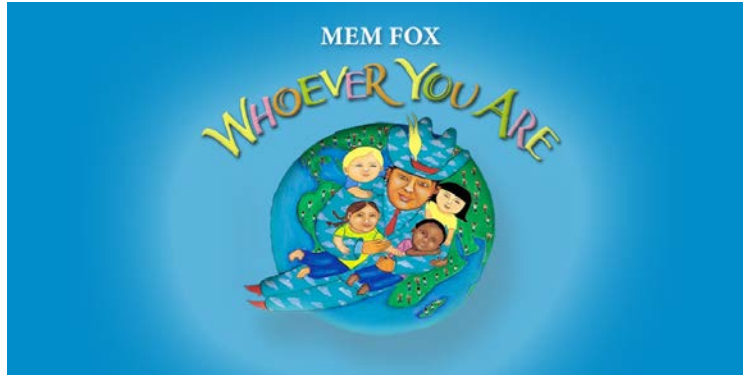




MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR EXPERIENCE



April 20 – May 20, 2018



BIG IDEAS

DIVERSITY

DIFFERENCES & SIMILARITIES

MULTI-CULTURALIS

BEFORE THE PLAY

READ THE BOOK

Stages Theatre Company's production of *Whoever You Are* is based on the popular, best-selling author, Mem Fox's, picture book, of the same name. The poignantly inspiring story- weaves across cultures and generations to celebrate the bond that unites us all.

Every day, everywhere, all over the world, "*Joys are the same, and love is the same, pain is the same, and blood is the same. Smiles are the same, and hearts are just the same.*"

WATCH A VIDEO VERSION OF THE STORY

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hol6ilkZk0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6943UB7x5c>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0J6tKoT53Y&t=23s>

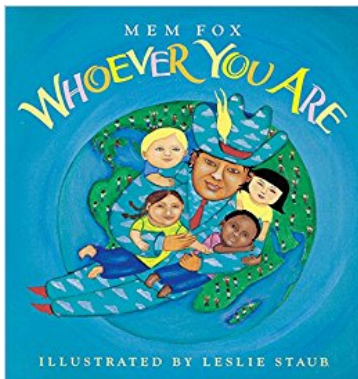
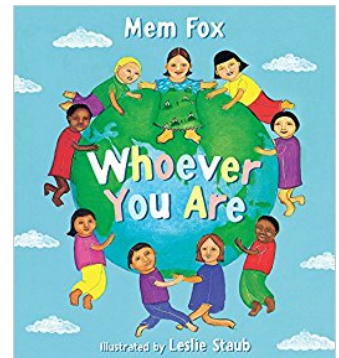
[LISTEN TO SAMPLE MUSIC FROM THE SHOW- CLICK HERE](#)

The music from the stage adaptation of *Whoever You Are* was written by Aaron Gabriel and arranged and mixed by Eric Warner. It is based on contemporary world music with a pop twist. For example, the song *Yummy, Yummy, Yummy* is based on the genre, K-pop.

DISCUSSIONS BEFORE THE SHOW

MAKE A LIST WITH YOUR YOUNG ONE

What are activities, games or sports do you like to play? What clothes do you like to wear? What food do you like to eat? What music do you like to listen to? List other questions that show what different things your young one might like. DURING THE PLAY, see if any of these same things come up for any of the characters.



DISCUSS THE BOOK COVER

Discuss the front cover with your young one. Discuss the title and the picture. What are the people on the cover doing? Where are they going? Do the people all look the same?

DISCUSS THE BOOK

1. Why do you think the adult was in the story?
2. Where did the adult and the children travel to?
3. What was your favorite page and why?
4. What are some of the things that make you special and different?
5. What are some of the things that make you happy/sad/laugh/cry? Help your young one understand that while there are things that make them different, many of us feel the same way when faced with similar situations.



ACTIVITY CONNECTIONS

WORLD CULTURES



In both the book and musical adaptation of *Whoever You Are* there is a celebration of cultures and traditions around the world. There is an entire musical number about all the different ways people celebrate, another about family traditions and another about different ways people communicate with each other.

HOW WE GREET EACH

Discuss with your young one how we say hello to other people and explore ways of greeting in other cultures or countries.

With the links below, discover different ways people greet each other from around the world.

