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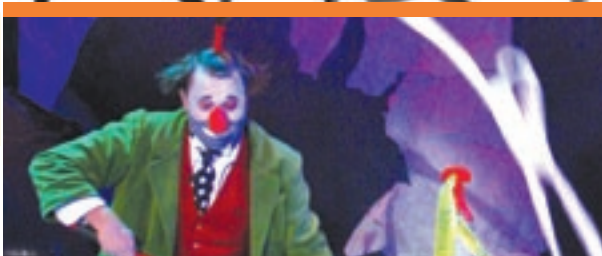
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**MYKAL D. LAURY II**  
**JACQUELINE RICE**  
**BIANCA SALTAFORMAGGIO**  
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# Cirque Le Masque **EVOLUTION**

Pre Show..... Amaury Sanabria as "Weego"

## ACT I

Evolution Entrance..... Cast  
2 Person Silk .....Serenity Forchion & Elise Smith  
Rolla Bolla.....Stoyan Metchkarov  
Duo Contortionists .....UUgantuya Otgonbayar and Khongorzul Tseenoidov  
Comedy – Silent Cinema ..... Mario Diamond  
Cube Juggling ..... Danny Perez D'Oscar  
German Wheel..... Wolfgang Bientzle



**INTERMISSION**



## ACT II

Jump Ropes..... Tarilyn & Laura Isenhart, Meredith Crafton and Erica Tillinghast  
2 Person Trapeze.....Serenity Forchion & Elise Smith  
Slack Wire .....Evgeny Vasilenko  
2 Person Aerial.....Stoyan Metchkarov & Aleksey Nazarov  
Balancing Act..... Everado C. Garza, Everado P. Garza and Elizabeth Garza

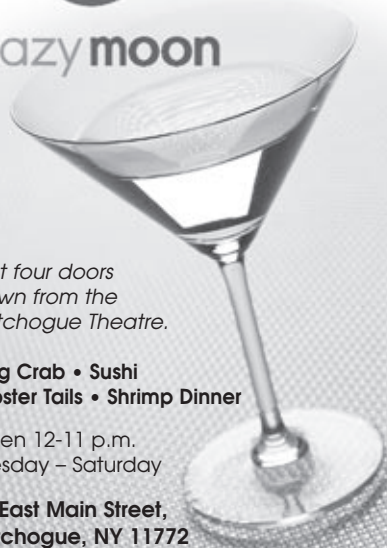
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Who's Who

**WOLFGANGBIENTZLE** (excerpted from his website: [www.wolfgangbientzle.de](http://www.wolfgangbientzle.de)) Wolfgang Bientzle is the most successful German Wheel Acrobat worldwide. 8 World Champion Titles; 11 European Champion Titles; More than 60 German Champion Titles. As performer, coach and choreographer, he has worked with Cirque du Soleil, Disney and Holiday on Ice. He has contributed to shows in more than 50 countries and is highly respected among the Monte Carlo Circus Festival and the World Circus Festival in Moscow. Currently, Wolfgang works as Executive Producer, Director, or Choreographer for conventions, exhibitions and corporate events.

**DANNY D'OSCAR** Few performers are as versatile as Danny, and few artists have achieved his level of technical skill. Danny presents five excellent acts. On the ground, his hand balance and geometric shape manipulation have earned him a place in the famous "Parade in the Sky" currently appearing at the Rio Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. His aerial straps, aerial chiffon, and aerial chiffon duo with his wife, Karla, have been featured at Six Flags theme parks and at numerous corporate functions. Danny possesses rare charisma and showmanship, which earn him maximum approval from his audiences. Danny is a native of Cuba. Following the island's fall to Communist control and the resulting political stress, Danny sought work in Mexico and South America with major circuses, at up-scale night clubs, and at special events. During this period,

