









## DEAR FIRST STAGE FRIENDS,

Meet Alex Scott. She has a story to tell - about her life and her legacy, her humor and her heart. The story of a young girl fiercely determined to make a difference despite the challenges she faces. Alex's true story reminds us all that a single person can change the world - one act, or even one cup, at a time.

Enjoy the show,

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# **GLOSSARY**

Alex was diagnosed with a type of cancer called **neuroblastoma** just before she turned one-years-old. Below is a list of words you will hear throughout Alex's story that may be new to you.

#### CANCER

Cancer is a disease that happens when the body makes cells that are sick. These cells can grow very quickly. Cancer can spread to different parts of the body.

#### **CELLS**

Your body is made up of billions of teeny tiny pieces called cells. These are the smallest piece of you. All these pieces together make you who you are.

#### **CHEMOTHERAPY**

Special medicines to treat cancer.

#### CT SGAN (also called a CAT SCAN)

An X-ray machine that looks like a spaceship and takes many pictures all around your belly and chest. A test that helps doctors find cancer in the body.

#### **METASTASIZED**

When the cancerous tumor spreads from one part of the body to another part.

#### MRI

A special scanner that uses a powerful magnet to take very detailed pictures of the brain and spine. MRIs can be very loud, but they don't hurt.

#### **NEUROBLASTOMA**

A kind of cancer that mostly affects young children.

#### **ONCOLOGIST**

A doctor who treats patients with cancer. Oncologists who treat kids with cancer are called pediatric oncologists.

#### PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY NURSE

A person specially trained to give care to children with cancer.

#### RADIATION THERAPY

A type of cancer treatment that uses a beam of energy from a machine to kill cancer cells.

#### REMISSION

When cancer symptoms go away completely.

#### SIDE EFFECTS

The body sometimes reacts to medicine or other treatments. In cancer treatment, some of these may include feeling very tired or losing your hair.

#### STEM CELL TRANSPLANT

A treatment that uses your body's own stem cells to help make you stronger. This involves taking the person's healthy stem cells and putting them back into their own bloodstream. This is done through an intravenous (IV) line. It's similar to having a blood transfusion. When the stem cells get inside the person's body, they start making healthy new blood, bone marrow, and immune system cells.

#### **TUMOR**

Cancer cells growing together in a mass or lump inside your body.

#### X-RAY MACHINE

A machine used to take special pictures of the bones inside of your body.

# PRE-SHOW QUESTIONS

1. The Amazing Lemonade Girl is about a young girl, Alex Scott, who has to tell the story of her life. She tells her story as a play with the help of a group of actors—or an ensemble. If you had to tell the story of your life, what memories would you want to include? How would you want to tell it—for example: as a play, movie, song, painting, book?

2. As well as being a play, there's also a book written about Alex Scott and the lemonade stand she held called Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand. Have you ever read this book? If so, how might the play be different from the book?

3. While Alex's situation is tough, she keeps her spirits up by setting a goal to raise money for childhood cancer through her lemonade stand. Goal setting is a powerful tool to keep yourself motivated while also helping you plan for the future–like a dream job or something you really want to have. What are some goals that you have? What is something that you could do today, this week, this month, or this year to get one step closer to your goal?

# DEALING WITH GRIEF

LIGHTING A LANTERN

#### **MATERIALS:**

Clear empty jars, one per student
Strips of yellow or orange paper cut the same height as the jars
Glue or tape
Red or orange tissue paper

- 1. Get a jar and enough strips of paper to cover their jar with you do not need to use every strip. Think about a loss you have experienced - perhaps the loss of a family member or pet, or even a loss of a special friend who moved away, or a house you have moved from.
- 2. On each strip of paper, write something special about that person, animal or place you have lost things you did together, special moments you shared with each other, something you would like them to know, etc. You can use as many or as few strips as you'd like.
- 3. Next, glue or tape the strips vertically around the jar. Then, take a few squares of red and orange tissue paper. Twist the tissue paper into the shape of a flame and secure it to the inside bottom of the jar.
- 4. This lantern can serve as a glowing reminder of the loss you may have experienced, that our fond memories will live forever and they will continue to be a shining light in your life.

#### **POST-SHOW QUESTIONS**

1. Alex wanted to help the research for a cure for cancer so much that she held an annual fundraising lemonade stand. What is a cause or charity that you really care about? How can you raise awareness for this cause? What else can you do to help?

2. While Alex has a challenging story to tell, the Ensemble works together to help her tell her story. Think of a time you worked with a team of people to accomplish a goal. What did you need to accomplish? What did your team do to make this task easier? How did each team member support the others?

