Travel with Carly on a visit to an interesting rock garden that shows her how cool it is to do the right thing because Character Rocks!

This highly interactive performance, with cheerful music and some fun characters (who just happen to be rocks), will have students clapping, singing, moving and learning about the components of good character, such as respect, integrity, compassion and citizenship.

Carly isn’t happy that everyone seems to be paying about the components of good character, such as respect, integrity, compassion and citizenship.

Meet Caring, Respect, Trustworthy, Fairness, Integrity, Compassion and Citizenship! This theatrical performance, while fun and interactive, will impart lessons that the audience will take away, exercise critical thinking, social skills and more throughout the performance. The participatory format requires students to engage their listening skills, deepen their understanding of the performance and learn about the process of bringing a live or recorded production to life. This podcast offers students the opportunity to engage their listening skills, deepen their understanding of the performance and learn about the process of bringing a live or recorded production to life.

About NJPAC On the Mic NJPAC On the Mic is an audio resource that takes SchoolTime performances to the next level. This podcast series features three exclusive, curriculum-aligned episodes for all of NJPAC’s 2022-2023 SchoolTime performances. On the Mic offers students the opportunity to engage their listening skills, deepen their understanding of the performance and learn about the process of bringing a live or recorded production to life. This immersive audio experience features a theme song by students in the NJPAC arts education program.

Series producer: Michael Aquino and Dania Ramos
Written and hosted by Dania Ramos
Additional music from Epidemic Sound
Opening question voiced by Wincey Terry-Bryant
About NJPAC On the Mic
Part 3: Spotlight | Post-show audio, 12 minutes
Includes: An exclusive interview with the creator of Character Rocks
Written and hosted by Dania Ramos
Sound editing, design theme and outro music by Michael Aquino
Additional music from Epidemic Sound
Special Clip from “Character Rocks” written and performed by Wincey Terry-Bryant; produced by Shaunbass and Winceycomusic
Interview guest: Wincey Terry-Bryant
Series producers: Michael Aquino and Dania Ramos

Wincey Terry-Bryant, a native of Newark, New Jersey, is a multitalented singer, performer, public speaker, book publisher, businesswoman and community activist. Her love for performance and the arts was nurtured in her church growing up where she sang with the choir. From this fertile beginning, she has gone on to work in the music and film business, working with industry giants such as Spike Lee, Bill Cosby, Sting, Tom Jones and Tina Turner. She has also worked with gospel music star Dorothy Norwood and saxophonist Grover Washington, Jr. Her television credits include Soul Train, The Arsenio Hall Show, The Cosby Show, Late Night with David Letterman, Spike Lee & Company: Do It A Cappella documentary and BET’s Dr. Bobby Jones Birthday Celebration. Her voice can be heard on TV commercials and on the famed, iconic children’s television series Sesame Street.

She has opened for great performers like Regina Belle, Tamela Mann and Ben E. King, to name a few. She is also the featured singer on Manie Love’s hit single “It’s A Shame.” As a community activist, she is a member of the New Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking and of Zonta International, an organization that empowers women through service and advocacy.

Among her honors and credentials, Wincey was awarded the “Phenomenal Women Award” from Kiss FM for her arts integration work, was nominated as one of the top 25 Leading Women Entrepreneurs and Business Owners of New Jersey and has also earned the Minority Women’s Business Owner Distinction from the NJ Small Business Development Center. She also recently received the “Woman of the Year” award from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. for her efforts in raising human trafficking awareness.

She is a Master Teaching Artist for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, a presenter of arts integration assembly programs for the Arts Horizons Agency and a teaching artist for the National Wolf Trap Early Childhood Professional Development Training program.

Wincey Terry-Bryant founded Winceyo, a performing arts company, in 1988 to combine her love for music, education and children. Winceyo teaches audiences about serious social issues in schools throughout New York and New Jersey. The productions are curriculum-based educational programs that marry music and National Core Standards and are NJEA certified.

Winceyo programs offer alternative approaches to learning by integrating performing arts techniques such as music, drama and dance to teach various topics, including Black history, Latina history, women’s history, human trafficking, drug awareness, cancer awareness and other subjects. The participatory format requires students to exercise critical thinking, social skills and more throughout the performance.

