



**FROGTOWN'S "Diversity through Music" Program** is a multimedia, author/composer assembly presentation based on Emmy Award winning Author/Composer Philip Pelletier's acclaimed musical storybook, *One Night in Frogtown*. This award-winning multimedia event gets kids excited about reading and writing, while exploring the important themes of Bullying and Diversity. *One Night In Frogtown* is the winner of the National Gold IPPY (Independent Publishing Award), the National Gold Moonbeam Children's Award, featured on THE GRAMMYS "Education Watch", and has received rave reviews across the country. Frogtown has grown into a nationally touring Live Stage Show, which is making it's Broadway debut in 2013.

### **SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES**

FrogTown school assemblies celebrate music and literacy with a live author reading, animated video, and live music performance with animated sing-along lyrics in an innovative presentation that kids and parents love. The FrogTown assembly lasts about an hour, and is engaging for all ages, particularly K-6. Advance packs are sent to each school beforehand, containing loaner book/CDs for teachers to share in their classrooms, as well as FrogTown Study Guides containing theme-based curriculum and fun classroom activities based on the story.

The program begins with an exploration of Mr. Pelletier's educational background, and how that led him to a career as an author, composer, and director. Philip shares short examples of his work in music, motion pictures and television by projecting them on the big screen and explaining how they were created. He connects these compelling examples to his natural curiosity for learning when he was a young student on Long Island, illustrating the important connection between "learning in school" and "real life". Philip credits his teachers for encouraging and inspiring him in learning as a student.

This naturally progresses into his work with FrogTown, and how it involves writing, music, art, acting, recording and storytelling. Video clips are shared, following the journey from the initial idea to the finished work, with an emphasis on the importance of teamwork in the production process. The story is then performed, narrated by Mr. Pelletier while animated images and song lyrics are projected on the screen, with live music performances by FrogTown cast member Heather Christie. After the multimedia performance there is an interactive discussion about the bullying and diversity themes with a Q&A, "making of" and "behind the scenes" material. Exclusive previes are screened of animation being produced in Hollywood with behind-the-scenes footage of the animators at work, as well as a special preview of the Live Stage Show, which is headed to debut on Broadway in 2013.

### **PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS**

Performance Workshops offer a unique opportunity for local students to actually perform alongside FrogTown's all-star cast in the Live Stage Show. Advance materials are sent to participating schools including book/CDs and curriculum materials to be shared in the classrooms. Motivated students are selected by the school's music teacher to learn the songs in preparation for the workshop. Philip then visits the school accompanied by FrogTown cast member Heather Christie, and together they lead a hands-on performance workshop to prepare the students to perform in the Live Stage Show in their own community.

### **CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS**

Emmy-award winning Writer/Composer Philip Pelletier offers hands-on creative writing workshops for students that focus on creativity and finding one's inner voice as a writer. Simple and effective tools are learned through fun and engaging in-class writing exercises.

**Contact: Terry Kippenberger at Mainstage Artists (314) 862-1408 [terry@artistsofmainstage.com](mailto:terry@artistsofmainstage.com)**