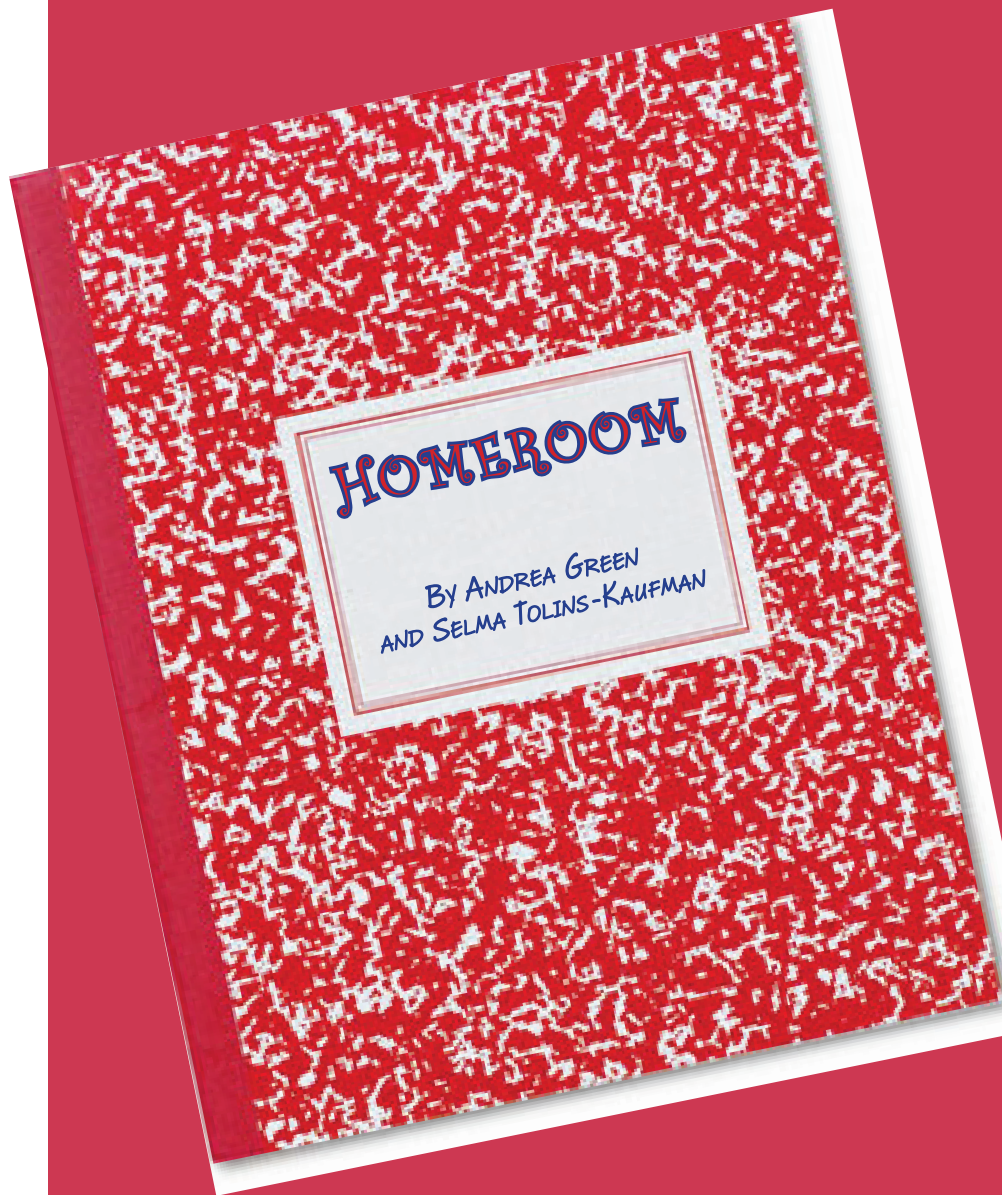


“MAKING THE BEST OF IT - THAT’S THE KEY.”

Learning to be comfortable
with all kinds of people —
to be at home with them —
to see them as human beings like yourself.



