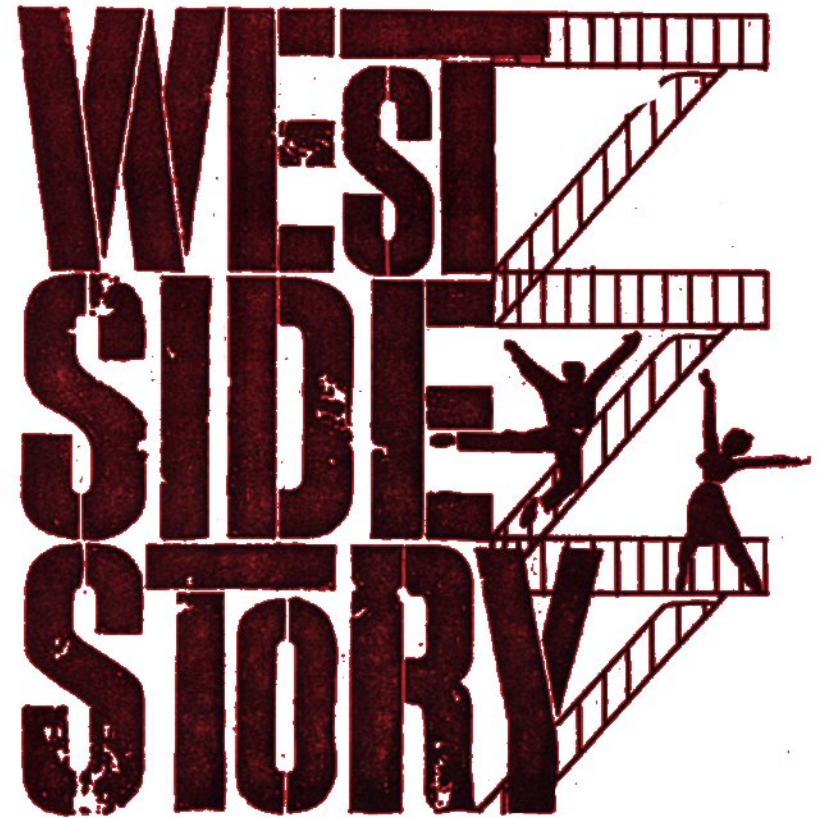


The Eighth Grade Class of  
San Francisco Day School  
presents



Book by Arthur Laurents  
Music by Leonard Bernstein  
Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

June 8-9, 2006

## Director's Note

When the eighth grade was proposing ideas for a show in the fall, one show kept coming up over and over again: *West Side Story*. Eighth grade classes are notorious for suggesting shows that are either unwritten ("Can we do *Star Wars: The Musical?*"), currently on Broadway ("How about *Rent?*"), or just way too daunting for a two week rehearsal period ("We REALLY want to do *West Side Story!*"). Obviously, this year we gave in a bit on that one.

With the choice made, the challenges didn't just go away. The eighth grade was ready and willing to overcome many hurdles. The show's composer, Leonard Bernstein, is known for his complex melodies and rhythms. Learning this music was a beast to say the least. The result is a testament not only to a stellar music program but also to a lot of hard work. The characters in the show are also complex. With a newly formed understanding of *Romeo and Juliet*, the class analyzed the script and made comparisons to the original text of the Bard. And, of course, the content of the show presented its own challenges.

In approaching the script we had to make some cuts and omissions from the original. We also decided to keep some of the elements of the show that might be considered controversial. My philosophy was that by keeping certain elements we would not only maintain the integrity of the play, but we would also create an opportunity to discuss the issues in the show with the students. In class and advisory, students talked about racial discrimination, violence, and the history of Puerto Rican immigration to the United States.

Yes, there is a representation of violence in the play. There are racial slurs used in the play. Discrimination is prevalent in the story of Tony and Maria. Unfortunately, it is also prevalent in our society today. My hope is that by exploring this show and sharing it with an audience, the students will have a greater understanding of the effects of discrimination and violence. Drama and theater offer many opportunities to explore situations that may never occur in one's life. This allows the actor and the audience to immerse themselves in the emotion of unfamiliar characters. It encourages us all to think, to understand, and recognize both the negative and positive traits of these characters.

