



# WINTER SORT OF THING

## RESOURCES

### FOR

# EDUCATORS



### Tricksters:

The “trickster” is a common archetype of story and theatre, dating back to even earlier than the 13<sup>th</sup> century. There are a great many literature studies that can be done with this character across grade and ability levels, a few examples for your research are below. Many times, you will find examples in your current curriculum and can simply add the Winter Sort of Thing into your lesson preparation.

Our trickster is named Captain Papadopoulos. She is the pirate captain of the HMS Scattershot, a pirate ship that can sail into the real world and the world of the imaginary. Captain Papadopoulos loves playing tricks on people and has a number of “ship shape mates” that accompany her high-jinx and tom foolery.

- > Tricksters in American Folklore  
<http://americanfolklore.net/folklore/tricksters/>
- > Loki the Trickster in Norse Mythology  
<http://www.Norse-mythology.com/Loki.html>
- > African Trickster Myths (A Comprehensive unit for primary students) -  
<http://www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/1998/2/98.02.04.x.html>
- > A good literature resource  
<http://www.aaronshp.com/stories/folk.html>

### Imaginary Friends:

This year our show features a number of imaginary friends. The imaginary friend is a classic character in typical growing years as well as characters in popular fiction. One can remember the popular Hobbes in the comic strip “Calvin and Hobbes” or even the whole imaginary world created by the famous educator, Mr. (Fred) Rogers. One of the gifts as educators we can give is to celebrate the active, imaginative play in which all children participate. Here are a few good resources you can use to prepare your students for the imaginary characters they will encounter in “All Hands on Deck”.

- > Mr. Rogers on Imaginary Friends  
<http://pbskids.org/rogers//parentsteachers/theme/1646.html>
- > Imaginary Friends as childhood development  
[http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref\\_Friends\\_Like\\_These/](http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Friends_Like_These/)
- > A lesson for writing using imaginary friends and a picture book prompt  
[http://writingfix.com/Picture\\_Book\\_Prompts/Ted3.htm](http://writingfix.com/Picture_Book_Prompts/Ted3.htm)



## WHAT TO EXPECT



*Did you know that the Winter Sort of Thing has been rated a "Best Bet for You and Your Kids" by the Philadelphia Inquirer?*

### Talking with your child:

*Yes! And... Collaborative Arts* and Eastern University Theatre's Winter Sort of Thing is a perfect first theatrical experience for your young people. We feature wildly imaginative shows with colorful characters including many kids from our Philadelphia-based collaborative arts programs, which gives your child someone "like them" to watch on stage!

We suggest you talk with your child before coming so that they know what to expect. While every show is different, it's probably good for your child to know:

- The theatre will start off in light, and then dim out so you can see the stage.
- There will be music, dancing, and sometimes characters even talk to or enter the audience.
- You can sneak off to the bathroom during the show, but it's best to try to empty your bladder before you go in, just so you don't miss anything!
- We'll have an intermission for this show, so you get a break.

### Planning your trip:

We are excited to have you come and see us! Here's a couple of things you might want to know before coming out.

- Reserve your tickets by calling or reserving on-line (on the website). Reserve so we can save you a seat. You will be asked to pay when you arrive at the theatre. Your tickets will be held at the door. (If you're a school group, please call to schedule for our special "field trip" show!)
- Plan on arriving EARLY. Even if you reserve tickets, there's so much fun to have in the lobby beforehand. You and your child can get some snacks (and popcorn), meet some of the characters, hear some music, peruse the photos of the performers, and pick your seats (FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE)
- There is an upper and lower parking lot around McInnis, which is the main building on campus, but keep coming down that winding road (Thomas Drive) until you see the building with the domes on top (it's the observatory).
- Once inside, the main lobby and entrance to the theatre is at the opposite end from where you drove in, and next to the lower parking lot.

- If you know a young person who would benefit from Yes! And... programming or want to be a part of Winter Sort of Thing, please go to our website: [yesandcamp.org](http://yesandcamp.org)
- If you would like to sponsor our Winter Sort of Thing or become a partner organization, please email [info@yesandcamp.org](mailto:info@yesandcamp.org)

### *F.A.Q.*

Q: What are the appropriate ages and grades for this performance?

A: Our captive audience has proved that our Winter Sort of Thing is quite appropriate for almost any age! However, we find that students in grades 4-7 are particularly engaged as they can grasp the subject matter, get almost all the jokes, and follow the plot line.

Q: Are there scary moments?

A: Maybe! There are some intense moments of peril, but we've never known an audience member to leave because of one, including some 3 and 4 year olds.

Q: How long is the performance?

A: Typically, our shows run between 50 and 75 minutes. There is an intermission (this is different from past years) and the lobby is open for refreshments before, during and after the performance!

Q: How do I get tickets?

A: Call our office at 215-951-0330 x2117 or go to the main page to reserve on-line. No money is collected until the day of the performance. Typically, the on-line reservations close a few hours before each performance.

Q: Do you offer group discounts for my youth group / temple association / hockey team?

A: Absolutely! We can make a deal. Email [michael@yesandcamp.org](mailto:michael@yesandcamp.org) for details about this group offer.

Q: Will my child be singing the songs from the production months later?

A: Yes! We've received email from parents all over the Delaware valley as testimony to this!



# ALL THE DETAILS: ONE PLACE



## What:

Yes! And... Collaborative Arts & Eastern University Theatre's annual original musical extravaganza, the Winter Sort of Thing presents for 2012: All Hands on Deck - Join Captain Papadopolous and her Ship Shape Mates on an adventure of epic proportions!

Produced by: Mark Hallen, Director of Theatre, Eastern University &  
Brooke Sexton, Yes! And... Collaborative Arts

Written by: Brooke Sexton

Composed by: Sarah Butts-Manzo

Directed by: Jake Miller

## Where:

Eastern University, McInnis Auditorium 1300 Eagle Rd. St. Davids, PA 19087

## When:

January 26-29, 2012

Thursday, January 26 at 7pm

Friday, January 27 at 11:30am (Field Trip performance) & 7pm

Saturday, January 28 at 1pm and 7pm

Sunday, January 29 at 1pm

## How much:

\$10 - General Admission

\$8 - Children under 12 and seniors

\$5 - College students with ID

\$\$\$ - Special group rates and field trip/homeschool group rates available! Contact us.

## Who:

Eastern University Theatre is the undergraduate theatre program in the communications department at Eastern University. Yes! And... Collaborative Arts is a non-profit arts education company that serves at risk and underserved communities throughout Philadelphia. Together, they created the Winter Sort of Thing as a way to integrate undergraduates in collaborative, original work with professional artists and kids from Yes! And... Collaborative Arts programming.

Find  
out more  
information,  
reserve tickets  
and peruse some  
past stories at our  
website:

**wintersortofthing.com**

With questions, please  
feel free to email us:

**info@yesandcamp.org**

or give us a call at:

**215-951-0330  
x2117**