BROADWAY SACRAMENTO PRESENTS

WORD SEARCH

Н	Y	К	Р	Р	Т	Y	Н	F	Е	Т	0	G	Т	Е	BOX SOCIAL
A	К	S	Ν	G	Е	н	0	Е	D	0	W	Ν	В	0	COWMAN
Μ	S	х	К	Z	Z	D	\mathbf{L}	N	\mathbf{L}	н	Х	Ι	С	Y	CURLY
М	R	Ι	N	F	K	н	D	A	н	S	D	R	U	0	FARMER
Е	Y	Ι	J	A	U	F	Ι	\mathbf{L}	S	В	D	0	R	Х	HAMMERSTEIN
R	Μ	\mathbf{L}	\mathbf{L}	0	D	С	S	\mathbf{L}	Е	R	н	D	\mathbf{L}	\mathbf{L}	HOEDOWN
S	U	К	W	К	0	0	Ν	U	Y	R	J	G	Y	A	LAUREY
Т	С	Q	Ν	S	G	R	К	R	R	Е	Т	Е	D	U	OKLAHOMA
Е	Z	х	Х	В	Е	U	0	\mathbf{L}	Ι	R	Р	R	Μ	R	PEDDLER
Ι	Х	0	J	Μ	G	Т	R	J	A	Ν	Е	S	0	Е	RODGERS
Ν	В	Р	R	Ν	Ι	Ι	\mathbf{L}	G	A	н	Z	Y	v	Y	SURREY
Y	Х	A	A	R	С	R	Н	Μ	D	F	0	Р	D	Е	TERRITORY
Ι	F	G	R	К	N	F	W	Ι	Ι	Y	A	Μ	v	Ι	
К	U	Е	S	Р	Q	0	Т	Ν	0	Т	A	J	A	Е	
R	Т	F	J	L	С	S	Ι	N	v	R	Х	С	S	R	

IN



ABOUT THE SHOW

Rodgers and Hammerstein's Pulitzer Prize-winning Oklahoma! is often considered to be the first "musical play." Although other popular musicals such as Show Boat and Anything Goes preceded it, Oklahomal's 1943 premiere marked the first time that a Broadway show had successfully incorporated dance, story, and music into a cohesive project.

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The show began as a play by Lynn Riggs called Green Grow the Lilacs, which premiered in 1930. A decade later, theatre producer Theresa Helburn contacted the famed composing duo of Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart to see if they would be interested in adapting the play into a musical, and Rodgers invited Oscar Hammerstein II to collaborate with them. Hart soon withdrew from the project due to his declining health, and the now-iconic team of Rodgers and Hammerstein came together.

While prior shows relied on big, flashy chorus line routines that more or less brought the story to a halt, Rodgers and Hammerstein created a musical filled with intimate solos and duets that helped further develop the plot. This revolutionary concept made producers and critics uneasy at first, but it quickly became a smash success. The dramatic scenes and powerful performances, coupled with references to recent American history, struck a chord with audiences in post-war America and the original production ran for 2,212 performances.

Broadway would never be the same, as Oklahoma! ushered in what is commonly referred to as the "Golden Age" of theatre. This era led to a revitalized interest in the art of musical theatre and spawned other big hits like The King and I, West Side Story, Gypsy, Guys and Dolls, and Hello, Dolly! The first Broadway At Music Circus production of Oklahomal was in 1954, and this production is the 14th time the show has been done here in the round! With a Broadway revival currently playing to sold-out crowds and regional productions happening across the country, it is clear that Oklahoma! 's story and songs are still resonating with audiences, even after more than 75 years.

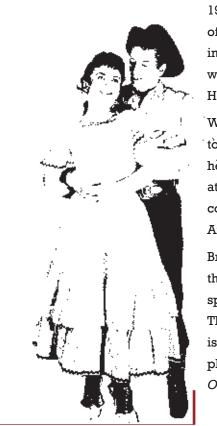
Think About It...

Oklahoma! was adapted from Green Grow the Lilacs. Read Lynn Riggs' original play, and compare the two versions of the story. What elements stayed the same, and what changes were made? Which version do you prefer?

Many other plays have been adapted into famous musicals, including My Fair Lady (Pyqmalion), Kiss Me, Kate (The Taming of the Shrew), She Loves Me (Parfumerie), and West Side Story (Romeo and Juliet). Check out some of these shows and their source material to see how the changes that they underwent compare to Oklahoma!

Traditions - especially those regarding marriage - play a big part in the story of this show. What traditions related to dating and marriage can you think of that are common today? How have things changed since the early 1900s?

The Act I song People Will Say We're In Love can be seen as a "conditional" love song - Curly and Laurey are singing about their relationship, but will not admit their true feelings for each other. What lyrics reveal the truth? How does the reprise in Act II reflect the change in their relationship?





JUNE 25-30, 2019 EDUCATIONAL GUIDE

The History of Oklahoma!

Most of the land that will later become Oklahoma is acquired through the Louisiana Purchase.

The region splits into Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory.

The region is designated as "Indian Territory"

Lynn Riggs publishes Green Grow the Lilacs, a play set in Indian Territory at the beginning of the 1900s

> A film adaptation of Oklahoma! is released. It goes on to win four Academy Awards.

1803 1834 1889 1890 1907 1930 1943 1955 2019

2 million acres of unpopulated land are opened for settlement as part of the Oklahoma Land Rush. An estimated 50,000 people hurry to stake their claims on the land.

Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II's Oklahoma!, a musical adaptation of Riggs' play, opens on Broadway to critical acclaim. It runs for over 5 years and inspires multiple national tours and Broadway revivals.

The territories combine and are incorporated into the state of Oklahoma, the 46th state to enter the union.



1963







1997

1975 Playbill Cover 1975 Souvenir Program 1992 **Previous Broadway At Music Circus Productions of Oklahoma!**

Oklahoma! is produced

at Broadway At Music

Circus for the 14th time,

making it the most-

produced show in the

company's history.

SURREY An old-fashioned carriage with two wide seats and four wheels, pulled by a horse

BOX SOCIAL

HAMPER A large basket, usually with a cover, used for picnics



The Language of Oklahoma!

Oscar Hammerstein's book and lyrics for Oklahoma! are written in the dialect of early 1900s Indian Territory, a stylistic choice designed to guide the actors' performances and construct a more authentic world. As a result, some of the words and phrases used may seem foreign to us today. Here are a few prominent ones: