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
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
- **Tía**: 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 and songwriter, spokesperson, model, actress, and fashion designer.
Now that you have described these colors, pick one or more that makes you think of an everyday activity.

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.

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

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
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.

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?

Themes in Selena Maria Sings

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