

New Conservatory Theatre Center • YouthAware Educational Theatre

Get Real!

Pre-Show Handout for Teachers

HIV Prevention & AIDS Education Play Appropriate for 4th & 5th Graders

By Doug Holsclaw • Originally Developed by Ed Decker • Directed by Ben Randle

Performing at NCTC January 8th – 30th • Mondays through Thursdays at 10am & 11:30am

The YouthAware Educational Theatre program has been providing basic HIV & AIDS prevention education to SFUSD students for over 20 years. *Get Real!* uses engaging sketches with familiar characters to educate grades 4-5 about the basics of HIV & AIDS, eliminate any stigma attached to the disease, and encourage young people to make positive, healthy choices. Each performance includes a Q&A with the cast immediately after the show.

- ✓ New Conservatory Theatre Center (NCTC) is located at 25 Van Ness Ave. at Market St. in the lower lobby.
- ✓ Please go over proper theatre behavior with your class prior to your visit to NCTC, and monitor your students during the performance to help prevent any disruptions.
- ✓ Please be on time! There is no late seating for this play. Try to arrive 15 minutes before your performance to allow extra time for bathrooms and getting seated.
- ✓ The program runs approximately one hour, including the Q&A immediately following the performance.
- ✓ No food or drinks are allowed in the theatre. Snacks are permitted in the lobby if you arrive early enough, but we unfortunately cannot accommodate groups for lunch before or after your show.
- ✓ You may download a preview copy of the script at nctcsf.org/get_real.html

Basic HIV & AIDS Information for Elementary Students...

- HIV is a virus that lives only in the blood and it attacks the white blood cells (or the immune system) which protects your body from illness. If HIV kills enough white blood cells in the body, then it can cause a person to get diagnosed with the disease called AIDS.
- HIV and AIDS have been around for a long time now. Many people have gotten sick from HIV and many have died from AIDS all over the world. There is unfortunately *still no cure* for HIV or AIDS.
- Now scientists and doctors have created medications that help people with HIV live longer, healthier lives, but they have to take medications every day to help them stay healthy.
- The virus that causes AIDS is called the *Human Immunodeficiency Virus*, or HIV.
- AIDS stands for *Acquired ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome*.
- You cannot always tell by looking at someone if they are infected with HIV because HIV lives in the blood.
- The HIV virus dies when it touches the air, so it is NOT spread like a cold or the flu.
- You **CANNOT** get HIV or AIDS by hanging out with someone with HIV or AIDS, or by hugging them, kissing them, using a toilet after them, or even drinking from a glass that was used by someone who has it.
- You **CANNOT** get HIV or AIDS from a mosquito bite or from any other bug or animal.
- You **COULD** get HIV mixing your wet blood from with someone else's wet blood (only if it already has HIV in it).
- You **COULD** get HIV if you poke your skin with a needle you find on the street (only if it has HIV infected blood living inside of it). It's ok to give or receive blood or to get a shot at the doctor's office, because those needles are only used once before they're thrown away properly, and all the blood in hospitals is tested to make sure it's safe.
- HIV **COULD** be passed to a baby from an HIV positive mother during birth or from breast milk, but now medications have made it very unlikely that this will happen in the United States.
- Very few kids have HIV or AIDS, and it's not a very easy virus to catch, but it is important to know about the disease so that you don't have to worry about getting it or worry about being around anyone who has it.



Email YouthAware Program Director Sara Staley

sara@nctcsf.org , or call (415) 694-6149

with any questions about this program.



www.facebook.com/YouthAware



YouthAware Educational Theatre at NCTC is supported in Part By: Bob A. Ross Foundation, California Endowment, Centers for Disease Control, Electronic Arts Foundation, Fresno Regional Foundation, GGS Foundation, Giants Community Fund, Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, James Irvine Foundation, Metta Fund, Mukti Fund, Sam Mazza Foundation, San Francisco Unified School District, The Small Change Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the support of our Individual Donors.