The troupe includes professional actors, singers, dancers and musicians. Character Rocks is one of Winceyo’s productions.

In addition to the theatrical productions, she founded the publishing arm of her business in 2010. Among her book offerings is the published version of Character Rocks, complete with illustrations and a Spanish translation.

About the performance

“Character Rocks” Travel with Carly on a visit to an interesting rock garden that shows her how cool it is to do the right thing because Character Rocks!

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### Inspired Ideas in the Classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher Focus</th>
<th>Student Activity</th>
<th>NJ Student Learning Standards</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepare for the performance</td>
<td>Have students write one word of their choice, each on a rock with a sharpie you supply, which illustrates one of the core character traits of doing the right thing. They may go outside of the box if it applies to positive character traits. They can discuss a time or experience when they used that specific word or had someone use it towards them. Then they can all place their rocks together and create their own rock garden collectively as a class.</td>
<td>English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Experience the performance                                                    | 1. Do the inanimate objects (rocks) come to life for you through the actors and actresses performances, costumes and music?  
2. Did you learn anything about the core character values discussed earlier in the classroom?  
3. How does the performance make you feel?                                       | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
| Reflect, respond and read                                                      | Discuss a scene or song from the performance that you feel reflected the core values discussed earlier. Do you think this was a good way of showing a lesson, while making it fun? Can you relate a scene or song to an experience you’ve had in your life?  
Read out loud to your students Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler by Margery Cuyler. | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
| Focus                                                                         | Work on questions 1 – 8 on your Activity Sheet for Kindness is Cooler: Read or listen to details from the book to help you answer the questions.  
After you have completed the activity, think about ways that you can perform your own acts of kindness, similar to the students in Mrs. Ruler’s class. Do you think your class together can beat the score of Mrs. Ruler’s class? | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
| Originate                                                                     | For the first week, create a list seeing how many acts of kindness you can perform at home. After you’re done writing your list, be prepared to share your acts of kindness list with the rest of your classmates and teacher in school.  
For the second week, create another list seeing how many acts of kindness you can do in school this time. After you’re done writing your list, be prepared to share your acts of kindness list with the rest of your classmates and teacher in school.  
See if you can do the most acts of kindness in your class! | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
| Rehearse                                                                     | Break up into groups of four to five students per group and share your lists with one another each day leading up to the final day of full class show-and-tell. Compare and contrast with your classmates any acts of kindness they may have done similarly or differently from yours. This may give you some new ideas for acts of kindness you can perform and then add to your list the next day. | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
| Make magic                                                                   | Share your list of acts of kindness with the class for show and tell! You may read from your list.  
Be proud of your good deeds and acts of kindness accomplishments! You rock! | English Language Arts NJSLSA.R1 NJSLSA.SL1 NJSLSA.SL2 NJSLSA.SL3 NJSLSA.W4 NJSLSA.W3 |
FIND THE STANDARDS
For more detailed information on the standards, visit these websites:
NATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS
corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy
NATIONAL SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS
ssss.sis.gov/standards
NATIONAL CORE ARTS ANCHOR STANDARDS
nationalartsstandards.org

English Language Arts
NJSLA.SL1
Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

NJSLA.SL2
Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

NJSLA.SL3
Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

NJSLA.SL4
Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

NJSLA.SL5
Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

NJSLA.W1
Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

NJSLA.W2
Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

NJSLA.R1
Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

NJSLA.R2
Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

NJSLA.R3
Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

Caring
Showing understanding of others by treating them with kindness, compassion, generosity and a forgiving spirit.

Character education
An educational movement that supports the social, emotional and ethical development of students. It is a proactive effort by schools, districts and states to instill in students important core, ethical values such as caring, honesty, diligence, fairness, fortitude, responsibility and respect for self and others. Character education provides long-term solutions to moral, ethical and academic issues that are of growing concern in society and schools. Character education teaches students how to be their best selves, how to do their best work and how to treat others.

Citizenship
Being law abiding and involved in service to school, community and country.

Courage
Doing the right thing in the face of difficulty and following your conscience instead of the crowd.

EQ
Abbreviation of Emotional Quotient, a psychological measure of a person’s adequacy in such areas like self-awareness, empathy and dealing sensitively with other people. People use it as shorthand for the term emotional intelligence. Some experts say the five qualities of emotional intelligence are self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy and development of good social skills.

