

TURNING 15 ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

A NEW MUSICAL BASED ON THE 1965 SELMA VOTING RIGHTS MARCH

NOW AVAILABLE AS A STREAMING VIDEO

“A POWERFUL EXPERIENCE”

—NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO



ABOUT THE SHOW

Filled with traditional and original Gospel and Freedom songs, **Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom** tells the moving and inspiring true story of Lynda Blackmon, the youngest person to walk all the way from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, on the Voting Rights March in 1965. Linda was jailed nine times before her fifteenth birthday as she and her friends fought alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to secure the right to vote for African Americans. **Ally Sheedy** adapted the award-winning memoir by **Lynda Blackmon Lowery** (Dial Press, 2016) for the stage. **Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom** is directed by **Fracaswell Hyman** and the music director is **Joshuah Brian Campbell**. The show is produced by **Lynda Blackmon Lowery, Miranda Barry, Amy Sprecher, Voza Rivers** and the **New Heritage Theatre Group**.

The video is available to stream in two versions: a 50-minute performance without intermission, and a 3-Act performance with 3 x 20-minute acts. See below for details.



WHAT THE MEDIA IS SAYING



“...WHAT A CAST! ALL SEVEN [ACTORS] WITH OUTRAGEOUSLY BEAUTIFUL VOICES SING UNTIL WE ARE COMPLETELY IMMERSSED IN THE HISTORY OF BLOODY SUNDAY AND THE EDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE. ... [A] TIMELY AND PRAYERFULLY CRAFTED PRODUCTION WHICH RESTORES THE SOUL.”

— EBELE OSEYE, BLACK STAR NEWS, 2020

“WITH SPIRITUAL AND FREEDOM-INSPIRED MUSIC AND PROJECTIONS... YOU FELT IN THE THICK OF IT. THE... ENSEMBLE WERE SOUL-STIRRING IN THEIR HARMONIES.”

— EVA HEINEMANN, HI! DRAMA, 2019



“...THIS IS SO MOVING, SO IMPRESSIVE, SO STIRRING AND INFORMATIVE—THIS IS SOMETHING THAT CAN MAKE PEOPLE REALIZE THEIR POWER”

— LINDA ARMSTRONG, AMSTERDAM NEWS, 2018



VIDEO

YouTube



PRESENTERS RAVE!

“Turning 15 On The Road To Freedom speaks to the very heart and soul of our nation. It is the art of storytelling at its best...audiences of every age will be uplifted and inspired.”

— David Brown, The Harmony Project, Columbus, OH 2020

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom had my adult and student performance attendees spellbound—the story is riveting and relevant, the acting is passionate and appropriately intense. This is a show every one of us should see.”

— Marjorie Waldo, Arts Garage, Delray Beach, FL 2020

“We absolutely loved having all of you here and could not have been more pleased with the entire engagement.”

— Mary-Margaret Dale, Culture Shock Miami, FL 2018, 2020

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom was one of the most powerful pieces of theatre I’ve ever experienced. It not only brought the house down, but brought everyone to tears.

— Reverend Ellen Robison, Minister of Worship and the Arts, The Riverside Church of New York City, 2019

“Congrats on a wonderful performance run. It was a treat to observe the student and teacher reactions to the performances as it was very apparent how touched they were.”

— Rosa Hyde, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark, NJ 2019

AUDIENCES CHEER!

“[O]ne word... SPECTACULAR! Okay... more than one... moving, captivating, honest, true, etc, etc. I cried with them, I laughed with them, I felt like I was transported back to 1965 in Alabama and wanted to join them in their fight for civil rights for all.”

— Audience member, Arts Garage, Delray Beach, FL

“Accolades for both the quality of the production and the importance of the message in Turning 15. In such troubled times, reminders that individuals can and do make a difference are critical.”

— Audience member, The Riverside Church of New York City

“Overwhelming story and message told through music. Experience it if you can.”

— Audience member, F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts, Wilkes-Barre, PA

“I loved the show. It was absolutely breathtaking and I’d watch it again if I had the chance.”

— Audience member, South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, FL

“This is why theater is more than entertainment... its purpose is to activate the soul, wake us up, make sure we keep our souls intact—by doing the work which must be done and when it is needed. Thank you Bridge Street Theatre.”

— Audience member, Catskill, NY

“Fabulous. We loved everything. The acting was fantastic, the singing was beautiful. It inspired my daughter to join the student council for next year! THANK YOU!”

— Audience member, Culture Shock Miami, FL

“Weaving the voice of a teen with the powerful gospels and spirituals made the story... more powerful—intertwining emotions from hope, defiance, anger, fear, [and] elation...”

— Audience member, Maplewood, NJ

THE SOUNDS OF FREEDOM

SOUNDCLOUD

- ▶ Woke Up This Mornin’
- ▶ This Little Light of Mine
- ▶ Sing Out, March On!
- ▶ We Shall Overcome



BOOK US



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For School and Community Bookings:
Miranda Barry at Loire Valley Theater Festival
Miranda@sheedlylit.com or 646-919-0440
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STREAMING DETAILS