he also competed in a variety of circus festival competitions in France, Korea, and China, winning multiple Gold Medals. While performing in Mexico City, an agent from the United States recognized his potential. Shortly thereafter, Danny made his debut in America, where he has resided ever since with his wife and young son Axel. Performance credits include, Circus School, and Circus Festival (Cuba); France Festival of the Future; Festival (Korea); Carre Theatre Christmas Shows (Holland); "Ring of Stars" TV Show (Spain); Festival (China); Circus Fuentes Gascas TV Show (Venezuela); Cabaret Tropicana (Cuba); Atayde Brothers Christmas Show, Famous Circus Comedy Capolina, Feria of Chapultepec, Medusas Nightclub, "Al Ritmo de la Noche" and "Al Fin de Semana" TV (Mexico City); Andromedas Nightclub, (Acapulco); Carson & Barnes Circus, Shrine Circus Show, Sterling & Reid Brothers Circus, Six Flags Magic Mountain, Columbus Blue Jackets Halftime, American Crown Circus, Rio Hotel & Casino, Greg Thompson Productions, Dick Foster Productions (USA).


**MARIO DIAMOND** Born in 1958 in Louiseville, Canada, he discovered mime while studying literature in college. In 1976 Mario was on stage for the first time. Thirty-two years later the mime has performed in Europe, Asia, South and North America, over 8000 shows, played in television shows, movies and TV commercials. His audience is from kids to mature people from everywhere on planet earth.



**SAMANTHA LYN DuBOFF** is very excited to be touring again with this year's company of Cirque Le Masque. She graduated with a BFA in dance performance from the University of the Arts. Since then her credits include multiple appearances in Atlantic Cities Trump Plaza and Trump Taj Mahal as well as the Broadhallow Theater Company's production of *Anything Goes* (Purity) and *Thoroughly Modern Mille* (Gloria/Pearl Lady). Much love and thanks to my family and fiancé Corey for all their love and support.



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**THE GARZA FAMILY** (*Living Statues*) The Garza Family also known as "The Living Statues," is a slow-motion acrobatic balancing trio which do their work painted in solid silver. The act creates art form, from ancient Greek and Roman statues. The three members slowly assume statue-like positions moving into their acrobatic balancing formations silhouetted by a center spotlight. The Garza's studied ancient Greek and Roman statue-like formations and learned to slowly mold themselves from one form to another. The Garza's have spent many years researching the poses they currently use in their performances. The act has evolved from ordinary temple hand balancing to an amazing display of strength and grace. They display a combination of grace, beauty, strength, and athletic discipline. The marble sculptures are reminiscent to the celebrated human form in ancient Greece. The poses they have selected are easily recognized by Greek and Roman poses. Whether or not the audience is familiar with ancient statue-like forms, The Garza's are able to impress them with their remarkable display. For this manner, The Garza's were nominated for the act of the 80's on the Las Vegas Strip. They performed twelve straight years with the show "City Lites" at the Flamingo Hilton and also "Bal du Moulin Rouge" at the Grand Hilton. They shared the stage with artists like Vic Damone, Jim Nabors, Charo, and Suzanne Somers just to name a few. The Garza Family introduced the slow-motion hand balancing act or Living Statue Act into the United States. Every place The Garza's

performed they have the audience twisting and shouting for more. They have been imitated, but not replicated!

**RACHEL FOSTER** born in Pittsburgh, PA is a graduate of the acclaimed Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. Dance program. She has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Pascal Rioult, Christopher Huggins and Robert Battle among others. She is very excited to join Cirque Le Masque and thanks her family, friends and Carl for their support.

**MYKAL D. LAURY II** is a New Jersey native. He received his formal training from Sharron Miller's Academy for the Performing Arts, Gallman's Newark Dance Theater, and furthered his pre-professional training as a fellowship student at the Ailey School. Upon graduation from the Professional Children's School, at the age of 17, Laury joined Philadanco. He has worked with several choreographers including Hinton Battle, Ronald K. Brown, Carmen DeLavallade, Danny Ezralow, Rennie Harris, Christopher Huggins and Elisa Monte. He also performed in music videos with pop singer Beyonce and as a cast member in *Aida* (China touring cast 2008). Laury was a finalist in the NFAA ARTS and received a citation in dance from Jim McGreevey, governor of New Jersey.