Fairness
Practicing justice, equity and equality. Cooperating with one another. Recognizing the uniqueness and value of each individual within our diverse society.

Honesty
Telling the truth, admitting wrongdoing. Being trustworthy and acting with integrity.

Integrity
Firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values. Being honest, trustworthy and incorruptible.

Kindness
The quality of being friendly, generous and considerate.

Perseverance
Pursuing worthy objectives with determination and patience while exhibiting fortitude when confronted with failure.

Responsibility
Being accountable in word and deed. Having a sense of duty to fulfill tasks with reliability, dependability and commitment.

Respect
Showing high regard for an authority, other people, self and country. Treating others as you would want to be treated. Understanding that all people have value as human beings.

Perseverance
Character Education…Our Shared Responsibility
ed.gov/admins/lead/character/brochure.html
Character Education: An Historical Overview
cricket.com/history
The History of Character Education
doi.org/10.1080/07303084.1997.10605027
What is Character Education?
talkingbook.com/teaching-resources-catalog/definitions/what-is-character-education.html
20 Good Character Traits Essential For Happiness
liveboldandbloom.com/10/relationships/good-character-traits
Bullying Prevention
character.org/key-topics/bullying-prevention
Stop Bullying
stopbullying.gov
Character Rocks coloring book/CD set
Character Rocks music download
winceyco.com/shop/ols/products/char-rocks-music-download

Videos
Character Rocks sample
youtube.com/watch?v=tBwBMyxGvqE
Winceyco YouTube account
youtube.com/user/winceyco1/videos
Sesame Street Character Education Videos
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w&list=PCL145CUJtQ5uW8c-
Sesame Street: Zac Efron and Elmo - Patience
youtube.com/watch?v=EgB3CQ0Uj9c
Sesame Street: Mark Ruffalo: Empathy
youtube.com/watch?v=X8ykkChQw0M
Sesame Street: Cobie Smulders shows Grover how to be Courteous
youtube.com/watch?v=5HrvYkXr5XQ

Teaching Moral Character in the Classroom
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w
The Importance of Character Education in Schools
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w
Effective Character Education Takes Time
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w
The Science of Kindness
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w
Using Babies to Decrease Aggression, Prevent Bullying
youtube.com/watch?v=5h1D92QG75w

Books
The Big Umbrella
Amy June Bates and Juniper Bates, Simon & Schuster/ Paula Wiseman Books, 2018
The Book of Virtues: A Treasury of Great Moral Stories
William Bennett, Simon & Schuster, 1993
Stick and Stone
Beth Ferry and Tom Lichtenheld, HMH Books for Young Readers 2015
The Bad Seed
Jory John and Pete Oswald, HarperCollins, 2017
Barbara Lewis, Free Spirit Publishing, 2005
10-Minute Life Lessons for Kids: 52 Fun and Simple Games and Activities to Teach Your Child Honesty, Trust, Love, and Other Important Values
Jamie Miller, William Morrow Paperbacks, 1998
Gregory and Suzanne Wolfe, Touchstone, 1994
Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ
Daniel Goleman, Bantam Books, 2005
UnSelfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World
Michele Borba, Touchstone, 2017
How Children Succeed: Grit, Cursiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character
Paul Tough, Mariner Books, 2012
In-School Residencies: NJPAC teaching artists come right to your school to teach the performing arts to your students. Our super-flexible in-person residencies are designed to meet your needs and you'll have a dedicated program manager to help you every step of the way. It's the perfect program to keep your students creating, connecting and expressing themselves through the magic of the arts.

Professional Development: Calling all educators! Expand your teaching skills, deepen your curriculum and give yourself a creative boost in NJPAC's forward-thinking professional development workshops. Our virtual PD programs are for teachers all the way from pre-K to high school and include hip hop, dance, storytelling, theater, music and more. Not only will you learn something... you'll also have fun and be inspired.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please email our education sales team at artseducation@njpac.org.

Or visit njpac.org/education

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Citizens

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BD, Merck Foundation, Prudential Foundation, Turrell Fund, Victor Foundation


* deceased