

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

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Book by **Harvey Fierstein**

Music and Lyrics by **Jerry Herman**

Based on the play by **Jean Poiret**

Directed by **Thom Allison**

Choreographed by **Cameron Carver**

Music Director **Franklin Brasz**

GRADE RECOMMENDATION

Grade 8+

CONTENT ADVISORY

The play explores mature themes including transphobia, homophobia and misogyny. It contains some sexual innuendo and coarse language. [Please see the show page for a detailed audience advisory.](#)

SYNOPSIS

Georges, the manager of a drag club in St. Tropez, decides to “play it straight” when his son arrives with his fiancé and her ultra-conservative parents. Albin, the club’s star performer and romantic partner to Georges, is dubious about the plan. The ensuing clash unravels truth and consequences with heartwarming grace. Gorgeous and funny, this musical has been delighting audiences since its Tony Award-winning première in 1983.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES:

- Citizenship, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Creativity, Metacognition, Self-Awareness

GRADE 8

- The Arts
- Language
- Science and Technology

GRADE 9-12

- The Arts
- Canadian and World Studies
- English
- Technological Education

GRADE 11-12

- Social Sciences and Humanities

POST-SECONDARY

- Suitable for courses in disciplines such as Arts, Cultural Studies, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, English, Fine Arts, Gender Studies, History, Human Rights, Music, Social Development Studies, Teacher Education and Theatre

THEMES

- Authenticity, Visibility, Secrecy and Safety
- Breaking Stereotypes
- Combatting Transphobia and Homophobia
- Drag Culture and Performance
- The Entertainment Scene of St. Tropez in the 1970s
- Family, Belonging and Self-/Acceptance
- Gender Construction, Performance and Identity
- Hope and Change
- Humour and Satire
- Hypocrisy
- LGBTQ+ Culture and Pride
- Love and Marriage
- Respect and Understanding
- Shame and the Corrosion of Self-Image

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What does family mean to you?
- Reflect on your understanding of drag culture and performance. In drag and more broadly, what is the relationship between gender and performance?
- What prevents people who are a part of the LGBTQ+ community from being and sharing their true selves? What can be done to change this?
- Why is laughter such a positive, connecting force? Do you believe comedy can change the world for good? Why or why not?

STUDY GUIDES

Study Guides for selected 2024 productions are available free of charge online:

stratfordfestival.ca/StudyGuides

Email educate@stratfordfestival.ca for access to past study guides.

BOOKING INFORMATION: STUDENT MATINÉES, INTERACTIVE PRESHOWS, WORKSHOPS & CHATS

STUDENT MATINÉES

You may book any available date, but selected student matinée performances for this show are at 2 p.m. on the following dates:

- Wednesday, May 8
- Tuesday, May 14
- Friday, May 17
- Wednesday, May 22
- Monday, May 27
- Wednesday, June 5
- Tuesday, June 11
- Thursday, June 20
- Wednesday, September 4
- Friday, September 6
- Thursday, September 12
- Tuesday, September 17
- Thursday, September 26
- Tuesday, October 1
- Friday, October 4
- Friday, October 11
- Tuesday, October 15
- Tuesday, October 22

INTERACTIVE PRESHOWS

Led by artists appearing in the matinée, these high-energy sessions provide students the opportunity to explore key themes, questions and technical aspects of productions on the Festival's renowned stages.

\$4 per student (free for Teaching Stratford Program participants)
11 a.m.–noon on the following dates:

- Wednesday, May 22
- Wednesday, June 5
- Thursday, September 26
- Friday, October 11
- Tuesday, October 22

stratfordfestival.ca/InterACTIVE

WORKSHOPS & CHATS

Workshops and Chats (virtual, onsite or at your school/centre) can be booked by calling the Box Office at 1.800.567.1600 or by emailing educate@stratfordfestival.ca.

Pre-Show Workshops customized to your students' needs and interests are available from 10–11 a.m. or 11 a.m.–noon before selected matinées.

\$10 per student

stratfordfestival.ca/Workshops

Half-Hour Post-Show Chats with cast and creative team members are available after selected matinées.

\$3 per student

stratfordfestival.ca/Chats

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Tools for Teachers includes
InterACTIVE Preshows, Study Guides
and Stratford Shorts.

PROUD SEASON PARTNER



The 2024 season is generously
supported by Ophelia Lazaridis.

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