**CARA MAHER** is very excited to be performing with Cirque Le Masque for the first time! Originally from Philadelphia, Cara received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Towson University in 2004. While in college, she was a 4

year member of the Towson University Dance Team and won 4 consecutive national championships. Cara's professional credits include: Tokyo Disney, Holland America Cruise Line/ Stiletto Ent., *A Chorus Line*, *West Side Story*, *Disney's High School Musical*, *Horsham Ballet Ensemble's The Nutcracker*, as well as performances with American Idol's Justin Guarini, Comedian Dave Chapelle and Wayne Brady. Thank you to my family for encouraging me to pursue my dream... I love you!



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**STOYAN METCHKAROV** Born in Bulgaria, July 19th 1976, Stoyan is a third generation circus performer. He started practicing at age 6 and a few years later he was part of his fathers act – Russian Bar. After learning many different circus skills he specialized in Rolla Bolla Balancing act and Aerial Silk/Straps. During the span of his career he has worked in high end European Circuses like Sarasani, Nock and Pinder. Since moving to the USA he has been performing at Circus Circus, Tropicana and Bally's. He has also entertained audiences at NBA half time shows and major corporate events across the nation. He has been performing in the show Jubilee, one of the largest shows in Las Vegas for the past 6 years. Summary of qualifications: Aerial Performer (silk, straps), Rolla Bolla balancing, Russian Bar, Hand to Hand, Slackwire, Perch Act, Juggling Skills and more.

**ALEKSEY NAZAROV** was born in Moscow (Russia) and has gained experience and skills in gymnastics at the Gymnastic Club of Dynamo in Moscow since 1981. He has been practicing for 15 years with Anatoly Zabelin and Valeri Ulyankin, honored USSR trainers. Aleksey took gymnastic and psychology classes, achieving incredible results and was a member of Moscow Teams, becoming a prize winner of all-Union, Russian, and International competitions. Some achievements include: winner of Cup's and Championship's of Moscow -1989-1994; 2nd place USSR Spartakiade (Juniors) - Floor - 1989; 1st place International Gymnastics Tournament ``Druzhba`` - AA - 1990 ; 2nd

place Championship USSR (Juniors) - Parallel Bars - 1990 ; Cup of the USSR - 1991; 3rd place Championship Russia - Floor - 1992; 3rd place Tournament Moscow-Germany - 1992; prize winner, Gymnastics Tournament of the Russian Union of Dynamo - 1993-1994; Russian Master of Sport title in Gymnastics in 1993 and Title of Russian Master of Sport in Acrobatics in 1994. After high school graduation in 1993, he continued his education at Russia State Academy of Physical Culture in Moscow from 1993 to 1997 and toured in Japan, Atami in 1994-1995 as a member of the acrobatic and circus troupe. In 1997, he finished education and graduated with diploma of Bachelor Degree in Physical Education. During education Aleksey had been Gymnastics coach at Embassy of France in Moscow, Gymnastics coach at Gymnastics Club "World of Gymnastics" in Moscow, and Gymnastics coach in Club of Dynamo in Moscow. In 1998, he joined "The Akishin Show" on its acrobatic circus tours in Russia, Ukraine, Canada and USA as an acrobatic clown, jump ropes. In 2004, Aleksey was invited to perform in the Jubilee Show Aerialist/Acrobat Act, at Bally's Hotel and Casino Las Vegas, NV and circus tour around of USA to present.

**JACQUELINE RICE** is a recent graduate of Marymount Manhattan College with a B.F.A. in Dance Performance. Originally from Maryland, Jacqueline studied under the direction of Julie Rogers. Jacqueline has had the opportunity to work with Elizabeth Higgins, David Marquez, Denise Vale, David Parsons

and other notable choreographers. Most recently Jacqueline performed for Vanessa Ronan, an up and coming choreographer, in the show *Proof of Existence*. Jacqueline is excited to join Cirque Le Masque and looks forward to the journey ahead!

**ROPEWORKS PERFORMANCE**, is the creation of Rene Bibaud, five-time world rope jumping champion, artist and coach of Cirque du Soleil, ESPN commentator and creator of Ropeworks, a unique business with a special focus on youth motivation and fitness. Ropeworks performers are national and world rope jumping champions.