3. Alex's brother works through some very complex emotions—like guilt, grief, and jealousy. Her brother processes these emotions in a healthy way through the support of Alex, his family, and the rest of the ensemble. Have you ever had to process similar complex emotions? How did you feel? What made it easy or challenging to work through these feelings? Did you have anyone who supported you or helped you through this process?

## WHO SAID IT?

1.	" all of that is me. The happy and the sad. The good and the bad. That is my story."
2.	"There's always a good somewhere, you just have to look a little harder sometimes."
3.	"Can I have a lemonade stand?"
4.	"I'm just an "ensemble player," and this is not my story–but I just don't think my part was written very well."
5.	"They want you to be on the Oprah show!"

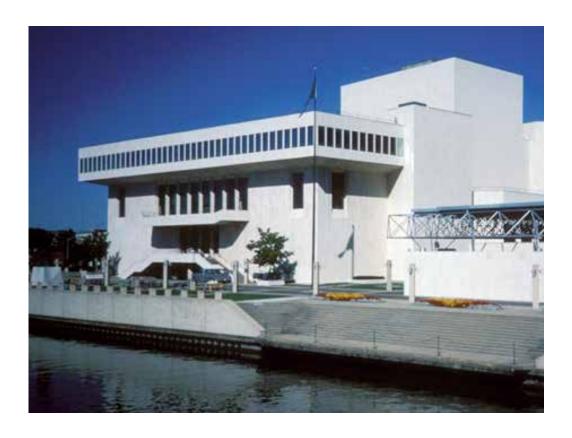


# GOING TO A SHOW AT THE MARCUS CENTER'S TODD WEHR THEATER

SOCIAL STORY



# I am going to see a First Stage show at the Todd Wehr Theater.



I am going to see the show with

# Watching a play is like watching TV or a movie, except people are on stage in front of us.



They are called actors. They can see and hear me too. I can't turn the channel or turn the volume up and down.

# A play is made up of many interesting things.



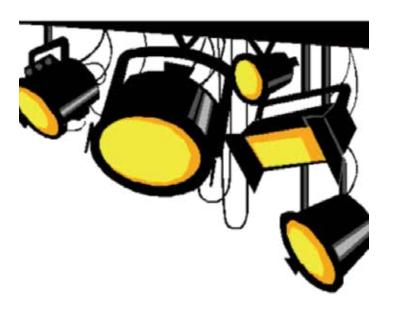
Costumes



Scenery



Sound



Lighting

When we arrive at the theater, we will probably have to climb some stairs. There are stairs outside the building, and inside the building.



We may need to wait in line to scan our tickets.



When we are waiting, I can stay with my family or teacher.

# Masks are required in the theater.



I will keep my mask over my nose and mouth the entire time I am there.

# An usher will help us find our seats.

We will enter the theater and find our seats.



There are bathrooms in the lobby. If I need to, I can use the bathroom before we go to our seats.

## Someone will show us where to sit.



The audience area is for all of us.



The stage is for the actors only.

# When I am in the theater waiting for the show to start:

- 1. I can talk to my family or friends.
- 2. I can take a short break in the lobby.





# There will be a lot of people in theater and it may get noisy.

If it gets too loud:

- 1. I can bring headphones if I want.
- I can put my hands over my ears.
  - 3. I can leave the room and take a short break in the lobby.







I can come back when I am ready.

# **During the show:**

- 1. I can watch and listen to the actors quietly.
  - 2. I can applaud if I like something.
  - 3. I can hold things in my hand that make me feel comfortable.





## If I need to talk:

- 1. I can talk quietly to my family.
- 2. I can write down what I want to say.
  - 3. I can leave the room.

#### After the show there will be a "talkback."

# The talkback is a chance for me to ask questions.

- 1. I will raise my hand to show that I want to ask a question.
- 2. I will wait for the leader to call on me to ask my question.
- 3. I don't have to ask a question if I don't want.



#### I can ask different kinds of questions:

- 1. I can ask questions about the show.
- 2. I can ask questions about the scenery, costumes, lights, or sound.

# After the show is finished, I will leave the theater with my family.



# MEET THE "BLUE" CAST



These are the actors you will see at the Sensory Friendly Performance on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 4pm.



# THIS IS PIETJA



Pietja plays the role of Alex, an 8 year-old girl. Alex tells the audience about the story of her life, her battle with cancer, and the lemonade stand charity that she created to help other children.



# THIS IS THE ENSEMBLE



These actors play many different parts in the play including Alex's doctors, family and friends.

They help Alex tell their story by pretending to be different people in her life.