CRITICS' COMMENTS

“My money is on a theatrical surprise...a new and surprisingly vital musical... Homeroom.”

Bob Nelson
KYW News Radio

“...despite differences, people share many of the same feelings; they all want to be recognized, accepted, and part of the crowd.”

Ben Miller
The Philadelphia Inquirer

“...honor roll musical that will have nothing but A's on its report card.”

Leon Brown
The Jewish Times

“Homeroom is a special event. It is insightful, sensitive, and above all, honest.”

Bill Royston
Welcomat

“Kids will recognize themselves. Parents will understand better.”

Carol Burbank, Feature Writer
City Newspaper

EDUCATORS' COMMENTS

“A wonderful learning tool...getting students and their parents to understand and accept differences in ability.”

Alan Elko, Teacher
Superintendent of Schools

“The very essence of HOMEROOM was captured...coming to see a little of each other in each other.””

Judy King
Educator and Play director

“a good way for us to begin to break down the barriers of labels.”

Sandra Mangano
Educator

“excellent involvement, creative ideas shared by all”

Music Teacher

“sensitivity enhancement of student and group feelings.”

Behavior Management Specialist

“excellent opportunity to role play and interact with each other.”

Special Education elementary teacher

HOMEROOM was created to give students an opportunity to share their feelings about life, school, and other things that are important. In words and in song, students come to realize how each person has unique problems, and at the same time, similar feelings.

HOMEROOM can unite classrooms, schools, and districts, and in the process facilitate interrelationships among students. The musical becomes the springboard for involving students and teachers in a learning/entertaining experience that covers all areas of education.

HOMEROOM PROMOTES

- Self-Esteem
- Accepting Differences & Similarities
- Creativity
- Positive Relationships
- Cognitive Growth
- School Spirit

Lights: Medium.

Note:

This would be an excellent opportunity for a discussion on the meaning of trust and the danger of secrets.

SCENE VII - THE SECRET

(In the hallway – students moving in-between classes – Amy, Beth and Jenny follow Christine on to the stage.)

Beth: Christine, can I sit next to you at lunch?

Jenny: I thought today was my day.

Christine: Beth...Beth...you win! Jenny, your shirt totally clashes with mine.

Amy: Christine. Are you on another diet?

Christine: Can you tell?

Amy: You look really skinny. Are you sure you're O.K.?

Christine: What do you mean? Of course I'm okay. What's your problem?

Beth: Christine. You do look kinda thin. *(Christine glares at Beth.)* O.K....You look good.

Christine: Well...thank you very much. Who asked for your opinion?

Amy: I'm worried about you.

Christine: You sound like my mother. "Christine. Why aren't you eating? Christine. Why are your clothes so baggy? Christine, Maybe I should take you to the doctor."

Beth: I'll see you guys later. I gotta get to class. *(She turns to Christine and lies again.)* Honestly, Christine, you look good...really, really good. *(Beth exits.)*

Amy: *(tries to change the subject)* Listen, Chris. I have something to tell you, but you have to swear not to tell ANYONE.

Christine: Would your best friend betray you? *(hugs her lightly)*

Amy: I know my secret's safe with you. *(looks around)* I really like Andy. He's so amazing. I'm kind of hoping he's going to ask me to the dance. I may see him at Lisa's party on Friday night. Do you think...

Christine: What party?

Andrea Green

Andrea Green is a playwright, composer, lyricist, director, children's music specialist and music therapist. She is nationally known for her work creating musicals for children and family audiences, as entertainment vehicles and as venues to help children and adults become more aware and sensitive to important societal issues. Some of the themes that are featured in her musicals are: dealing with prejudice, understanding adoption, overcoming bullying, and understanding and coping with differences/challenges.



Her most recent project was the production of a book/CD and stage presentation of *Blue Lou and the Bullyfish* (a story based on her musical *The Rainbow Sea*), produced at the New York Musical Theatre Festival in 2006.

Andrea's musicals, (11 at last count) are vehicles to encourage tolerance and understanding and her melodies and metaphors are memorable and move performers and audiences, on many levels. Her musicals have been performed in a multitude of professional and educational venues, over the years.