They infuse single rope, double dutch, acrobatics and dance through the old school former playground pastime in a dynamic display of rhythm and skill.

**BIANCA SALTAFORMAGGIO** is beyond thrilled and thankful to be joining the cast of Cirque Le Masque! A New York Native, she received her BA in Dance from Marymount Manhattan College. Just recently she originated the role of Tanya Taddle in the New York Workshop for the new musical, *Show N Tell*, working with Broadway's best: Stepp and Seth Stewart, Debra Byrd, and Linda Twine. Some Regional credits include *Music Man* and *Evita* at The





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Fireside Theatre. And part of Kinetic Dance Theatre, Bianca has performed in several full length productions and cabarets with this NY based jazz company. Film credits include *Trying to Find the Words* (Waterway Productions) and the webisode series *Cop Doc* (mDialog). So much love and thanks to everyone in her life that keeps positivity around her...you know who you are!

**TREVOR SCOTT** is so excited to be working with Cirque Le Masque. A native from Ohio, Trevor has danced all over the world including Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Alaska, the Caribbean, and pretty much every state in America. He has worked with Cirque Productions, Odyssey Dance Company, Dayton Ballet, CCM, Norwegian Production Company, Troika Entertainment, and has been seen at Gateway Playhouse, Circa '21, LaComedia, Lyceum Theatre, Paramount Parks, and many others. Trevor thanks his friends for "letting" him win on the Wii, and his family for buying him the Wii! Much Love!

**SERENITY SMITH FORCHION AND ELSIE SMITH** (*Duo Silk/Duo Trapeze*) Elsie Smith & Serenity Smith Forchion are identical twins specializing in aerial acrobatics, & their teaching & performing resumes include Cirque du Soleil, Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus, Circus of the Kids, the New Pickle Circus, Pilobolus, the Actor's Gym, Circus Juventus, Umo Ensemble & Canopy Aerial Dance Studio. Serenity helped found the San Francisco School of Circus Arts & was Pilates captain for *Saltimbanco* where she worked closely with physical therapists to promote injury prevention & rehabilitation. Elsie taught aerials at the SF Circus Center, has a coaches certification in trampoline, and has choreographed for the UGA Dance department, Circus Smirkus & Sea World, among others. In 2003 they founded the New England Center for Circus Arts their Vermont based trapeze and circus school that offers circus & movement classes to recreational & professional students of all ages. In 2007 the twins were doubly honored with a Special Prize at the Wuqiao International Circus Festival in China, and a Bronze Medal at the 1st International Festival of Circus in Albacete, Spain.

**EVGENY VASILENKO** Education and performance credits include: 1999: Moscow's State school of Circus and Variety Art; 2005: Kuban's State University of Physical Education, Sport and Tourism; 1999-2000: Circus festival, Tunis; 2001: Winner Delfeisky Games competition; 2000-05: Toured Russia, Europe, Ukraine, Estonia and the United Arab



Emirates; 2003: Created "Tango del Russo"; 2005: Toured with "Moscow Winter Tall" show in USA; 2006-07 toured Germany and Holland; 2007: "Aphelion", Biloxi, MS; 2002-08: Moscow's State circus Nikulina.

**WEEGO GOT WEEGO?** With his kooky characters, zillion of faces and outrageous costumes, WEEGO has shocked and dazzled audiences for years! Performing all over the country, WEEGO has now been on The Las Vegas Strip for 5 years. Having started in Orlando, Florida, where he did everything from promotions (Smirnoff Twist), Fashion Shows (Nicole Miller), and many Cabaret and Corporate Events, to hosting a night of his own ("Weego Wednesday's") at Universal Studios City Walk for 2 years with a cast of 10 dancers, WEEGO is a performer that can do anything! Following his dream to be featured on The Las Vegas Strip, WEEGO headed West. In Las Vegas, WEEGO started at The Rio's "Show in the Sky" and he has done numerous Grand Openings, Red Carpet Events and performances for Planet Hollywood, Hard Rock Hotel, Bellagio and others. He continues to be in high demand for Corporate Events as well. Most recently he has toured Greece and the U.S. with Cirque Le Masque "Carnivale" and is thrilled to be part of Cirque Le Masque two new productions.

