

Theatre In Our Schools

A Perspective From a 2020 New Jersey Junior State Thespian Officer

“As someone who has been so heavily impacted by theatre, I often think about how lucky I am to have the chance to be exposed to something so unified and incredible. Theatre has taught me to take pride in my work and strive for greatness. I’ve learned so much about myself and my community through our theater program, and made bonds I can never forget. I believe theater provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be a part of a community and learn necessary skills that come very handy in life, such as confidence, memorization, stamina, and more.

Performing as a whole can offer people so many advantages. Working on a project as big as a performance has a certain sense of unity that is rare in most other activities. **The feeling of accomplishment can bring together complete strangers, to the point where they consider each other their family.** For example, over the summer I was in a production where barely anyone knew anyone. We all felt awkward around each other, and in the beginning, people rarely interacted. However, by the end of the summer, we had bonded to the point of considering each other our ‘theater family.’ Everyone in that production is still very close and we can all trust each other with anything.

Theater has improved the quality of life in my community by teaching children about the impact the arts can have on your life. When kids are exposed to artistic activities, they are strictly taught respect and courtesy by their directors and educators. This can provide a more pleasant community for all. It also teaches people to take pride in their work, which can improve grade averages throughout schools.

A theatrical educator who has greatly affected my life is Mrs. Welch. In sixth grade, Mrs. Welch showed so much confidence in me and provided me opportunities that taught me so much. She gave me the confidence to really grow and improve as a performer and is the reason I wanted to be a JSTO. I am so grateful for the opportunities she’s given me and the effort she’s made to help me grow.”

Ori Rosmarin



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