney Vale Express after all. Silver tries to get Rusty to come back, but Rusty says that only the Little Blue Engine can do the job. The Little Blue Engine repeats to herself “I think I can, I think I can” – and she always does.

Founded in 1985 by Gary Blackman and Mark Blackman, ArtsPower is one of America’s largest producers of professional theatre for young and family audiences. We produce and tour original musicals and plays across the United States – 49 states in all – in many of our nation’s most renowned theatres, cultural centers, university auditoriums, and schools.

ArtsPower’s mission is to improve the lives of young people with outstanding, literature-based theatre that challenges their intellect, promotes their sound moral development, and ignites their desire to read. Our work encourages children to express themselves both in and out of the classroom and fosters their development as productive members of society. ArtsPower’s offices are located at 9 Sand Park Road, Suite 6, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009. We invite your comments.
MAKING TRAINS

In the play, the Little Blue Engine learns that a caboose is the last car on a freight train. (A freight train carries goods – coal, for example – instead of carrying people.) Can you fill in the caboose for each train?

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

Answers: 2: | 3: | 4: | 5: |
FIND THE ONE THAT DOESN’T BELONG
(Teachers: Please read instructions to your students.)

The Little Blue Engine must give the right train cars to Silver, Rusty, and Shiny Gold. She must be very careful not to mix them up! See how good you are at finding the object that does not belong in each of these groups. The first one is done for you.

1. 
   ![Car, House, Train, Airplane]
   Reason: A house cannot move you from place to place.

2. 
   ![Gloves, Scarf, Bone, Skirt]
   CLUE: Winter clothes

3. 
   ![Snake, Dog, Horse, Pig]
   CLUE: Farm animals

4. 
   ![Soccer Ball, Basketball, Brush, Football]
   CLUE: Sports equipment

5. 
   ![Apple, Bread, Orange, Strawberries]
   CHALLENGE! NO CLUE.

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NOW IT’S YOUR TURN!
(Teachers: Please read instructions to your students.)

The Little Blue Engine and Rusty both think that there’s a special kind of “magic” to a train: a train has the power to make people happy! To make you especially happy, what should a train look like? Draw your train below. If you wish, cut it out along the dotted lines and send it to ArtsPower. Our address can be found on the “Write to Us” page.
Watching a play is different from watching a movie or a television show. Because the performance is live (not on tape) and the audience can see it as it is happening, the actors use different ways of telling the story onstage.

**SONGS:** Our production is a “musical.” The actors often use music and songs to tell the story. Characters talk to each other and also sing to each other. A song can express a character’s feelings.

*Think About It: Why do you think music is a good way to show feelings? Why don’t the actors just talk instead?*

**DOUBLING:** Sometimes one actor must play more than one part. For example, you will notice that the same actor plays the Rusty Engine and the Shiny Gold Engine.

*Think About It: Why would ArtsPower use four actors and have one double, rather than using five?*

**PROPS:** Of course, it would be very hard to bring real trains onstage. So you, as audience members, have to use your imagination. Props are objects used by the actors as they perform. They are meant to remind you of a real train without looking exactly like one.

*Think About It: How would you create a “train” onstage? After you see The Little Engine That Could™ Earns Her Whistle, see if your ideas were actually used.*

**DID YOU KNOW?** You may be wondering how this play came to be. In 1930, a book called The Little Engine That Could™ by Watty Piper was published by Platt & Munk, the publishing company. Over the years the classic book and character continue to be symbols of inspiration to children and adults everywhere. ArtsPower’s show is adapted (or slightly changed) from the book.

Platt & Munk is part of Grosset & Dunlap, a division of Penguin Young Readers Group, which publishes The Little Engine That Could™ in many different formats accessible to readers of all ages. The Little Blue Engine also appears in other stories for children published by Penguin Young Readers Group. Look for these other titles: The Little Engine That Could™ Goes on a Class Trip, The Little Engine That Could™ Saves the Day, and The Little Engine That Could™ Gets a Checkup.

*Think About It: Why might it be better to adapt a book to create a play instead of doing it straight from the book?*

**YOU HAVE A ROLE, TOO!** Though you may not know it, you are a very important part of the play. You are the audience, and without you there would be no show. To be a great audience, you should always be quiet and listen carefully. It’s fine to laugh or even cry at the things you see onstage, but talking will distract both the actors and the other audience members.
My School Name: ________________________________

My Teacher’s Name: ________________________________

Date I saw the performance: ________________________________

I saw the performance at: ________________________________

Dear ArtsPower,

My favorite character was ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

My favorite part was when ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Here’s what else I have to say about the show: ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Signed: ________________________________