

BLINDSPOT COLLECTIVE
presents



TRASH PANDA MONIUM

a new play
for young audiences



2024 SCHOOL TOUR GUIDE

This program is offered at the low cost of \$75 per performance to maximize accessibility thanks to generous support from the California Arts Council and Prebys Foundation. Flip through this guide to learn how your school or community can get involved!



TRASH PANDA-MONIUM

Blindspot Collective invites you to *Trash Panda-monium*, a playful adventure about creativity, sustainability, and teamwork. Join three mischievous raccoons – Bandit, Scout, and Ringo – as they transform everyday objects into extraordinary creations! With a dash of whimsy and ample resourcefulness, these clever critters show how even discarded items can spark endless fun. Perfect for children and families, this engaging performance celebrates the magic of creative play and collaboration while encouraging kids to see our world through a playful lens of possibility. Get ready for a rollicking good time where imagination reigns supreme!

Recommended for Kindergarten through Second Grade.

However, you know your students best! If you feel older grades would also enjoy the experience, we warmly welcome them to join.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Audiences are greeted by a friendly forest ranger who places a campsite under their care and supervision. When three clever raccoons arrive to explore the mysterious objects left behind, young audiences must consider how to balance responsibility and freedom. Scout, Bandit, and Ringo use their imagination to turn trash into treasure, encouraging youngsters to participate in a stormy game of pretend, an Olympic extravaganza, and even a recycled fashion show. But when the fun and games cause a mess, audiences and trash pandas alike must untangle important lessons about sustainability, working together, and keeping all of our natural habitats clean and safe.

Trash Panda-monium includes campfire singalongs, interactive design, and audience participation that inspire young audiences to discover the importance of friendship, communication, and creativity. This 40-minute show was created by professional artists and educators to address the unique human development and learning needs of students in Kindergarten through Second Grade.

This original play is brought to life by trained performers and facilitators under the creative leadership of Desha Crownover and Marc Caro-Willcox. Developed in partnership with Shellina Hefner and Elissa Russell, ***Trash Panda-monium*** is a collaborative effort that celebrates the power of teamwork and community by creating meaningful theater for our youngest audiences.



PERFORMANCE DETAILS

***Trash Panda-monium* will tour elementary schools and community centers in San Diego County from October 7 - November 1, 2024.**

This delightful interactive performance lasts approximately 40 minutes, followed by a facilitated talkback exploring the show's themes of sustainability, creative play, and the "leave no trace" principle. The total time for this program is around one hour.

Thanks to generous support from the California Arts Council and Prebys Foundation, the cost to schools and community partners is only \$75 per performance. To ensure a high level of interaction and participation, each performance can accommodate 40-60 young people (approximately 2-3 classes). In most school settings, we encourage our partners to arrange 2-3 performances in a single school day that can serve one or more grades. If the \$75 per performance fee is a burden, obstacle, or financial strain in any way, please reach out and let us know.





LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the performance, we are excited to offer pre- or post-show workshops for \$100 per class. A highly trained and experienced teaching artist will lead students in a hands-on exploration of the themes and art forms from the production, enhancing students' connection to the story. These workshops are offered separately from the performance, and can be scheduled at each teacher's convenience based on classroom schedules. Each workshop is designed for a single class of 20-30 students and multiple workshops must be booked if multiple classes will participate.

Each school or community partner receives complimentary study guides to deepen students' understanding and extend the learning experience outside the performance. We're excited to bring ***Trash Panda-monium*** to your community and inspire a new generation of creative, environmentally-conscious thinkers!

VENUE REQUIREMENTS

Space: A minimum performance area of 10x20 feet for our “stage” is needed to accommodate the interactive elements of the show. The space should be clear of obstructions.

Seating: Flexible seating arrangements are preferred, as the show is interactive and may involve audience participation. The audience size can range from small groups to larger gatherings, ideally this show serves between 50 - 60 children or less.

Lighting & Sound: Basic lighting is sufficient, with no need for specialized theatrical lighting. However, access to a standard electrical outlet is required for any minimal sound amplification or playback of music and effects. The performance can be adapted to natural lighting conditions.

Setup & Breakdown: The venue should be available for at least 1 hour before and after the performance for setup and breakdown.





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Trash Panda-Monium is a highly interactive show, designed to immerse young audiences in the world of the three curious raccoons. Throughout the performance, children will have opportunities to engage directly with the story, the performers, and even each other. Rest assured, all actors and on-site personnel from Blindspot Collective have been thoroughly trained in youth interaction, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for every child. While our team handles the engagement, we ask that teachers assist with classroom management, ideally providing at least one adult for every 25 students, to help maintain a focused and enjoyable atmosphere for all.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Blindspot Collective is nonprofit theatre company based in San Diego and dedicated to radically inclusive programming at the intersection of advocacy, education, and entertainment. The company has annually produced touring shows for local schools since 2018 – reaching over 15,000 students while promoting complex discussion around topics like bullying and mental health. Most recently, Blindspot Collective produced *Lit* (2022/23), an original musical for elementary audiences about finding light in the darkness, and *Dancing at the End of the World* (2024), a new play for high school audiences exploring technology and human relationships. Across all of its programs, Blindspot Collective employs teaching artists and collaborators who are trained to navigate conversations with empathy and sensitivity by prioritizing student experience and voice.

To learn more about our programs for schools, please visit www.blindspotcollective.org/education.



HOW TO SIGN UP

***Trash Panda-monium* will tour from October 7th - November 1st.**

However, bookings are filling up quickly and the week of October 21st is currently not available.

If you would like to bring this program to your school or community, please email us at education@blindspotcollective.org. Please provide 3 preferred dates and times that will work for your school or group, and the number of anticipated audience members.

We are happy to answer any questions and work with you to seek additional funding or flexible scheduling wherever possible.

If you would like to view an excerpt of the script, please let us know.

