

THE DRAMA MAGA-SCENE

Gateacre School Drama Department Monthly E-Mag

WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE DRAMA MAGA-SCENE!
WE HAVE HAD A BUSY TIME HERE AT THE MAGA-SCENE HQ AND WE STILL HAVE SO MUCH COMING UP!

THE DRAMA & MUSIC DEPARTMENTS PARTNERED UP WITH A TRIP TO **THE LION KING**. GATEACRE DRAMA HAD A VISIT FROM THE INCREDIBLY TALENTED ACTRESS **LINDZI GERMAIN** WHO WORK WITH OUR Y13 STUDENTS. WE HAD A VISIT FROM OUR FRIENDS AT **ADLIB**, WE HOSTED **TWENTY STORIES HIGH** WHO DELIVERED AN IMPORTANT, INSPIRING WORKSHOP, MULTIPLE REHEARSALS, OPEN EVENING AND MANY MORE EVENTS!
PHEW!! IT HAS BEEN A BUSY TERM!!



We here at Maga-Scene HQ are SO thankful of Lindzi's work and time spent with our students and the valuable direction and advice she gave. Lindzi is a Liverpoolian loud and proud with a huge heart, and Y13 and the Department are SO very grateful!

A THANKS TO LINDZI GERMAIN

Professional Actress Lindzi Germain who is a longtime good friend of the Gateacre Drama Department came into school and worked with our Y13 & Y11 students to further their performance skills in preparation for their A-Level Scripted performance!



The Devising Den & PRACTITIONER PARTY

Bands Night in the Spotlight



Our year 10s had the incredible experience of working with the Theatre Company 20 Stories High to help inspire their own devising theatre performances as part of their GCSE Drama journey.

As you can see from the images below, they had an incredibly engaging series of workshops!

Practitioner theory:

As stated on their website:

20 Stories High is an award-winning theatre company that believes "everybody's got a story to tell... and their own way of telling it."

We co-create with culturally diverse, working-class young people, emerging artists, and world-class professionals to tell stories that are challenging, authentic, and uplifting.

- Experimental Creativity exploring Rap/Music
- Puppetry
- Political Theatre
- Advocates for Social Change



We have a little twist on Playwright in the Spotlight this month and we are shining our spotlight on the innovative technical work our students got up to with the technical specialists:

ADLIB

Some of our GCSE drama & year 9 budding technicians helped adlib set up for Gateacre Music Departments **Bands Night**.



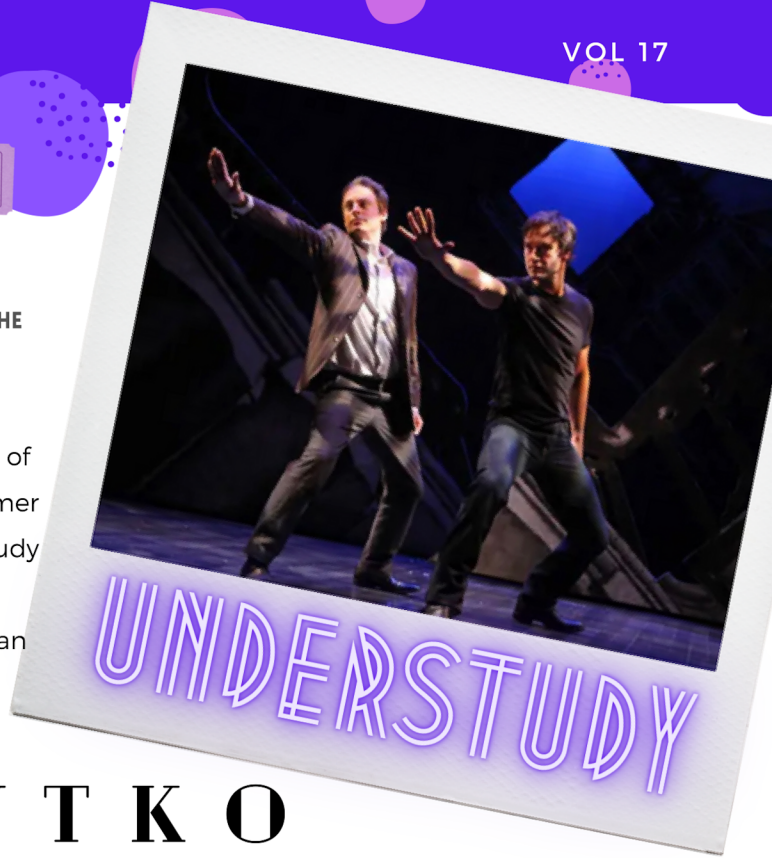
The students were working with lighting and sound specialists learning useful tricks of the trade and even using thousands of pounds worth of equipment!