This has been a pleasure to produce. The class has astounded us with their creativity, talents and hard work. In my mind, we have all risen to the challenge. As an audience, I hope you agree!

Enjoy the show!

Shane Ray, Director

## **Cast**

### **The Jets**

Riff • Gabe Reder  
Tony • Andrew Leddy  
Action • Morgen Warner  
A-Rab • Jackson Morgan  
Tiger • Becca Atkinson  
Gee-Tar • Lucy Finn  
Baby John • Kasra Shokat  
Snowboy • Hampton King  
Mouthpiece • Remy Fisher  
Big Deal • Dimitri Staszewski  
Diesel • Andre Ashley  
Arrow • Algernon Allen  
Pinch • Alan Grinberg  
Slide • Jack Bool

### **The Jet Girls**

Graziella • Sally Ness  
Velma • Lily Bigalke  
Minnie • Tali Marks  
Anybodys • Jill Fisher

### **The Sharks**

Bernardo • Maxi Zeff  
Chino • Noah Handel  
Indio • Cal Brown  
Luis • Michael Hendrickson  
Anxious • Alex Muresanu  
Nibbles • Dylan Smith  
Juano • Ryland Hormel  
Toro • Julian Brill  
Moose • Sam Harris

### **The Shark Girls**

Maria • Jessica Fields  
Anita • Maggie Bird  
Rosalia • Jessica Sykes  
Consuelo • Sarah Roach  
Camila • Jordan Garrett  
Pepita • Sara Ach  
Josefina • Lexie Bunim  
Margarita • Jessie Holtzman  
Francisca • Caroline Getz  
Teresita • Laura Rothman  
Carmen • Sophie Lieberman  
Viviana • Chelsea Mattoon  
Estella • Rachel Zeleke

### **The Adults**

Doc • Billy Knutsen  
Schrank • Eli Wald  
Krupke • Van Melikian  
Glad Hand • Charlie Lazarus

## Act I

Jet Song	Riff and Jets
Dance at the Gym	Instrumental
Maria	Tony
Tonight	Maria and Tony
America	Anita, Rosalia, and Girls
Cool	Action and Jets
One Hand, One Heart	Tony and Maria

## Act II

Entr'acte	Pianist: Eli Wald
I Feel Pretty	Maria, Francisca, Rosalia, Consuelo, and Girls
Somewhere	Soloists: Caroline Getz, Jessie Holtzman, Sophie Lieberman, Laura Rothman
	Violinist: Michael Hendrickson
Gee, Officer Krupke	Action and Jets
A Boy Like That / I Have A Love	Maria and Anita
Somewhere (reprise)	Cast

Accompanist: Michelle Alexander  
Percussionist: Charlie Lazarus

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## Production Staff

Producer/Director	Shane Ray
Musical Director	Kent Jue
Sets and Art Direction	Brian Herrick
Choreographer	Erin Cole
Lighting Design	Cathie Anderson
Assistant to the Choreographer	Sandra Jennings
Assistant to the Director	Gabrielle Moskowitz

## Parent Chairs

Parent Liasons	Marsha Maytum & Linda Ach
Programs	Steve & Bari Ness
Sets	Tim Finn
Back Stage Director	Beth Brill
Costumes and Props	Jill Manton & Kress Jack
House Manager	Alison Mattoon
Makeup and Hair	Kathy DePaola
Cast Party	Heather King
Photos & Video	Sako & Bill Fisher
Volunteer Coordinators	Stephanie DeMaria & Jeanette Brown

## Special Thanks

Ray of Light Theatre for costumes and props; Diablo Light Opera Company for costumes; Ian Hunter for sound equipment; Kathi O'Leary (415-359-1900, kathioleary@aol.com) for photography and head shots; and especially to all the parents and family members who served on the various committees, assisted at home with costumes, sent in props, built sets, helped with memorization, and so much more! We couldn't have done it without you!