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For City Day's drama program, the show goes on

Dec 9 2020



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Typically, the calendar at Chicago City Day School includes numerous student drama productions, all performed live before peers, teachers, and families in the School's beautiful Hunt Theater.

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Safety protocols related to COVID-19 have changed that. This year, it is not safe for students and others in the community to sit together in an auditorium to watch a play, nor can actors exchange dialogue together on stage.

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Does that mean it's curtains for City Day's school plays this year? Hardly.

Rather than acting live on stage, our student actors have performed their roles in front of an iPad camera and a green screen. Mrs. Minarik, the School's drama teacher, adds backgrounds and sound effects to the video to create "virtual plays."



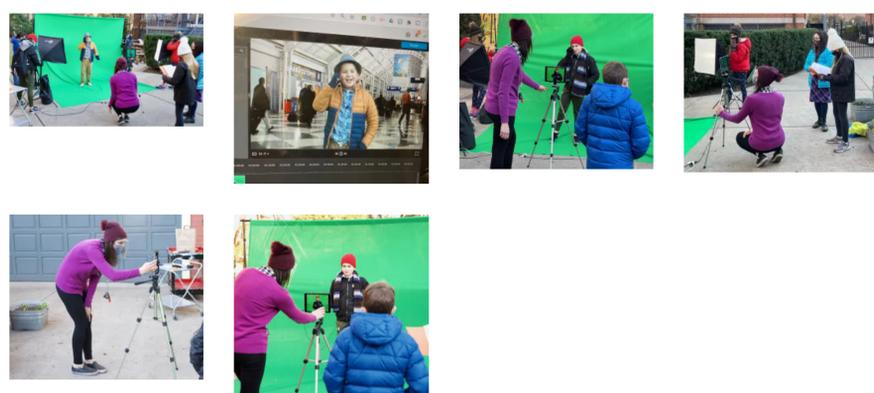
"I feel that live performance is something every student should have the opportunity to experience, but with video editing technology being so adaptable, recording our plays with a green screen is providing an excellent (and safe!) alternative," Mrs. Minarik said.

Students have adjusted well to the change. They show some of the same excitement when performing in front of the camera as they would on stage, because they know their work will soon be viewed by an audience.

"It feels a bit like we have transferred the play into a movie format, and that is exciting for them," Mrs. Minarik said.

So far this school year, our sixth-graders recorded skits as part of the school's Halloween activities, and our first- and second-graders performed in the School's annual Thanksgiving play. Our fourth- and fifth-graders are working now on a play that will be ready before the holidays.

Drama is part of City Day's robust [arts program](#). Congratulations to our students and teachers for making sure the show goes on during a most unusual school year.



Explore City Day on Social Media

chicagocitydayschool 21h

Our junior kindergartners recently ventured out to one of our outdoor learning spaces to work on collaboration and fine-motor skills. We're grateful to have an expansive campus with so many inspiring places to explore!
#learningoasis #campus #chicagoschools #privateschool #prekindergarten #juniorkindergarten #kindergarten #outdoorlearning

Chicago City Day School 21h

Chicago families don't have to look outside the city to find a school campus that is safe, tranquil, and inspiring — it's right here! Our 2-acre campus provides varied indoor and outdoor learning spaces as well as a strong sense of place and community. Read this great article about our "learning oasis" in Chicago Parent magazine. #campus #community #privateschool #learningspace #chicagoschools <https://www.chicagoparent.com/sponsored-content/urban-school-that-is-a-learning-oasis/>

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Chicago City Day School 43h

CITY DAY OPEN HOUSE: There's still time to join us at our Open House on Saturday. The event runs from 10 a.m. to noon, and it's a great opportunity to tour our building, meet school leaders, and talk to City Day teachers, parents, and students. We look forward to meeting you!
#openhouse #admissions #privateschool #chicagoschools <https://bit.ly/3NqYGU7>

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chicagocitydayschool 46h

Happy #Halloween! City Day students and teachers celebrated the holiday early with costumes, games, and pumpkin carving on Friday. It was a great day, full of school spirit. For those who will be doing more celebrating tonight, enjoy! #trickortreat #privateschool #chicagoschools

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Chicago City Day School

541 W. Hawthorne Place
Chicago, IL 60657
[\(773\) 327-0900](tel:(773)327-0900)

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Chicago City Day School is an independent private elementary school serving students in junior kindergarten through grade 8. Our rigorous academic program emphasizes public speaking, service learning, immersive travel experiences, and design-oriented technology education. City Day students learn in a compassionate environment that recognizes each student's unique interests and abilities. Our graduates attend top high schools throughout Chicago.