**THE YAGAANSETSEG DUO** Taking human flexibility to the extreme, the Yagaansetseg Duo amaze audiences with seemingly impossible poses, using their "rubber like" capacity to get them into



and out of truly awesome positions. "People sometimes think the girls have no bones," says Rosa, coach and interpreter. Both started circus school before the age of 12 and perfected their act under the auspices of some of the finest trainers in Mongolia. The girls have toured Africa, Europe, Asia, and now North America and have won a bevy of international circus performance awards. When they are not performing, the girls train diligently to keep their backs soft. Stretching and doing push-ups keeps them nimble. The girls speak modestly about their talent, considering it their job. They consider it a pleasure to show audiences something they may never have seen before.


**BERNIE SCHUSSEL** (*Co-Producer*) has been involved in the entertainment field since 1980 when he co-founded Le Masquerade Entertainment Troupe. This entertainment company started performing at private as well as corporate events, and grew through the years to perform for President Reagan, and the inauguration party for President Bill Clinton. Le Masquerade has also performed throughout the United



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Who's Who

States, Mexico, Europe and Canada. Bernie grew up in Queens before moving to Long Island where he resides with his wife Ellen. Cirque Le Masque is a dream comes true as it encompasses all aspects of professional theater from concept & design to opening night. My main focus is to produce the finest shows that will leave the audience spellbound and amazed.

**DENNIS SCHUSSEL** (*Co-Producer, Director*) Dennis has been in the entertainment industry since graduating CW Post College in 1966. Before transferring to Post, he started booking shows on campus at Nassau Community College, and knew then that he found his passion...In 1980 he developed the highly successful interactive and theatrical performing troupe of Le Masquerade. In the mid 1990s, he created his first attempt at a Cirque theater production show called Cirque Le Masque. Since that time, Cirque Le Masque has received national and international recognition, toured hundreds of cities including Atlantic City, Foxwoods,

and Las Vegas, and performed around the world. Cirque Le Masque recently performed in Dubai to the highest of praise. Dennis thanks his wife Linda, Family Laurie and Eric, Robyn, and grandchildren Olivia and Spencer for their support and inspiration.

**MIA CARESS** (*Stage Manager, Road Manager*) Mia has toured nationally and internationally for more than a decade as a dancer, rehearsal director, dance captain and stage manager. Recently she worked as the choreographer, on-set rehearsal director, and dance coach to Laura Ramsey for the feature film, 'Whatever Lola Wants' (Tribeca Film Festival, 2008). A 3rd generation circus performer, Mia has been a member of Cirque Le Masque for 8 years. Other credits include: hosting more than a dozen fitness videos including On-Demand segments for Exercise TV. She can also be seen in regional and national commercials and recently completed a television pilot for a green building show.



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**GREG GUARNACCIA** (*Lighting Design*)  
 Greg is currently the resident lighting designer for Cirque Le Masque and is delighted to be working on this new show. Broadway credits include: assistant lighting designer for *Oklahoma!* and *Hot Feet*. Off-Broadway credits include: assistant lighting designer for *Face The Music* and *On The Town* at NY City Center. National Tour credits include assistant lighting designer for *Oklahoma!* Regional credits include lighting design for: *All My Sons*, *Old Business*, *The Art of Murder*, *The Butter and Egg Man*, *Watch On The Rhine*, *Damaged Goods*, *Disgustingly Rich*, *Oedipus Private Eye*, *Tommy* and *The Gig*. Summer Stock credits include lighting design for: *How the Other Half Loves*, *Bedroom Farce*, *Prelude To A Kiss*, *Mornings At Seven*, *Something's Afoot*, *All In The Timing*, *Edna*, *Sylvia*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, *Godspell*, and *Driving Miss Daisy*. Greg was the resident lighting designer for the American Stage Company in NJ for 4 years and River Rep in CT for 2 years. Other lighting design credits encompass dance, concerts, industrials, trade shows, corporate events, special events and architecture with clients that include Xerox, Motorola, Ford Motor Company, Isuzu, Canon, State Farm Insurance, Pfizer, Cendant, Renaissance Cruise Lines, A & R Development and Sachs Morgan Studio. Greg is a principal of Doubledge Productions LLC, a lighting design firm specializing in creative solutions for theatrical and architectural lighting. Greg holds a BFA degree from Hofstra University, a cer-