The musicals are: *Homeroom* (co-written with Selma Tolins-Kaufman), *On the Other Side of the Fence*, and *The Return of Halley's Comet*, all published by Samuel French. Other musicals include: *Under the Fence*, *People of the Light*, *The Rainbow Sea*, *Blue Lou and the BullyFish* (Book/stage adaptation of *The Rainbow Sea*, by Stephanie Portnoy), *The Same Sky*, *The Mulberry Bird* (based on the book by Anne Braff Brodzinsky), *Lenapo* (co-written with Sara Feigenbaum), and *Same City*.

As the musical creator/director/music therapist of the *Something Magical Project*, (www.somethingmagical.org) a 25 year old, nationally recognized, musical theatre program in Philadelphia, Andrea partners children from Germantown Friends School, with youngsters from the HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy, using her musicals to encourage communication, understanding and friendship. This program serves as a model for other programs and has received national attention. Her special work in this project, was featured in the PBS Emmy-award winning documentary, called *Something Magical* (from her musical, *People of the Light*).

Andrea lectures and teaches professionals across the country, how to utilize her musicals to bring about therapeutic/social change, while at the same time, produce high quality Broadway-style productions with and for children. Theatre groups that have performed her musicals include: The Ritz Theatre Company, Westmont, N.J., Gloucester Summer Stage, Gloucester, N.J., Voorhees Summer Theatre, Voorhees, N.J., Fusion Academy of the Arts, Cherry Hill, N.J., The Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, Settlement Music School, Philadelphia,and hundreds of schools across the country.

Andrea received a Bachelor of Music degree from The University of Miami, in Coral Gables, Florida, and a Masters degree in Creative Arts in Therapy, from Hahnemann University, in Philadelphia, PA. She is a member of The Dramatist's Guild, The Children's Music Network, The International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People, and ASCAP.

For more information, please visit Andrea's website: www.andreagreenmusicals.com or contact Andrea at www.andreagreenmusic@gmail.com.

Selma Tolins-Kaufman

Selma Tolins-Kaufman, co-writer of *Homerroom*, has been a teacher, counselor and is a certified school and licensed psychologist. She retired from her position as Director of Pupil services in the Methacton School District, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. She has a B.A. and a Master's degree in Counseling from Queen's College and graduate degrees in Psychology from Temple University. She is in Who's Who in American Women and Who's Who in the World. Selma has been involved with youngsters for 30 years. She has dabbled in musical theatre and songwriting and has written songs and shows for student performances. Her song, *The Magic Sleigh* has been published, as well as a number of other plays for children. *HOMEROOM* is her first published musical.



In Selma's words...How HOMEROOM Came to Fruition

As Director of Pupil Services, my responsibility was to help integrate classified students into the mainstream classrooms. I had brought to my school district a number of different approaches to sensitize elementary school students. It was now time to develop an approach to sensitize secondary school students. Andrea Green, came to my attention through a music therapist colleague of hers. Jan said that if I wanted to see a music therapist work, I should visit Germantown Friend's School (in PA.) to see a special show she was presenting.

Andrea produced her musical, *THE RETURN OF HALLEY'S COMET*. Although entertaining, the thing that was most remarkable about this show was her bonding of severely impaired, cerebral palsy children from the HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy, with (non-disabled) children from Germantown Friends School (both in Phila.). The GFS students were extremely caring and patient with their HMS partners. All the children worked beautifully together as equal participants and partners. The entire experience was touching and magical. After the show, I went up to Andrea and told her how impressed I was with this unique production. I then asked her if she would consider writing a show with me for middle school students to perform. I told her that I would write a grant to have her work with me on this project. Long story short.....Andrea agreed....and the grant request was successful.

The next step was for us to develop a format, so I approached the middle school staff of English teachers, Guidance Counselors, Special Education teachers and Music teachers and told them what we hoped to accomplish. I asked the English teachers (who had all the students in the school) to ask their students to each write a theme on "what is it like to be in your class, grade, school, town, country, etc." I told the teachers I wasn't interested in grammar or spelling but in the expression of the student's feelings. Much to my delight I received six hundred themes.

