



Resource Guide | for Educators and Audiences

We include information about our production along with creative activities to make connections both before and after the show. For educators, all activities are aligned to the North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Look for the symbol below throughout the guide.



Goal APL-2: Children actively seek to understand the world around them. Goal CD-5: Children demonstrate self-expression and creativity in a variety of forms and contexts, including play, visual arts, music, drama and dance.

**Touring production
ages 2 and older**



**Written by
Barry Kornhauser**

**Director
Adam Burke**

Themes explored

exploring emotions, making friends, five senses, opposites

Summary of *Balloonacy*

The Old Man, lives alone in a small apartment in Paris. It's his birthday, but he's stopped speaking, probably because he doesn't have anyone with whom to talk. He seems to have forgotten joy, how to play and interact with others. His life is rather staid and sad, and he's resigned to this. But soon an insistent red balloon floats through his window and, ultimately, breaks through his reserve. In contrast to the Old Man, the balloon is boisterous, playful and lighthearted, and it soon charms the Old Man. *Balloonacy* is a story that explores and celebrates the power of friendship!

Audience expectations

You may wish to have a discussion with your students about their role as audience members. Live theatre only exists when an audience is present; their energy and responses directly affect the actors in performance.

Younger audiences should know watching live theatre isn't like watching more familiar forms of entertainment: there is no pause or rewind button, there are no commercials for bathroom breaks, and they can't turn up the volume if someone else is talking. Encourage your students to listen and watch the play intently, so they may laugh and cheer for their favorite characters when it is appropriate. At the end of the play, your applause is an opportunity to thank the actors for their performance. Here are some other guidelines to remember as well:

- Respect other audience members. Stay seated and keep your hands to yourself.
- Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance.
- Photography and recording of the performance is prohibited by copyright law.



Goal CD-4: Children demonstrate appreciation for different forms of artistic expression. Goal APL-8: Children maintain attentiveness and focus.

The BIG QUESTIONS about the show

1. Have you ever hurt someone's feelings before? How did that make you feel? How did it make the other person feel?
2. Do you have a special friend? What makes them special? What are games you like to play with your special friend?
3. On what special day does this story take place? How did you know that day was special? What clues did you see?



Goal LDC-2: Children participate in conversations with peers and adults in one-on-one, small, and larger group interactions. Goal CD-9: Children explore concepts connected with their daily experiences in their community.

Recommended Reading

If you enjoyed the show, check out these books.

The Yellow Balloon by Charlotte Dematons

Emily's Balloon by Komako Sakai

My Red Balloon by Kazuaki Yamada

Bird, Balloon, Bear by Il Sung Na

A Ball for Daisy by Chris Raschka

Perfectly Percy by Paul Schmid

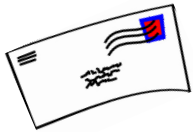
THEATRE CORNER

Every play Children's Theatre of Charlotte produces is created by a talented team of designers, technicians, actors and a director. A play is different from a television show or a movie because it's presented live. As a class, discuss what you experienced when you saw the performance.

1. What was the first thing you noticed on the stage?
2. Name three things you noticed about the set. Did the set help tell the story? What sort of set would you have designed?
3. What did you like about the costumes? Did they fit the story? What sort of costumes would you have designed?



Goal CD-4: Children demonstrate appreciation for different forms of artistic expression. Goal LDC-2: Children participate in conversations with peers and adults in one-on-one, small, and larger group interactions.



Write to Us!

Children's Theatre of Charlotte
300 E. Seventh St.
Charlotte, N.C. 28202



Goal LDC-13: Children use writing and other symbols to record information and communicate for a variety of purposes.

About Barry Kornhauser

Barry Kornhauser's theatre honors include the Children's Theatre Foundation of America's Orlin Corey Medallion, the American Alliance for Theatre & Education (AATE) Charlotte Chorpensing Cup, Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Play (*Cyrano*), Ivey Playwriting Award (*Reeling*), Bonderman Playwriting Prize (*Worlds Apart*), and three AATE Distinguished Play Awards (*This Is Not A Pipe Dream*, *Balloonacy*, and *Corduroy*).

For more activities and content surrounding this show, [click here](#) to access Children's Theatre of Charlotte's Pinterest boards.



Meet the Actor in Balloonacy



Caleb Ryan Sigmon (*Old Man*) excitedly returns to this role that transports him back to his childhood, playing in the backyard with cardboard boxes and imaginary friends. National Tour: *Journey to Oz* (Scarecrow). Children's Theatre of Charlotte: *Peter Pan* (Hook), *Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat* (Cat), *Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins* (Bert), *Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical* (Mr. Wormwood), *Pete the Cat* (Pete), *Balloonacy* (Old Man), among numerous others. Training: UNC School of the Arts. Caleb is in his seventh season as Artistic Director with Liberty Mountain – The Revolutionary Drama, in Kings Mountain, NC. He is the founder of Giggle Box Circus, an outreach program currently in residency at Levine Children's, dedicated to empowering hospitalized children through clowning, magic, circus skills, puppetry, and music. When not in the theatre, Caleb travels as an illusionist and storyteller, sharing magic and true wonder. He and his wife, Katy, are proud to call Charlotte "home" where they live in a house jam-packed with magic tricks, costumes, puppets, and their two sons, Levi and Charlie. www.CalebSigmon.com | [@calebsigmonlive](https://www.instagram.com/calebsigmonlive)



Katie Stone (*Road Manager*) is excited to be making her debut working with the Children's Theatre of Charlotte in *Balloonacy*. She has spent the past 5 summers as a resident actor with Liberty Mountain - The Revolutionary Drama and spends several months out of the year touring shows to libraries across North Carolina with Sigmon Theatrical. When not on stage, you can probably find her clowning around at Levine Children's Hospital with Giggle Box Circus! She feels incredibly blessed to be able to do what she loves and make theatre magic happen alongside her "brother" and mentor, Caleb.