

# VIRTUAL & IN-CLASSROOM FIELD TRIPS

"THEY ARE MUCH MORE ENGAGED, THEY ARE ASKING QUESTION, YOU CAN REALLY SEE THEY ARE IMAGINING THEMSELVES PLAYING OUT THE STORIES, AND THAT'S GOING TO HAVE A LASTING IMPACT."

– BRENT GRIHALVA, ARTS LIAISON, ACADEMY FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP



**20 WORLD PREMIERS TO  
DATE**

**500,000 AUDIENCE  
MEMBERS TO DATE**

**200 SCHOOLS AND  
COMMUNITY GROUPS SEE  
A CCT PRODUCTION  
ANNUALLY**

**OVER 10,000 FREE AND  
REDUCED PRICE TICKETS  
DISTRIBUTED TO UNDER-  
RESOURCED SCHOOLS  
ANNUALLY**

## WHAT DO WE DO AT CCT?

Chicago Children's Theatre has served more than half-a-million families with high-quality professional productions, with an emphasis on access and inclusion. Chicago's brightest talents in the theatre — from award-winning actors and directors to internationally recognized authors and composers — collaborate to bring these works to the stage.

With the shift to an online format, CCT has continued to create accessible content through audio dramas, handmade puppet shows, and cinematic-quality recordings of existing productions. Additionally, we've designed educational materials and lesson plans to enrich each of these experiences. These easy-to-follow guides are aligned with Common Core and Illinois Arts Learning Standards to ensure your limited time in the classroom is time well spent. Educators are welcome to hire a CCT Teaching Artist or Artists to lead programming.

### PAST FIELD TRIP PARTNERS INCLUDE

SKINNER WEST ELEMENTARY, JAMES OTIS ELEMENTARY, COONLEY ELEMENTARY, STEM MAGNET ACADEMY, SUDER MONTESSORI MAGNET, NETTELHORST ELEMENTARY, BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, FRANCIS W. PARKER AND MANY MORE

# FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

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## FREDERICK

**Ideal for Grades 1-3**

**60-90 minute engagement**

**\$5 per student**

[Click here](#) to watch FREDERICK on our YouTube Channel, CCTv.

The Caldecott Award-winning picture book FREDERICK by Leo Lionni comes to life as a clever and colorful virtual puppet show gently narrated by Michael Shannon, a founder of Chicago's A Red Orchid Theatre and star of films like SHAPE OF WATER, REVOLUTIONARY ROAD, and BOARDWALK EMPIRE.

### Materials Provided

CCT's 10 minute video production of FREDERICK, a guide to the Introduction & Implementation of a 60 minute lesson plan, and CCT pre-planning administrative support. Curriculum includes discussion questions, a game, and an activity for the class to create their very own mini-puppet shows using simple craft materials. Option to add a CCT Teaching Artist(s) for \$100.

### Materials Needed

This lesson works best if students are prepared with paper, coloring materials (pencils, crayons, markers, anything they prefer), scissors and tape.



### Learning objectives:

- To consider how our unique gifts as individuals can help us contribute to a collective goal through teamwork.
- To draw connections between themes of teamwork in the story of Frederick and the collaborative process theatre artists use to make productions such as this.
- To create an original puppet show as a team using simple art supplies found in most homes. (In-person and virtual versions of this activity included).
- To inspire ongoing conversations around community and citizenship.

## X MARKS THE SPOT



**Ideal for Grades 3-5**

**5 lessons, each 60 minutes in length**

**\$5 per student**

[Click here](#) to listen to X MARKS THE SPOT. The podcast is also available as captioned videos.

X-MARKS THE SPOT is a five-part, serialized audio play conceived and directed by CCT Artistic Director, Jacqui Russell. The piece is inspired and informed by students who are visually impaired. That said, the piece is fantastic for all audiences, with a goal of inspiring young listeners to engage more deeply with all five of their senses.

### Materials Provided

CCT's 5 Episode Radio Play X MARKS THE SPOT, individual guides to the Introduction & Implementation of curriculum for teachers and students, worksheets, Google Slides presentations for each day, and CCT pre-planning administrative support. Option to add a CCT Teaching Artist(s) for \$100 per class.