tificate from the National Shakespeare Conservatory, is "Lighting Certified" by the National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions and is a LEED Accredited Professional. Greg is a member of the United Scenic Artists Local 829, and the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. Greg would like to thank Teri and Floyd for their endless love and support.

**MIRIAM HERTZSON** (*Choreographer*)  
 has been choreographing in one genre or another since 1982. Her critically acclaimed modern dance company Mirmdance performed in NYC and toured nationally for six years including performances at the Atlanta Arts Festival. As her interests changed her work branched out into the world of business theatre. Miriam traveled internationally creating work for such companies as Revco, Citibank, MetLife, Prudential, and IBM. With her production company Mirmco, she choreographed and produced her own cruise ship show, business theatre productions and special events. Regionally she has choreographed countless musicals, occasionally directing as well. Her favorites include: *She Loves Me*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Candide*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sugar Babies*, *Sweet Charity*, *Frog and Toad*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, and *Chicago*. Ms. Hertzson has been a professor of dance and movement at Nassau Community College since 1995. Miriam would like to thank her 4 children and lovely husband for their love and support. ●



# GATEWAY PLAYHOUSE STAFF

## ADMINISTRATIVE

Executive Producer ..... Ruth Allan  
 Producer ..... Paul Allan  
 Associate Producer ..... Jeff Bellante  
 General Manager ..... Gale Edwards  
 Company Manager ..... Michael Baker  
 Musician Contractor ..... Jeff Hoffman  
 Assistant to the Producer ..... Keith Llewellyn  
 Company Management Intern ..... Stefan Schuette

## ARTISTIC

Artistic/Casting Director ..... Robin Joy Allan  
 Director/Choreographer ..... DJ Salisbury  
 Associate Choreographer ..... Ann Cooley  
 Musical Director ..... Brent-Alan Huffman  
 Lighting Designer ..... Marcia Madeira  
 Projection Design ..... Kelly James Tighe  
 Costume Coordinator ..... Marianne Dominy, Megan Moore  
 Assistant Lighting Designer ..... Brian Loesch  
 Sound Consultant ..... Cody Spencer  
 Assistant Musical Director ..... Brendan Whiting  
 Production Photographer ..... Jeff Bellante

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 Box Office Staff ..... Nadine Hazard, Diane Koerber,  
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## PRODUCTION

Production Manager ..... Brian Loesch  
 Production Stage Manager ..... Dom Ruggiero  
 Technical Director ..... AD Garrett  
 Wardrobe Supervisor ..... Marianne Dominy  
 Master Electrician/Media Coordinator ..... Spencer Padilla  
 Sound Engineer ..... Rhys Dawson  
 Wig Supervisor ..... Brittney E. Griffith  
 Assistant Stage Manager ..... Patricia Mason  
 Assistant Master Electrician ..... Justin Hoffman  
 Deck Chief ..... Corey Kloos  
 Deck Chief ..... Brittany Fahner  
 Props ..... Olivia Gagne  
 Technicians ..... Izsac Fleenor, Richard Haug, AJ Lebbons,  
 Keith Reilly, Cade Spencer  
 Wardrobe Assistants ..... Marybeth Irons, Megan Moore  
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 General Technician Intern ..... Brendan Smith  
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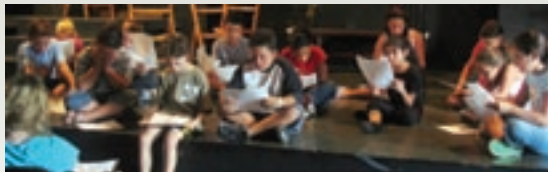
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