

BLINDSPOT COLLECTIVE

PRESENTS

SAFA'S STORY

A NEW PLAY FOR SCHOOLS

In February and March 2020, Blindspot Collective presented "Safa's Story," an interactive play designed to support children in identifying and taking action when seeing or experiencing racial prejudice.

Blindspot Collective partnered with 20 schools, including 14 Title I schools, across San Diego County for 52 performances serving over 3,160 elementary and middle school students. As part of the program, approximately 3,000 students also participated in a pre-show workshop with Blindspot Collective's multicultural Teaching Artist team. Teaching Artists spent one hour in each individual classroom to prepare students to see the show by supporting them in defining and understanding racism, and discussing what it means to be an upstander.

Students were given a post-show survey where we collected the following data:

- 60% of respondents noted that this was their first time seeing professional theatre.
- 90% of respondents reported that they know what to do if they are being bullied after seeing the show.
- 95% of respondents expressed that they now know how to stand up for other people they see being mistreated.
- 86% of respondents reported that they learned something from seeing "Safa's Story."



STUDENT QUOTES FROM PERFORMANCES

"Sometimes you cannot deal with things on your own and need help from an adult."

"Just because Safa was born in Africa doesn't make her less American. She is an American and should be proud. Ryan may think an American is someone who looks like him. But Americans come in all shapes, colors, and different forms."

"I'm Mexican-American and people will treat you like you don't belong here or are not American. Just like how Safa is being treated now. It's hurtful. Everyone belongs here."



EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO CHANGE THE STORY THROUGH STORYTELLING & FORUM THEATRE

SCHOOL RESPONSES

“My students were moved by this play and feel this play was by far the best they've seen. It was both entertaining and educational.” - Fourth Grade Teacher

“The play was amazing - it made a huge impact on my students. Students were able to act out problem solving techniques for bullying and racism. I was moved to tears watching my students interact with the actors.” - Sixth Grade Teacher

“I would love to assist in getting the message out that this play is ‘required viewing.’ Aside from the brilliant staging, blocking, and dialogue, the message was very powerful for our students.” - Principal

“The show was amazing and the students were very engaged. It made the students think about how they would respond to bullying and be an upstander.” - School Counselor

STUDENT RESPONSES

“I liked this play because it happens to real people and you can help those people.”

“Something I learned from 'Safa's Story' is that we should all be treated equally. It doesn't matter where you're from or what your skin color is.”

“I could relate to Safa because some people like to make fun of me because of my race or sometimes people say that I'm lying about where my parents come from when I'm just sharing my culture.”

“The show made me think that if I ever see someone being bullied for their race or if I see someone being mistreated I should stand up for them and for myself too.”

