

Collision Project

Purpose: The Collision Project gives Metro Atlanta high school students a chance to collide with classic dramatic texts, respond to themes and ideas from the play and then create a new play for teen audiences.

Background:

- Developed by Artistic Director Susan V. Booth.
- Began in September 2001.
- An innovative program of community engagement between the theatre and local teenagers.

Structure/Process:

- Each summer, the theatre brings together a group of 17-23 teenagers for a three-week workshop where teens are immersed in the study of a classic play.
- Alliance Theatre professionals and guest artists help the teens understand the play in detail, analyze it to discover its most potent elements (themes, characters, plots, subplot, dialogue, action, etc.) and identify elements in their own environment that correspond to the play.
- The discovery/analysis process may involve performance exercises, traditional research, oral history, interviews, music, photography or videography, and writing (autobiographical or improvisational).
- The teens create raw material for a new play, unique to their focus and based upon their response to the classic themes, in an artistic form.
- Alliance Theatre professionals and guest artists develop the student's work into a script that is produced and toured to local high schools with a cast of university actors.
- The total project from initial workshop to production takes less than one year.

PROJECT	PLAY / BASED ON / GUEST ARTIST	WORKSHOP	SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT	PRODUCTION TOUR
I	<i>Promise / Our Town</i> / Michael Rhode	September 2001 – April 2002	August 2002 – August 2003	Feb-04
II	<i>We Are Antigone / Antigone</i> / Tammy Ryan	Summer 2003	July 2003 – August 2004	April 18 – May 2, 2005
III	<i>Defy You, Stars / Romeo & Juliet</i> / Lauren Gunderson	Summer 2004	July 2004 – August 2005	April 12-26, 2006

IV	<i>The True Chronicle History of Hip Hop Lear (or the King of Blingland and his three daughters) / King Lear / OyamO</i>	June 13 – July 2, 2005	July 2005 – August 2006	February 5-16, 2007
V	<i>HAPPY / Death of a Salesman / Chay Yew</i>	June 12 – 30, 2006	July 2006 – August 2007	Spring 2008
VI	<i>Memorabilia / The Glass Menagerie / Ken Weitzman</i>	June 11 - 29, 2007	July 2007 - August 2008	Spring 2009
VII	<i>17 / "I Have a Dream" Speech / Rajendra Ramoon Maharaj</i>	June 30 – July 18, 2008	July 2008 – February 2009	Spring 2009
VIII	<i>TBD / Around the World in 80 Days / Mark Valdez</i>	June 29 – July 18, 2009	July 2009 – February 2010	Spring 2010