

Mondavi Center

ARTS EDUCATION 2011-12
TARGET SCHOOL MATINEE SERIES

CUE

Sheet for Teachers

ODC/Dance *The Velveteen Rabbit*

MONDAY, MAY 14, 2012

11 AM • JACKSON HALL

Recommended for grades K-4



Dear Teachers:

We hope you will find this CueSheet helpful in preparing your students for what they will experience at ODC/Dance: *The Velveteen Rabbit* School Matinee at the Mondavi Center. This CueSheet provides background information on this imaginative company and their unforgettable performance.



ABOUT

Brimming with wit, festive costumes, madcap characters and the perfect dose of childhood whimsy, ODC/Dance enlivens the classic tale, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, though music, dance and the powerful narrative of a well-worn nursery rabbit that becomes real.

This performance is based on a 1922 novel written by Margery Williams, *The Velveteen Rabbit*. It celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy, his stuffed rabbit and the enduring power of love.

Founded in 1971 by Artistic Director Brenda Way, ODC (Oberlin Dance Collective, named after its place of origin, Oberlin College in Ohio) loaded up a yellow school bus and relocated to San Francisco in 1976 with KT Nelson and Kimi Okada.

In 1986, KT Nelson choreographed and directed ODC's first full-length family production, *The Velveteen Rabbit*. She has been awarded the Isadora Duncan award (San Francisco's highest dance honor) three times: in 1987 for Outstanding Performance, in 1996 for Outstanding Choreography, and in 2001 for Sustained Achievement.



LEARN MORE:

- <http://odcdance.org/>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTOLLOzWqrY>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Velveteen_Rabbit



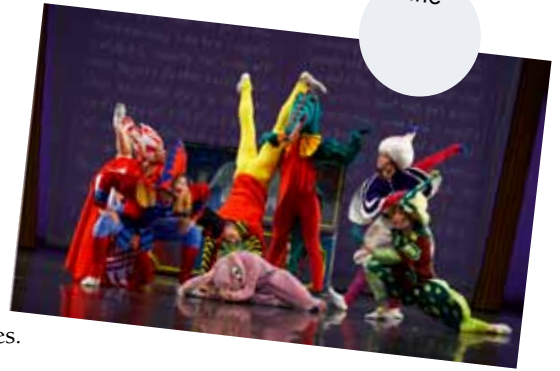
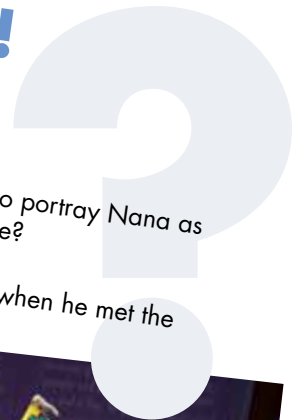
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think about it!

DEAR STUDENTS

- 1 Write a story about your favorite toy.
- 2 Why do you think the company decided to portray Nana as being taller than the other characters on stage?
- 3 How do you think the Velveteen Rabbit felt when he met the real, live rabbits out in the woods?



ATTENDING THE THEATER

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENT AUDIENCES AT THE MATINEE:

- Please enter the auditorium quietly and take your assigned seat immediately (note that all matinees have reserved seating).
- Show courtesy to the artist and other guests at all times.
- Demonstrate appreciation for the artists' work by applauding at the appropriate times.
- Refrain from making unnecessary noise or movements.
- Please eat lunch before or after the performance; food is not allowed in the performance hall.
- Relate any information acquired from the pre-matinee discussion to the new information gained from the matinee.
- Please do not use flash photography.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE IN A PERFORMING ARTS THEATER:

A theater is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. When the house lights (the lights that illuminate the audience seating) go down, the excitement level goes up! Theaters are designed so that the voices of the singers and actors and the music of the musicians can be heard. But this also means that any sound in the audience—whispering, rustling of papers, speaking and moving about—can be heard by other audience members and by the performers. Distractions like these upset everyone's concentration and can spoil a performance.

The performers on stage show respect for their art form and for the audience by doing their very best work. The audience shows respect for the performers by watching attentively.

Applause is the best way for audience members to share their enthusiasm and to show their appreciation for the performers. Applaud at the end of a performance! Sometimes the audience will clap during a performance, as after a featured solo. Audience members may feel like laughing if the action on stage is funny, crying if the action is sad, or sighing if something is seen or heard that is beautiful.

Appreciation can be shown in many different ways, depending upon the art form and the culture(s) of the people in the audience. While the audience at a dance performance will sit quietly, other types of performance invite audience participation.

MONDAVI CENTER ARTS EDUCATION provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2011-12 Target School Matinee Series. They are intended to help teachers prepare their students for the school matinee that they will attend at Mondavi Center, UC Davis.

Sponsored by



Additional support provided by

ROBERT AND MARGRIT MONDAVI CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, UC DAVIS Don Roth, Ph.D *Executive Director*
Joyce Donaldson *Associate to the Executive Director for Arts Education* | Jennifer Mast *Arts Education Coordinator*

MondaviArts.org 530.754.5430