I then proceeded to read the themes and put them into categories. Certain concerns and experiences recurred frequently in the writings. Others were unique. After categorizing the themes, I brought them to Andrea. We were both overwhelmed and inspired by the honest reflections of the students and so we began the process of creating *HOMEROOM*.

I will always be grateful to the students of the Methactin School District who generously shared their feelings and anecdotes, regarding the themes expressing affiliation, alienation, loss, competition, friendship and so much more. *HOMEROOM* reveals what's in the hearts of teen-agers as they experience the world in school. *HOMEROOM* presents a microcosm of life.

Homeroom

Andrea Green



C MIN9

A

JEFF 1X
AMY 2X

CHRISTINE 1X
LAURA 2X

HOME - ROOM. IT'S SOME KIND OF PLACE. IN HOME - ROOM. EACH
HOME - ROOM. IT'S JUST LIKE THE WORLD. THAT'S TURN - ING. WHERE

C M *C M(#5)* *C M6*

TOGETHER

DAY THAT I FACE. A SCHOOL CON-STANT-LY CHANG - ING.
THOUGHTS AND WHERE MINDS ARE CHURN - ING. IT'S COCK-EYED AND CRA - ZY.

C M7 *F M7* *F M7/Eb*

Homeroom

Book and lyrics by - Andrea Green & Selma Tolins-Kaufman
Music by - Andrea Green

~ Synopsis ~

Matters of importance to contemporary teen-agers in school are explored in *HOMEROOM*. The show begins with Jeff, expressing the belief that the kids in his homeroom have nothing in common except for their last name starting with the letter “V”. Fifteen songs later, Jeff is more aware of the similarities than the differences. The teens come together to share their feelings regarding relationships, academic success and failure and the significance of secrets, lies, loss and lockers. Their individual stories weave together a musical that addresses themes of understanding, acceptance, independence and responsibility.

HOMEROOM is a microcosm of life.

HOMEROOM PLAYERS

Cast size is flexible.

Vanessa (Vinnie) Valentine – independent, outspoken, tomboy.

Mike Vakowski – insecure, insensitive jock.

Shawnette Vance – quiet, observant, gifted reader.

Jack Vanderbilt – silent, floating, skater. (signaling dramatic moments)

Yanni Veeda – alienated, artist.

Laura Velasquez – sad, isolated achiever.

Christine Vell – snobby, insecure cheerleader.

Beth Vincent (“Clone”) – silly, gullible, dependent follower.

Jeff Vickstein – engaging, commentating observer.

Amy Victor (“Clone”) – sweet, sensitive pleaser.

Alex Vitalli – brilliant, quirky, hyperactive INDIVIDUAL.

Jason Vogelberg – driven, politically active, doer.

Andy Voight – friendly, popular, pleaser.

Jenny Voy (“Clone”) – fun, perky, mathematically challenged.

“The Clones”/Cheerleaders – (*Amy, Beth, Jenny and others*) – Christine followers (in smaller cast, “The Clones” may provide special harmony parts.)

Homeroom Singers – select vocal group for additional solos and harmonies.

Homeroom Dancers – select dance group for solos & featured dance sections.

Homeroom Ensemble – larger chorus who dances in featured numbers.

Additional/supplemental materials include:

Director’s/Teacher’s Libretto

Student Libretto

Piano/Conductor Score

Orchestrated rehearsal and performance CD

SONG LISTING

1. OVERTURE
2. HOMEROOM
3. HOW DO I LOOK?
4. LOCKER ROCK
5. I'M A PERSON, TOO
6. HOPELESS CASE
7. SECRET
8. GOING IT ALONE
9. STAND UP FOR YOURSELF
10. TODAY'S THE DAY
11. IS IT LOVE?
12. HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME
13. CAFETERIA
14. DANCE WITH ME
15. DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME
16. COUNTERPOINT
17. HOMEROOM FINALE
18. STAND UP REPRISE

Coming Soon!

Hear music samples online!

Please check back for more details.