



Broadway Blast



Musical theater is a play that includes singing and dancing. It is performed on a stage or in a movie. **It was invented by different kinds of artists cooperating to create a new form of entertainment.** 📱

Although music has been a part of theater since ancient times in all countries, what we know as “musicals” started in the 1800’s in the United Kingdom and America. Writers, musicians, actors and dancers combined parts of opera (a story with all singing) and cabarets (a show of separate songs, dances, and acting) to create a story. **All these parts together help the characters express what is happening and what they are thinking and feeling.** 📱

In most large cities there are areas with theaters where musicals are performed. In London, United Kingdom it’s called The West End. Toronto, Canada has The Entertainment District. In Philadelphia, Avenue of the Arts is where people see musicals. In New York City, it’s called **Broadway**, the street where many of the theaters are located. A lot of musicals that start on Broadway are made into movies.



Originally posted to Flickr by Matias-Garabedian

Watch and Consider

This is a video of three famous actors singing songs and dancing to popular songs from twenty-two well-known Broadway musicals that became movies.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_TvKH-qEJk

- Look how much fun the actors are having - musicals are really fun!
- What songs do you recognize?
- Write down four things that change from song to song (Go to the end of this activity for the answers)
- How do the four things that change get you ready for the kind of song it is? 📱

(Answer on next page. NO PEEKING!)

If you’re having trouble thinking of the four changes, on the next page are pictures of Iris that can give you a hint.



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- wigs (artificial hair)
- costumes
- props (things that the actors hold or use)
- scenery (background)

Answer