

MAGIK THEATRE

MAGIKTHEATRE.ORG | (210) 227-2751
420 SOUTH ALAMO, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205

SELENA MARIA *Sings*

STUDY GUIDE

By Miriam Gonzales | Music by Daniel French
Co-Production with Childsplay in Phoenix, AZ



STUDY GUIDE WAS ADAPTED FROM CHILDSPLAY THEATRE

THE TEAM



The people that made this production possible.

CAST

Jillian Sainz: Selena Maria

Izabella Montes: Cissy

Melissa Gonzalez: Felly | Ms. Coleman | Student

Luz Navarro: Vicky | Olga | Moon Goddess

Carlos Sanchez Beltran: Rudy | Mr. Castillo | Herman | Minion

Brianna Resendez: Swing

CREATIVE TEAM

Andrea Morales: Director

Esteban Armenta Jr.: Sound Designer

Addy Diaz: Costume Designer

Daniel French: Composer

Miriam Gonzalez: Playwright

Jenny Milinger: Dramaturg

Dallas Nichols: Projection Designer

Brunella Provvidente: Scenic Designer

Bill Rios: Lighting Designer

PRODUCTION TEAM

Alyssa Snow: Stage Manager

Pat Smith: Technical Director

Chris Boneta: Assistant Technical Director

Lucian Hernandez: Property Manager

Thaddeus Morris: Lighting Supervisor

Gail Wolfenden-Steib: Director of Costumes and Wardrobe

Sarah Steele: Wardrobe Supervisor

Robert Cardoza: American Sign Language Interpreter

ABOUT SELENA MARIA SINGS

By Miriam Gonzales

Music by Daniel French

September 10 - October 2

SYNOPSIS

Like her namesake, Selena Maria has a passion for music. While her Selena Quintanilla superfan mother hopes she takes after the popstar, Selena Maria is working to find her own beat.

Selena Maria Sings tells a story of music, family, immense love, and the strength it takes to be yourself.

MEET THE CHARACTERS



Meet the friendly faces of the cast that is bringing *Selena Maria Sings* to life on the stage.



Jillian Sainz as Selena Maria



Izabella Montes as Cissy



Melissa Gonzalez as
Felly, Ms. Coleman, and Student



Luz Navarro as
Vicky, Olga, and Moon Goddess



Carlos Sanchez Beltran as
Rudy, Mr. Castillo, Herman, and Minion



Brianna Resendez as a
Swing

WORDS TO KNOW FOR THE SHOW!

Selena Maria and her family are Mexican American! Their household is bilingual which means they speak both Spanish and English. Sometimes these two languages are used interchangeably. Now is a great time to brush up on these Spanish words to make sure you don't miss a beat during the show!



FAMILY | FAMILIA

Hermano: Brother

Hermana: Sister

Tia: Aunt

Prima: Cousin

Mija: My little girl. A term of endearment.



EXPRESSIONS | EXPRESIONES

¡Que Guapo! - How handsome

Orale: Spanish slang for, "Hey!" or "No Way!"

Hermosa: Beautiful



FOOD | COMIDA

Masa: A dough made from ground corn.

Tamal: A Mexican dish made of shredded and seasoned meat, packed into masa, wrapped in a corn husk and steamed.

Raspas: Short for Raspados, which are a sweet icy treat! Much like a snow cone, raspas are made from shaved ice and coated with a liquid flavoring such as strawberry, cherry or pineapple among other flavors. Raspas can be made more decadent with lechera (condensed milk) or nieve (ice cream.)

Carne: Meat

Frijoles: Beans

Sandia: Watermelon



ICONS OF CULTURE | ICONOS DE LA CULTURA

Mariachi: a strolling, Mexican band usually consisting of a trumpeter, guitarists, violinists, and vocalists.

Selena Quintanilla: Known as the 'Queen of Tejano Music,' Selena was a beloved Mexican American recording artist. In addition to music she was also a songwriter, spokesperson, model, actress, and fashion designer.

