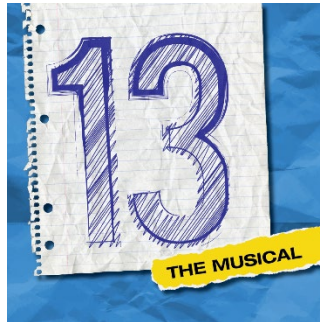




2019-2020 Season

Content Guide



Columbus Children's Theatre selects shows to meet the diverse needs of our performers and audience members. *13* is part of the Advanced Performance Academy summer institute program and features a grade 7-12 all-student cast. The script was selected in an effort to engage, inform, and educate the students we train onstage and reach in audiences to think about their own choices and the quality of their interactions with others.

CCT provides information on the content of performances to best inform our patrons of what to expect before coming to the theatre. Please note that while we work to include information that we believe our audiences would like to be informed of, determining what may be offensive or noteworthy for different families, schools, or other patrons is subjective. If you have any concerns about this or any other show at CCT, we invite you to read through content guides carefully and reach out to our Education Department with any further questions. Thank you!

• **Synopsis**

Geek. Poser. Jock. Beauty Queen. Wannabe. These are the labels that can last a lifetime. With an unforgettable rock score from Tony Award-winning composer, Jason Robert Brown, *13* is a musical about fitting in – and standing out! Evan Goldman is plucked from his fast-paced, preteen New York City life and plopped into a sleepy Indiana town following his parents' divorce. Surrounded by an array of simpleminded middle school students, he needs to establish his place in the popularity pecking order. Can he situate himself on a comfortable link of the food chain... or will he dangle at the end with the outcasts?!?

• **Themes/Topics**

- Parental divorce
- Growing pains/puberty
- Friendship
- Acceptance/being yourself

- Bullying
 - Various forms of bullying including physical, emotional, and verbal are discussed and shown
 - Characters are bullied because of disability, religion, perceived “otherness”, perceived sexual activity or inactivity, and body-shaming
 - Bullies are eventually confronted in the show
- Stereotypes including:
 - Religious (Jewish and Catholic, specifically)
 - Disability
 - Gender and double-standards
 - The show offers opportunities for characters to address, explore, and sometimes refute stereotypes
- **Language**
 - Words that may be offensive or of note include: hell, God/Jesus (as in “Oh, God!”), friggin, dumb-ass, suck, stupid, hate, slut, tease, skank, penis, cripple, that
- **Violence**
 - There is a scene in a movie theatre; they are watching an R-rated horror film (we don’t see it, but we hear parts of it) and the characters narrate some of what they see in the movie
 - There are threats of beating up each other
 - There is a boy who is kneed in the crotch, two girls pull each other’s hair, and someone gets shoved and punched
- **Sex**
 - Characters make innuendos throughout the show
 - There are many mentions of “The Tongue” and there are three kisses in the show
 - Two male characters kiss accidentally, which is not handled positively by them or the other characters
- **Drinking/Drugs/Smoking**
 - Several mentions of “getting drunk”, but no simulation or action as such
 - Also mention smoking, Ritalin, and that Mom is weaning off “the meds”, but again no simulation, suggestion, or action onstage
- **Other**
 - Religious jokes and/or putdowns are made, specifically about Judaism and Catholicism
 - The writing team for 13 The Musical is comprised of Jewish members and Evan’s upcoming Bar Mitzvah is a key part of the show
 - One character has muscular dystrophy and uses crutches; he is bullied throughout the show by many characters and also makes light of his illness