It was a great day had by all and all the hardwork paid off with an electrifying concert!

Well Done to all involved!





CAREER OF THE MONTH

EACH MONTH WE WILL BE EXPLORING A DIFFERENT CAREER PATH WITHIN THE ARTS, MEETING PEOPLE WITHIN THAT SECTOR IN THE HOPES OF INSPIRING AND OPENING OUR READER'S EYES TO THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST IN THE WORLD OF THEATRE!

An understudy is a performer who learns the lines and blocking of a regular performer in a production, so that if the regular performer is ever unable to perform, eg due to illness or injury, the understudy can cover their part. Sometimes, they may take a smaller role within a production, while covering one of the lead roles. When an understudy goes on to perform a lead role, a performer called a swing will cover the understudy's part.

KATHY VOYTKO



THE OUTBREAK OF COVID PUT EVEN MORE OF A SPOTLIGHT ON THE ROLE OF UNDERSTUDYS OR 'SWINGS' AS SOME IN THE THEATRE WORLD MAY REFER TO THEM AS. HAVING EFFECTIVE, TALENTED AND RELIABLE UNDERSTUDY'S ARE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SHOW TAKING PLACE OR NOT. VOYTKO RECENTLY, DURING HUGH JACKMAN'S WORLD TOUR OF 'THE MUSIC MAN' WON ACCLAIM BY JACKSON HIMSELF FOR STEPPING UP WITH ONLY 8 HOURS NOTICE TO PERFORM ON BROADWAY.

Kathy Voytko stepped into the role of Marian the librarian after the original performer contracted Omicron. High Jacksman describes Voytko's actions 'The courage, the brilliance, the dedication, the talent,' Jackman said at the close of the performance. "The swings, the understudies, they are the bedrock of Broadway." And here at The Drama Maga-Scene we couldn't agree more!

Written for theclick.news Michael McIlwee writes; Being an understudy, or "swing," for a Broadway show or any musical can be an intimidating and nerve-racking job in the industry. You have to blend seamlessly into a production that's already been rehearsed and expected to perform at your best at a moment's notice. You need to know your ensemble part and learn other roles within the show, as well. For Voytko, she covers the lead character of the show. One might compare it to being a backup quarterback for the NFL and being called in during the middle of a game. 'I just grabbed my rehearsal skirt, show shoes, a mic, and we just ran everything,' Voytko said. "We ran some things twice, but mostly once. I think "Marian the Librarian" we did two and a half times because the "book-ography" (choreography that involves a book) I had never done it on my feet — I'd only done it in my kitchen by myself." The costume department had not even finished sewing all of Voytko's costumes before the show. Voytko said she wore one of her other ensemble costumes for the first act and one of Foster's for the second.

Voytko adds 'I ended up having a bit of fun that night,' Voytko said. "Some of it was absolute blind terror, and some of it was actually fun."

Here is Voytko with Jackman on that incredible moment of appreciation for understudies and their crucial position in the world of theatre & film.



To learn more about how to become an understudy scan the QR code or [Click here](#) to be taken to Voytko's websites for all the tricks of the trade!



THEATRE & ARTS NEWS

WHAT'S ON IN LIVERPOOL

<p>SNOW WHITE: A MODERN FAMILY PANTOMIME THE ATKINSON, SOUTHPORT JAN 12TH - 22ND</p>	<p>MOTHER GOOSE LIVERPOOL EMPIRE THEATRE FEB 28TH - MAR 4TH 6TH - 31ST</p>
<p>THE KING AND I LIVERPOOL EMPIRE THEATRE FEB 21ST - 25TH</p>	<p>THE COMEDY OF ERRORS (MORE OR LESS) SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE 3RD - 24TH MAR</p>
	<p>MATTHEW BOURNE'S SLEEPING BEAUTY LIVERPOOL EMPIRE THEATRE 7TH - 11TH MAR</p>

