

TALKING POINTS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: *ACOUSTIC ROOSTER'S BARNYARD BOOGIE* *STARRING INDIGO BLUME*

Show & Theater Company:

- *Acoustic Rooster's Barnyard Boogie Starring Indigo Blume* by The Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences On Tour

Art Form:

- Musical (a play with music)

Context:

- This is a musical adaptation of two books by Kwame Alexander: *Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band* (published 2011) and *Indigo Blume and the Garden City* (published 2012).
 - ? Have you read any books by Kwame Alexander? What do you remember about them?
- The book *Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band* is about a jazz-loving rooster who wants to win a barnyard talent show.
- The book *Indigo Blume and the Garden City* is about a little girl building a rooftop garden to inspire her community how to go green.
 - ? Why do you think they decided to put these two stories together?

Main Concepts:

- Both these stories are about someone who has a goal and has to overcome obstacles to achieve their goal.
 - ? What are some goals you have? What do you have to do to reach them?
- Along the way, we also learn about some of their specific goals: jazz music and gardening.
 - ? What do you know about jazz music? Can you name any jazz musicians?
 - ? Have you ever planted a garden before? Did you know you can plant gardens on rooftops? What do you think you would need to do that?

Special Things to Look for:

- These actors are playing lots of characters, include non-human characters like roosters!
 - ? How do the actors change how they move and speak to show that they are animals?

Theater Etiquette:

- Respect the theater, one person to a seat, limit bathroom breaks, do not kick the seats, no food or drink in the theater (bottled water okay), and turn off cell phones/no texting (even for 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.

Show info: *Acoustic Rooster's Barnyard Boogie Starring Indigo Blume*
April 26, 2023 • 9:30 am & 11:30 am • Grades PK-3