

Village Theatre

KIDSTAGE



Performance Preview Guide for:

Performances: February 9-10, 2019 at the Cope Gillette Theatre, 2730 Wetmore Avenue, Everett.

Parents Note: Only parents are qualified to determine what is appropriate for their children. This Production Guide is available on our website and at the Village Theatre Everett Box Office to help you make the decision that is right for you and your family.

Production length: The show will run approximately one hour and thirty minutes with no intermission.

NOTE: This production is rated PG-13.

Why did KIDSTAGE decide to produce *This Is What They Tell Me*?

KIDSTAGE Originals is a program where students create their own musical with guidance of professional writers and composers. This is a rare pre-professional opportunity to learn the skills of writing a new work, as well as performing in a new work. KIDSTAGE is proud to produce a musical that represents the diverse experiences of teenagers. The emphasis of this program is on the writer: the student writers have continued revising throughout the rehearsal process.

The show explores mature content and relevant themes such as self-medication, stereotyping, and bullying based on race, body size, gender identity, and mental illness.

Synopsis

This Is What They Tell Me was written by five female & non-binary students last spring with the purpose of celebrating diverse teenage perspectives. The show explores the consequences of stereotyping others and asks the question, "How do we define ourselves?" Aurora, Iris, Jamie, Bernie, and Mallory are all teased at school for being different. When they are given an assignment to research historical figures, each are inspired to accept their own - and each other's - differences.

Script Content Details

Please Note: the following contains plot spoilers.

Violence: There is one moment when Mallory and Aurora shove each other.

Language: There are multiple uses of "shit," "dumbass," "asshole," "hell," and "crap." "Jesus" is used as an exclamatory statement twice.

Sexual Content: There are verbal references to two teenage characters "doing *it*," and doing "*that stuff*." Mallory is referred to as a "slut" multiple times.

Drug/Alcohol Content: Aurora takes un-prescribed Adderall as self-medication for her ADHD.

Other: The show features bullying based on gender identity, race, mental health, body size, and rumors. Jamie, a character who identifies as non-binary (a term for someone who is not exclusively masculine or feminine), is bullied with the term “it” multiple times throughout the show. Bernie, a plus-size character, is called “Barney” in reference to the kids show “Barney & Friends.” Aurora, a character with depression and ADHD, is called a “spaz” and a “tweaker.”