Writing WITH SELENA MARIA

In the play, Selena Maria loves to process her feelings by putting them into songs. Writing is a great way to express yourself! This exercise can help let out the inner songwriter in all of us. Selena Maria would write about everything she experienced, like colors, everyday activities, and the love she has for her brother.

Using descriptive words to describe how you feel and see the world around you helps to make songs take flight! Need some help getting started on your unique song? **Start with this...**

FILL IN THE BLANK

Blue looks like: _____

Yellow sounds like: _____

Red tastes like: _____

Orange feels like: _____

Green smells like: _____

1

Now that you have described these colors, pick one or more that makes you think of an everyday activity.

2

Then, write down the activity with as much detail as possible. The activity could be anything, like getting ready for school, playing a game, or doing your homework.

3

Now, try finding words that rhyme. Turning your experience into a poem. **Almost there.....**

4

Once you have your experience poem it's time to **add music!** Try to sing a tune while reading your poem, drum a beat on your desk, or even try beatboxing like Selena Maria!

Remember, there are no wrong answers when it comes to expressing yourself!

HAVE FUN!

fashion WITH CISSY

Just like Selena Quintanilla, Selena's Prima Cissy loves fashion design. Cissy calls her look "Happy Tina" which describes her happy Latina sunshine personality perfectly.

In this exercise, you will use your drawing skills to make your look uniquely yours, just like Cissy!

Get out a sheet of paper and answer these questions before you start your design.

1

What color or colors feel most like ME?

2

How do I want to feel when I wear this outfit?

3

How can I include my favorite parts of my personality into my design?

>>> THEN START SKETCHING YOUR OWN UNIQUE STYLE! <<<



Will your outfit belong on the runway or fly through the air like a superhero? No matter what, make it a reflection of you, your personality, or even your culture!

Once you are done, share with your class and send us your pictures too! We would love to see your creations!



Email us at education@magiktheatre.org

COOKin'g WITH TIA VICKY

FOOD FOOD FOOD !

We all eat it and we all love it! A big part of Hispanic Culture are the warm flavors that are cooked at home. For example, Selena Maria's Tia Vicky has her famous tamales! These tamales have the special power to turn a frown upside down. Hispanic Culture is not the only culture known for its cuisine, all cultures are. **So, what about you?!**

At home, ask your family members about your culture, what foods derive from it, or what are your favorite family recipes? Then you can bring some in to share with your class, talk about it, draw a picture of it or share your favorite family recipes with us!

It can be fun to appreciate other cultures through the tasty medium of food. **Time to get cookin'!**



Email us at education@magiktheatre.org



What are your favorite foods?

LET'S TALK "TALKBACKS"



Q+A or brief discussion immediately following the performance.

After seeing a performance of *Selena Maria Sings* please remain seated. The actors will stick around for a brief talk back. These talkbacks allow for a discussion to take place about the themes woven throughout the show.

BEFORE THE SHOW

Before seeing the show talk about these themes and ask these questions. That way you'll have your answers and questions ready for the post-show discussion.

Our hope is to instill a deeper understanding of the play and to provide meaningful material to prepare for your theatrical experience. While also educating people of all ages about the power of live theatre and the effect it has on starting discussions and making a difference.

Themes in *Selena Maria Sings*

- Discovering who you are
- Moving to a new place
- Being enough
- Family
- Music
- Dealing with loss

Start with these...

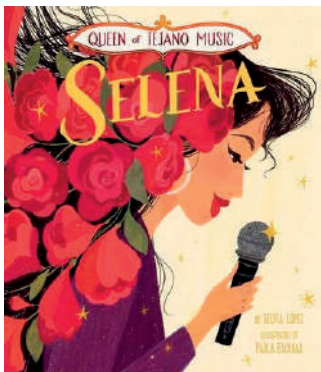
- What does finding your voice mean to you?
- Have you ever moved to a new town or started at a new school? How did that make you feel? If you were going to move, how would you prepare for it?
- Have you ever been bullied at school? Did you find a solution to stop the bullying from happening? If so, what did you do?
- Selena Maria started writing poems in the first grade and will probably always love songwriting. What is something you love to do that you will probably always love doing all your life?
- Selena Maria and her brother Rudy, loved to make music together. What is something you love to do with your family members?