# FIELD TRIP OPTIONS CONT.

## BEATRIX POTTER & FRIENDS



**Ideal for Preschool & Kindergarten**  
**4 lessons, each 60 minutes in length**  
**Pay-per-pupil starting at \$5**

You are cordially invited to meet our friends Mrs. Tittlemouse, Jeremy Fischer, Simpkin the Cat and Peter Rabbit. Four adorable Beatrix Potter favorites come to life in this mesmerizing, interactive trunk and puppet show, complete with original music on mandolin, violin, toy piano, and banjo.

### Materials Provided

CCT's 4, 15 minute videos featuring Beatrix Potter stories, a guide to the Introduction & Implementation of 4 corresponding 60 minute lesson plans around each story focused on SEL Learning Goals, and CCT pre-planning administrative support. Curriculum includes discussion prompts, high-energy games and dynamic activities. Option to add a CCT Teaching Artist(s).

### Learning Objectives

- To identify emotions and practice acting on empathy.
- To practice emotional regulation tactics when things don't go as planned.
- To explore why we sometimes experience a change of heart.
- To reflect on choices and consequences.
- To celebrate how made-up stories can help us be thoughtful about our real lives.
- To create our own adventure stories as a classroom community.

To learn more and book, please [click here](#). To watch the trailer, [click here](#).

## MAYBE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FREE LESSON PLAN

**Ideal for Grades K-3**  
**60-90 minute engagement**  
**Option to add a CCT Teaching Artist(s) for \$100**  
[Click here](#) to watch MAYBE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.

MAYBE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL is a bilingual virtual production featuring murals, music, and puppetry from Chicago Children's Theatre and the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO).

Inspired by the award-winning book by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, illustrated by Rafael López, the piece brings together five CSO musicians performing classical works by Latino composers, English/Spanish narration, and colorful, playful puppetry to tell a true story about how even the smallest artists among us can accomplish something big.

### Materials Provided

Our free lesson plan/study guide for this production includes discussion questions, a movement-based activity, and a craft inspired by public art. The lesson plan is available in English and Spanish on the MAYBE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL event page, [linked here](#).



# FIELD TRIP OPTIONS CONT.

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## DIAMOND'S DREAM FREE LESSON PLAN

**Ideal for Ages 9 and Up**

**60-90 minute engagement**

**Free of charge**

**Option to add a CCT Teaching Artist(s) for \$100**

[Click here](#) to watch DIAMOND'S DREAM



DIAMOND'S DREAM is a virtual puppet production that takes place on a CTA Red Line train traveling south through pandemic-era Chicago. Diamond, a pre-teen African-American boy, has fallen asleep on the train while on his way to visit his dying grandmother. When he awakes, time and reality have shifted, and he meets the ghost of a young African-American girl, a shapeshifting elder spirit who died of Spanish Flu 100 years ago to the date.

### Materials Provided

Our free lesson plan/study guide for this production includes discussion questions, a writing activity, and historical context for the production. The lesson plan is available on the DIAMOND'S DREAM event page, [linked here](#).

### Learning Objectives

- To gain a greater understanding of the Covid-19 pandemic by learning about the Spanish Flu pandemic, with an emphasis on racial inequities.
- To draw connections between ongoing racial justice protests and the Red Summer of 1919.
- To identify and articulate messages of hope to protect ourselves and each other during challenging times.
- To spark ongoing conversations with peers inside and outside the classroom.





# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

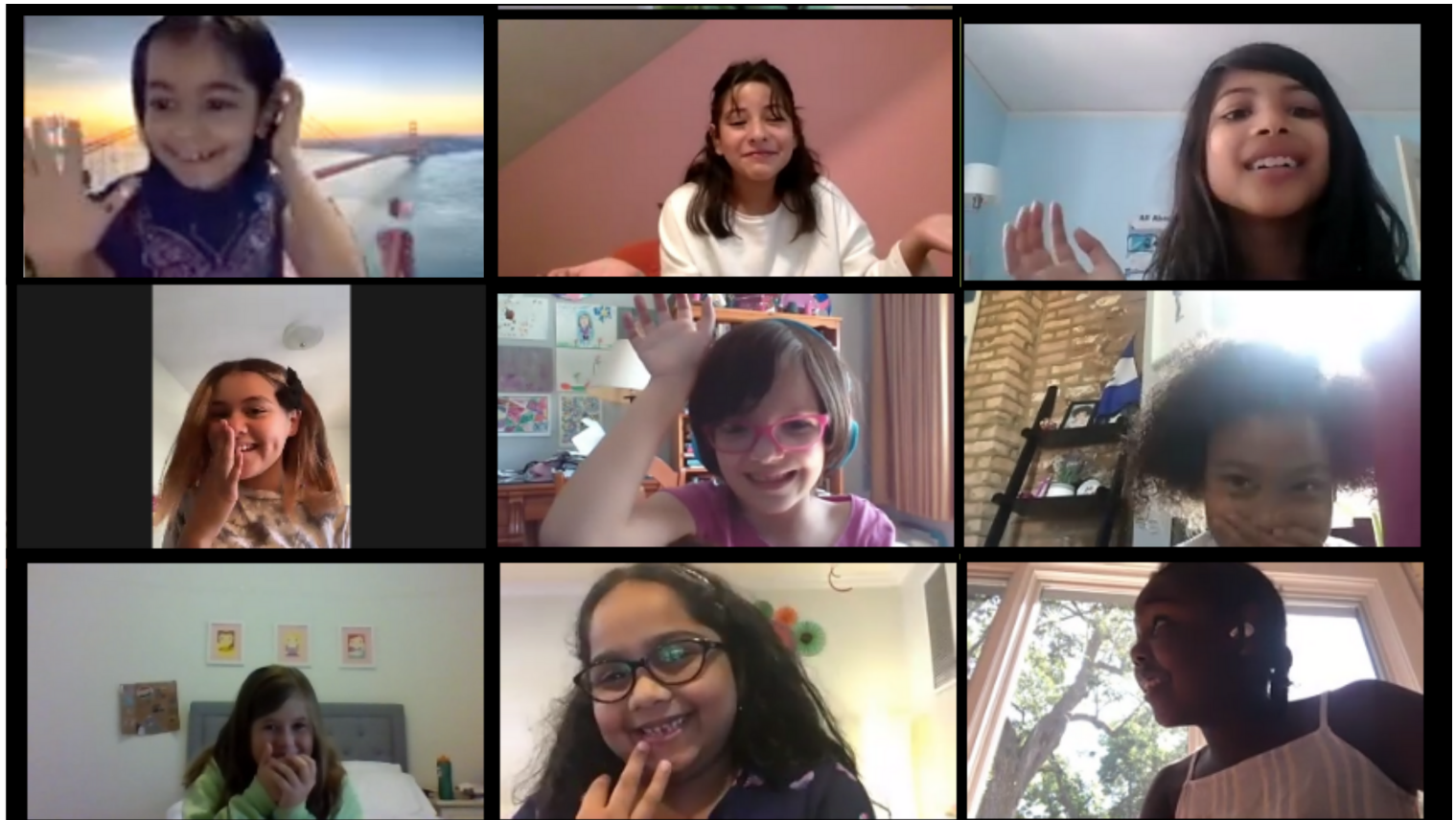
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Check out our **Current Season** page, [linked here](#), to discover the full list of virtual and in-person programming offerings available at CCT. If you see a show you like that is not listed in this packet, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [communications@chicagochildrenstheatre.org](mailto:communications@chicagochildrenstheatre.org).

## ACTivate FIELD TRIPS

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In addition to production-based field trips, CCT offers 60-90 minute class sessions with CCT Teaching Artists for students to enjoy virtually or in-person. These high-energy, fun-filled experiences feature theatre-based games, activities and crafts! Please reach out with your ideas and objectives and we will customize a high-quality arts experience for your students. Past favorites include: Improv, Sketch Comedy, Puppet Making, and Collaborative Adventure Making.



Thank you for your engagement with Chicago Children's Theatre.  
Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions at  
[communications@chicagochildrenstheatre.org](mailto:communications@chicagochildrenstheatre.org).