



## Arts Education Weekly News Blast

**March 6, 2017**

### **Special Issue: Early Childhood Arts Education**

#### **Classroom Resources**

##### ***Exploring Children's Singing Development: Do Experiences in Early Schooling Help or Hinder?***

By Geraldine Leighton & Alexandra Lamont

*Music Education Research*

Music education researchers conducted a long-term study of young children between the ages of four and eight to determine their singing achievement over time. According to the researchers, "The results of this study indicate that children's singing is complex and multifaceted, and that it develops and can be assessed in many different ways." Study results suggest that early childhood music education must deliver differentiated instruction in order to capture the development and social needs of early elementary school children. This quantitative study also suggests future research topics, including how gender impacts the development of singing ability in early childhood. [Children's Singing](#)





***From Cradle to Stage: How Early Years Performing Arts Experiences are Tailored to the Developmental Capabilities of Babies and Toddlers,***

By Ben Fletcher-Watson, Sue Fletcher-Watson, Marie McNaughton, Anna Birch

*Youth Theatre Journal*

Designing theatrical productions for children between birth and the age of three has historically remained underdeveloped. The authors note not only an increase in the number of productions worldwide tailored to the very young, but important elements performers should consider when designing Theatre for Early Years (TEY). For example, they suggest babies and toddlers have a supreme level of “imaginative dexterity” that is critical for their growth but often overlooked by the theatre community. Exposing very young children to theatre can positively impact their locomotor, communication, and emotional development. [Early Years](#)

***The Art of Teaching Children the Arts: Music, Dance and Poetry with Children Aged 2-8 Years Old***

By Ingrid Pramling Samuelsson et al.

*International Journal of Early Years Education*

Educational researches explored the developmental process of aesthetic learning by examining preschoolers in class learning about music, dance, and poetry. They conclude that several key variables impact the development process of learning art at an early age, including the “important role of the teacher in children learning the arts” (p. 119), the importance of having conversations with students while they are learning in the arts, and the teacher’s process of monitoring progress as students are exposed to different art forms. They affirm the need for arts to be the key portion of the early childhood curriculum, not just a pathway for learning about other subjects. This piece reiterates the need for strong arts advocacy in the schools. [The Art of Teaching Children the Arts](#)

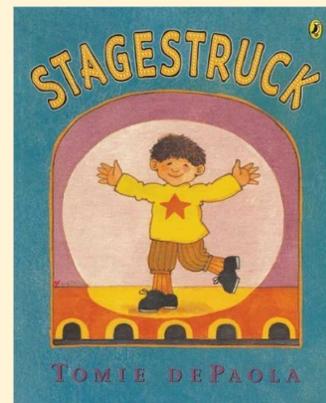


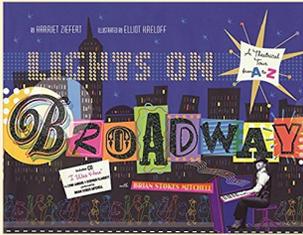
## **Theatre Book Profiles**

***Stagestruck***

By Tomie de Paola

Follow little Tommy as he is cast in a production of Peter Rabbit. Even though he wants to play the lead, Tommy’s teacher casts him as Mopsy, the silent bunny. Tommy must learn how to use his whole body, not just his voice, to play his special part in the play. Will Tommy steal the show? What will his teacher and parents think of his performance? [Stagestruck](#)





## **Lights on Broadway: A Theatrical Tour from A to Z**

By Harriet Ziefert

Walk your students through a dynamic presentation of a Broadway musical -- one vocabulary word at a time.

Bold illustrations by Elliot Kreloff accompany basic musical theatre terminology, including "Broadway" and

"Dressing Room." Students will also enjoy the Broadway trivia and accompanying musical CD. [Lights on Broadway](#)

## **Upcoming Events**



### **March is Music In Our Schools Month**

Did you know that March is also Music in Our Schools Month? Follow NAfME as they profile winning schools across the country for the MIOS Touring Contest!

Winning schools receive a \$2,500 grant from the Give a Note Foundation. [Music in Our Schools Month](#)

## **National Association for Dance**

The National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) is a membership-funded professional organization devoted to supporting dance education in a variety of contexts. Educators can find information about dance in K-12 schools, dance in higher education, and the [National Dance Honor Society](#). In addition to dance education advocacy, the organization hosts an annual conference and an extensive online professional development curriculum ([OPDI](#)). In recent years, NDEO has joined with other national arts education organizations to support the new national core arts standards and to respond to the position of the arts in the new federal ESSA.

[NDEO Membership](#)

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