- <http://www.opodo.co.uk/blog/greetings-around-the-world/>
- <https://mashable.com/2015/03/15/greetings-around-the-world/#TGUmKfqZJOqu>
- <https://www.afar.com/magazine/beyond-the-handshake-how-people-greet-each-other-around-the-world>

AFTER THE SHOW: Did you notice any of these greetings in the show?

WORLD CELEBRATIONS

Learn about holidays, celebrations and traditions from around the world:

- <https://www.teachervision.com/holidays/celebrations-around-world>
- http://ccea.org.uk/sites/default/files/docs/curriculum/connected_learning/thematic_units/year3_4/tu_CelebrateAndGoodTimes.pdf
- <https://thekindergartensmorgasboard.com/2015/12/kindergarten-smorgasboard-holidays.htm>
- <https://www.teachstarter.com/lesson-plan/why-celebrate/>
- <http://www.birthdaycelebrations.net/traditions.htm>
- <https://www.bustle.com/articles/136530-11-cool-birthday-traditions-from-around-the-world>
- <https://www.serenataflowers.com/pollennation/weird-birthday-traditions-from-around-the-world/>



AFTER THE SHOW: Did you notice any of these celebrations or traditions in the show?

MORE ENRICHMENT RESOURCES

- <http://memfox.com/books/whoever-you-are/> - Mem Fox's website.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUirUDaxjoI> – YouTube Videos based on the book and teaching multi-culturalism.
- <https://skinnedkneesstringcheese.wordpress.com/2012/04/20/reading-activity-whoever-you-are/> - Additional resources.

OTHER MEM FOX BOOKS

- ❖ *Baby Bedtime* 2013 Illustrated by Emma Quay
- ❖ *Yoo hoo, Ladybird!* 2013 (USA edition *Yoo hoo, Ladybug!*) Illustrated by Laura Ljungkvist
- ❖ *Tell me About Your Day Today* 2012 Illustrated by Lauren Stringer
- ❖ *Goodnight, Sleep Tight* 2012 (USA 2013) Illustrated by Judy Horacek
- ❖ *Possum Magic Numbers* 2012 Illustrated by Julie Vivas
- ❖ *Possum Magic Animals* 2012 Illustrated by Julie Vivas
- ❖ *Two Little Monkeys* 2012 Illustrated by Jill Barton
- ❖ *The Little Dragon* 2011 Illustrated by Roland Harvey
- ❖ *Let's Count Goats!* 2010 Illustrated by Jan Thomas
- ❖ *A Giraffe in the Bath* (with Olivia Rawson, Aust. only) 2010 Illustrated by Kerry Argent
- ❖ *Hello Baby!* 2009 Illustrated by Kerry Argent
- ❖ *The Goblin and the Empty Chair* 2009 Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon
- ❖ *Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes* 2008 Illustrated by Helen Oxenbury
- ❖ *Where The Giant Sleeps* 2007 Illustrated Vladimir Radunsky
- ❖ *A Particular Cow* 2006 Illustrated by Terry Denton
- ❖ *Hunwick's Egg* 2005 Illustrated by Pamela Lofts
- ❖ *Where Is The Green Sheep?* 2004 Illustrated by Judy Horacek
- ❖ *The Magic Hat* 2002 Illustrated by Tricia Tusa
- ❖ *Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild!* 2000 Illustrated by Marla Frazee
- ❖ *Sleepy Bears* 1999 Illustrated by Kerry Argent
- ❖ *Whoever You Are* 1998 Illustrated by Leslie Staub
- ❖ *Boo to a Goose* 1996 Illustrated by David Miller
- ❖ *Wombat Divine* 1995 Illustrated by Kerry Argent
- ❖ *Tough Boris* 1994 Illustrated by Kathryn Brown
- ❖ *Time for Bed* 1993 Illustrated by Jane Dyer
- ❖ *Shoes from Grandpa* 1989 Illustrated by Patricia Mullins
- ❖ *Night Noises* 1989 Illustrated by Terry Denton
- ❖ *Koala Lou* 1988 Illustrated by Pamela Lofts
- ❖ *Guess What?* Illustrated by Vivienne Goodman
- ❖ *A Bedtime Story* USA edition 1996 Illustrated by Elivia Savadier
- ❖ *Hattie and the Fox* 1986 Illustrated by Patricia Mullins
- ❖ *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* 1984 Illustrated by Julie Vivas
- ❖ *Possum Magic* 1983 Illustrated by Julie Viva