

ABC PLAYERS PLAY PROPOSAL FORM
2018-2019 Season

Play: RENT: School Edition

Author: Jonathan Larson

Staff: Chrissy McKinney- Director, Devin Sudman- Music Director,
Alexis Parsons- Choreographer

Preferred Time: Fall Winter Spring Other (Christmas)

Cast Requirements: Men, Women, and Teens (*must be enrolled in High School, 9-12 grades*)
**all those under the age of 18 will require parent permission to participate.*

Set Requirements:

- Very Minimal/flexible. Will be using scaffolding as main structure for set. Some flats with graffiti on it. The goal is to make everything look like it was built by amateur hands.
- Planning on using the exposed brick of the back wall of Stuarts.
- Would like to incorporate recycled tv's into the set, but not necessary

Other Technical Aspects (costuming, lighting, dialect, etc.):

- Lighting will be more inclusive with this production to highlight different settings within the main set.
- Use of the Opera Box's for the Band
- Costumes: Street Clothes/winter attire. BOHEMIAN (build them yourself)

- Jason Morosko has agreed to build the set for this production
- Jodi MacNeal has agreed to Stage Manage

Plot Synopsis:

Set in the East Village of New York City, *Rent School Edition* is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, it has become a pop cultural phenomenon with songs that rock and a story that resonates with audiences of all ages.

Based loosely on Puccini's *La Boheme*, *Rent School Edition* follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. The physical and emotional complications of the disease pervade the lives of Roger, Mimi, Tom and Angel. Maureen deals with her chronic infidelity through performance art; her partner, Joanne, wonders if their relationship is worth the trouble. Benny has sold out his Bohemian ideals in exchange for a hefty income and is on the outs with his former friends. Mark, an aspiring filmmaker, feels like an outsider to life in general. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking musical.

Rent School Edition is exuberant, passionate and joyous. Schools will love the freedom and flexibility that this show offers; minimal costuming and sets are required. This adaptation has been carefully done, working with the Larson estate to retain the dramatic intent of the groundbreaking rock musical, and consists of minimal changes to language and the removal of one song ("Contact") to make it possible for many schools to perform this piece.

Other Comments:

- Will be done with Orchestra. Keyboard 1, Keyboard 2, Bass, Drums, Guitar. Comes with a backing track for Angels "Today for You"

- RENT is more than just a musical. It is a story about real life and has the ability to directly impact all those who are in the show, and all who will come to indulge in the empathetic and moving story of a group of friends seeking the true meaning behind "No Day But Today".

Budget Estimates:

Costumes	\$ 0	Royalties/Scripts <i>Director script, Enhanced Study Guide, 22 Vocal Books, 2 Piano/Conductor Scores</i>	\$ 2,200- 2,500
Lights	\$		
Programs	\$ 100	Set <i>\$450 estimate for rental of Scaffolding with boards for 1 month. From Grants Rentals.</i>	\$ 600
Props	\$ 75		
Publicity	\$ 500		
Rehearsal Space	\$	TOTAL	\$ 3,475

Cast Description:

Mark Cohen

Filmmaker and video artist. Knee deep in his own soul-searching, Mark is the typical young artist. He and Roger are roommates in the loft. A bit of a nerd.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: G#4

Vocal range bottom: C3

Roger Davis

A struggling musician and former drug addict. He is reminiscent of Kurt Cobain. Roommates with Mark in the loft and battles with being HIV-positive.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: F#2

Tom Collins

A computer genius and liberal professor. He is a nurturer with a smooth and relaxed disposition. Used to be a roommate in the loft and is HIV-positive.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: F#2

Benjamin Coffin Iii

The landlord of Mark and Roger's apartment building. A former roommate in the loft, Benny traded in his personal morals for power and wealth.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F#4
Vocal range bottom: D3

Joanne Jefferson

A public interest lawyer and headstrong lesbian. She is smart and purposeful in all her decisions. Carries on a tumultuous relationship with Maureen.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Angel Dumott Schunard

The eccentric HIV-positive street drummer. A drag queen with an incredible gift of dance and a magnetic personality. He becomes Tom's lover.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: C3

Mimi Marquez

An HIV-positive stripper with drug addictions. Slender and sickly, she conceals it all at her job in the local strip club. She lives in the same building as the loft.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: F#3

Maureen Johnson

An unpredictably zany performance artist. Maureen oozes sexuality and used to live in the loft. She has recently dumped Mark for Joanne.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Ensemble

Cops; Vendors; Support Group (Paul, Steve, Gordon, Pam, Ali, Sue); Homeless People (Squeegieman, Blanket Person); Junkies; Parents (Mrs. Cohen, Mr. And Mrs. Jefferson, Roger's Mom, Mimi's Mother); "Leap Of Faith" Backups; Bohemians