



STATS:

Production dates: Previews Jan 19-20, 2023; Run January 21-March 5, 2023

Student Matinee date: March 3, 2023, 10:00am

Approximate Run Time: 2 hours plus intermission

Recommended for: Grades 5-12

The purpose of this guide is to give Educators, Parents, and Administrators more information about the production before you choose your viewing experience.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

At the turn of the 20th century, years before women had the right to vote, one woman's breakthrough changed our perception of the stars.

Full of wonder, humor, and heart, SILENT SKY is the remarkable true story of Henrietta Leavitt, one of the pioneering women astronomers working at Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s. You will be enthralled by the story of this extraordinary woman who took on the astronomy establishment in order to discover the mysteries embedded in the sky. Henrietta transcended the odds while navigating love, family, and the universe, going on to make a world-altering advancement to the field of astronomy that forever changed our view of the cosmos.

Written by one of today's leading playwrights, Lauren Gunderson, this mesmerizing drama is directed by Seema Sueko.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

Below is information about the show you are going to see that will aid educators in priming their students for more difficult or adult situations onstage. Please contact education@asolo.org if you have any questions.

This story contains a brief conversation about drinking and the acknowledgement of gender and sex. This production also focuses on the importance of curiosity and wonder as a tool for scientific discovery and women's contribution to science as well as the fight for women's equality.

Language:

Please be aware that the language below is in the script and may be used with negative intention:

- God (17)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use these questions to prepare for or reflect upon the production at Asolo Rep. For more classroom resources, visit: <https://www.asolorep.org/engage-learn/school-programs/classroom-connections>

Pre-Show

- Why do we study science?
- What are the names of scientists that you know? How are they different? What do they have in common?
- What do you think of when you hear the name Henrietta Leavitt?
- How many stars are there? How do you think they were counted?

Post-Show

- What did you see? What did you hear? How did it make you feel?
- How did the design elements of the production (costumes, lights, sound, set, and props) contribute to the story?
- Which character did you connect with? Why?
- What are some ways that you saw music, science, and history connected in this production?
- What is a legacy? What is the importance of legacies? What is Henrietta's legacy?
- At the end of story Henrietta says: "...wonder will always get us there." What do you wonder about?

CPALMS STANDARDS

| | THEATRE | ELA | SCIENCE |
|--------------|--|--|------------|
| GRADES 6-8 | TH.68.C.2.4 TH.68.C.3.1 | LAFS.8.RI.2.6 LAFS.8.RL.2.6 | SC.8.E.5.2 |
| GRADES 9-10 | TH.912.C.1.6 TH.912.C.1.7 TH.912.S.1.4 | LAFS.910.RST.2.6 LAFS.K12.R.2.4 LAFS.K12.R.3.7 | |
| GRADES 11-12 | TH.912.C.1.3 TH.912.C.1.7 TH.912.H.1.1 TH.912.H.1.5 | LAFS.1112.RL.3.7 LAFS.1112.SL.1.2 LAFS.K12.SL.1.3 | |

THANK YOU to our wonderful Education & Engagement sponsors.

To learn more, please visit:

<https://www.asolorep.org/engage-learn/school-programs/student-series>