

## Theatre In Our Schools

*A Perspective From a 2020 New Jersey Junior State Thespian Officer*

**“Theatre has changed my life in so many ways.** I am a very reserved person, and when I hit the stage, the fireworks explode! I am able to be someone else, and to go to different places. Theatre frees me from my own life and problems, and allows me to fully express myself. When I am onstage, I feel amazing, fearless, at home, and like anything is possible! Theatre has taught me about teamwork, dedication, how to best manage my time, and most importantly, it gives me confidence. Theatre taught me to trust myself, something that has helped me both onstage and off. That is something only a life experience can teach you, and my experience just happened to be the theatre. Theatre has helped mold me into the young woman I am today. I owe everything to theatre, and will continue loving it forever.

The value of theatre and performing arts is unmeasurable, and is something everyone should experience. **Through theatre, you experience teamwork, dedication, and make new friends and memories to last a lifetime.** While being onstage, you get to witness the magic of theatre first hand, making an impact on someone else’s life. When someone in the audience is inspired by your performance, or your solo helped them deal with something, there is no better feeling than knowing you made an impact on their life. Just being a part of something like a theatrical production that you contributed to is rewarding. **Theatre is life changing, and can help anyone in ways unimaginable.**

My favorite middle school theatre experience was in 2019 when I played “Miss. Adelaide” in my school’s production of “Guys and Dolls.” It was so much fun learning how to speak with a New York accent and wearing the glitzy costumes. I still have the classic blonde wig in my bedroom! Every scene had something special in it, and the whole cast really came together to make a fantastic production. This experience made me grow so much as an actress, and was a blast to perform!”

*Lindsay Berliner*