### Show & Theater Company:

- *The Giver* by Literature to Life® from New York, NY

### Art Form:

- One-person-show; it’s essentially one long monologue for 60 minutes
  - What’s the longest monologue or presentation you’ve ever had to remember?
- It takes verbatim portions of the book and makes them into a play.
  - What does “verbatim” mean? (word-for-word)
- Very few if any props
  - What are props? (objects used on stage)
  - What are some ways in which the actor will represent different characters from the book?
    - Using different voices, body language, facial inflections

### Context:

- Based on the book by Lois Lowry written in 1993, a Newberry Medal winner
  - Who has read the book?
    - Lois Lowry wrote three more books in the series: *Gathering Blue, Messenger*, and *Son*
  - Who can tell me about the book without giving anything away?
- The book is set in the year 2065
- About a dystopian society
  - What does “dystopian” mean? (opposite of “utopian” or perfect society; a “bad” society)
    - In this society:
      - People are required to take a pill to inhibit dreams
      - Everyone in the society has specific jobs assigned to them
      - Children are harvested and given to certain families to raise

### Main Characters:

- Jonas, our hero – starts out at 11-years-old and when he turns 12 he begins training for his job as “The Receiver”
- The Giver – the man who holds all the important memories for the society, Jonas’ mentor
  - What is a mentor?
- Lily – She is Jonas’ sister. She loves children. She is 7 and later becomes 8.
- Gabe – A baby who is given an additional year to be properly nurtured. Jonas’ family unit care for him sometimes.
- Jonas’ father – A “Nurturer.” His job requires him to take care of the new-children (babies).
- Jonas’ mother – A judge who works for the Department of Justice.

### Special Things to Look For:

- How the actor uses different voices, body language, facial inflections to represent different characters and emotions?
- Which parts of the story do they keep? Which parts do they leave out?
- Why do you think they leave certain parts out? (It’s only an hour show, they want to make sure the scenes they’ve written can be done believably by one person, etc.)

### Theater Etiquette:

- Respect the theater, limit bathroom breaks, one person to a seat, do not kick the seats, no food or drink in the theater (bottled water okay), no audio, video recording or photography and remember to turn off cell phones/no texting (students and adults).
  - How is watching live theater different than watching a movie or TV?
    - Can’t pause, rewind, or fast forward with live theater. Every sound students make and moving around can affect the performers and other members of the audience.

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**Show info:** *The Giver* • Tuesday, November 5, 2019 • 9:30am • Grades 6-9