READ ABOUT IT



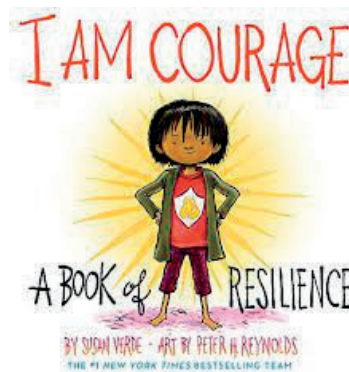
Enjoy additional books connected to ideas and themes of *Selena Maria Sings*.



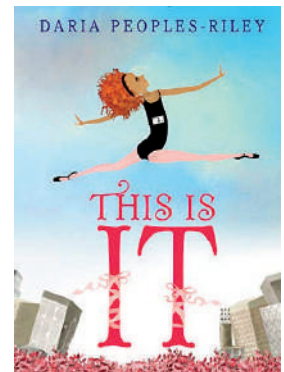
Selena - Queen of Tejano Music
By Silvia Lopez
Ages 6-9



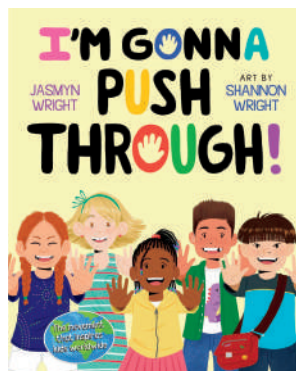
Eyes that Kiss in the Corners
By Joanna Ho
Ages 2-7



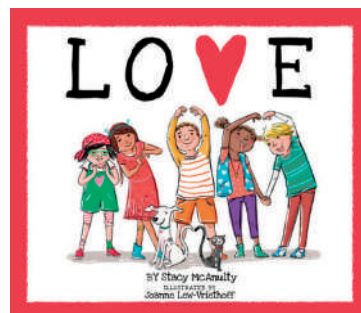
I Am Courage
By Susan Vede
Ages 4-8



This Is It
By Daria Peoples-Riley
Ages 4-8



I'm Gonna Push Through!
By Jasmyrn Wright
Ages 4-8



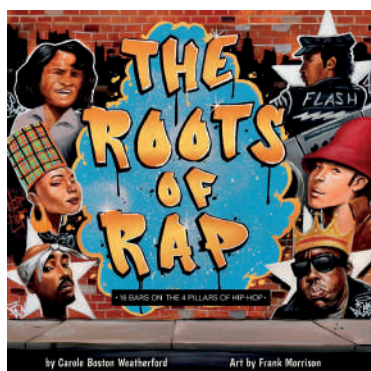
LOVE
By Stacy McAnulty
Ages 4-8



Love is Love
By Michael Genhart
Ages 4-8



Music is Everywhere!
By Maya Ajmera
Ages 4-8



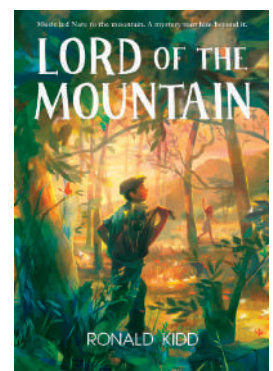
The Roots of Rap
By Carole Boston Weatherford
Ages 4+



Carlos Santana: Sound of the Heart, Song of the World
By Gary Golio
Ages 5-9



Early Sunday Morning
By Denene Millner
Ages 4-8



Lord of the Mountain
By Ronald Kidd
Ages 9-12

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED!

Magik Theatre's mission is to use the power of theatre to create Magikal storytelling for children that Activates imagination, Grows young minds, and Inspires creativity and a love of learning that is the Key to a more literate future for our community.

QUESTIONS?

How to book a field trip or tour

Adriana Gonzales, Group Sales and Tour Coordinator
adriana@magiktheatre.org
(210) 227-2751

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9 am - 5 pm

magiktheatre.org

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