

**BLINDSPOT COLLECTIVE PRESENTS**

# **DANNY'S STORY**

**A NEW PLAY FOR  
HIGH SCHOOLS**

**2019-2020 TOUR GUIDE**



**EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO CHANGE THE STORY  
THROUGH STORYTELLING & FORUM THEATRE**



# DANNY'S STORY

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A new play for student audiences created to empower young people to act on behalf of themselves or their peers when they experience injustice.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

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*Danny's Story* was developed in 2018 by Blindspot Collective in collaboration with local LGBTQ+ youth. The pilot tour reached students from 10 schools in partnership with Diversionary Theatre, San Diego Unified School District, and the Office of Youth Advocacy (SDUUSD).

Danny is a transgender high schooler who makes the brave decision to pursue their true identity. With music and storytelling, audiences witness his coming of age, as Danny moves to a new school in search of belonging. Along that journey of self-discovery, audiences meet Danny's family, teachers, friends, and classmates -- who are forced to face their own assumptions and bias. Designed to allow high school youth and their communities to consider the complexities of transphobia, *Danny's Story* initially ends in disaster before audiences embark on an empowering journey to alter the outcomes of the play itself.

The show is based on Augusto Boal's model of Forum Theater. A genre of performance rarely seen in San Diego, Forum Theater was developed so that audiences might explore tangible ways to change the world in which we live. During the show, audiences are challenged to find new ways of supporting and empowering the central characters, encouraging young people to act on behalf of themselves or their peers when they experience injustice. This timely and ultimately hopeful play offers communities an opportunity to navigate this difficult but important conversation during a time of increasing visibility and vulnerability.





# COMMUNITY TOUR

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To book a school or community performance of *Danny's Story* in Winter 2019-20, please use the form on the last page of this document or email us at [education@blindspotcollective.org](mailto:education@blindspotcollective.org).

## PERFORMANCE DETAILS

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The program runs about 90 minutes and is best suited for high school students because of its mature subject matter. Due to the interactive nature of the show, the ideal capacity for a school or community performance is 100-150 people.

The program includes a pre-show workshop facilitated by professional teaching artists exploring the form and content of the production. Additionally, Study Guides will be provided with pre- and post-show classroom activities that encourage dialogue and self-expression. A Resource Guide will also be provided for students or families who wish to learn more.

The cost of a single performance is \$1,000. A second performance on the same day and at the same site is \$850. If that cost is a hardship for your school or community, please contact us to learn about other funding opportunities.

## AUDIENCE RESPONSE

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"I feel like I learned a lot about the LGBTQ+ community and I'm glad that I understand it more." -- 10th grade student

"I appreciated the confidence it gave for people going through the same situations to take action and deal with their problems." -- 11th grade student

"The way they showed that you have the power to change a situation for better was really powerful." -- 12th grade student

"A powerful piece of interactive theatre that aims to start conversations, expand minds and shed light on issues that many high schoolers face. We need this creative spring board to encourage students to more than just passive bystanders." -- Teacher

## VENUE REQUIREMENTS

To ensure the success of program logistics as well as maximum student accessibility and engagement, the following set-up is suggested:

- An auditorium or large classroom space with a minimum of 10 chairs to use during performance
- An audience not to exceed 150 people
- The stage or presentational space should be accessible and proximal to the audience space
- The presenters and actors should perform at the same level as the audience, or from a low platform (a foot off the ground), with stage dimensions of at least 20 x 12 feet
- A sound system
- 1 wireless or handheld microphone (depending on the size and acoustics of the room)
- Movable chairs are ideal so that we may adjust the space as needed; but in row seating there should be aisles and adequate space for movement due to the interactive nature of the performance

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Due to the sensitive subject matter and interactive nature of the performances, the school staff should actively support classroom control throughout the performance
- We strongly recommend that school counseling staff be present to support students
- Classroom teachers must be present with their class when attending the performance
- An additional adult per class, such as a parent or volunteer, is highly recommended
- Students will be encouraged to participate by coming onstage with the actors
- A Study Guide with pre- and post-show discussion questions and activities will be provided.
- A resource guide for students and community members will also be provided
- If booking a school performance, pre-show workshop with a teaching artist is included

For more information, visit [www.blindspotcollective.org/dannys-story](http://www.blindspotcollective.org/dannys-story) or contact us directly at [education@blindspotcollective.org](mailto:education@blindspotcollective.org).



# In-School Performance Request Form

Please identify a coordinator or primary point of contact to coordinate all details including performance date and time:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address of school: \_\_\_\_\_

Please identify any specific classroom teachers who will be attending the performance:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Requested # of performances \_\_\_\_\_

*Danny's Story* will tour in December 2019 or January 2020. Further details TBA.

Please indicate your preferred date/s and time/s:

First Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Second Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Third Choice \_\_\_\_\_

- School agrees to pay deposit of \$100 per performance due upon reservation confirmation
- School agrees to pay a total of \$1,000 for first performance, and \$850 for each additional performance done on the same day
- School agrees to have classroom teachers present during the performance to offer support. Please note that an additional parent volunteer is also recommended.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and all other questions  
to [education@blindspotcollective.org](mailto:education@blindspotcollective.org)