

NY-based theatre group makes stop in Travelers Rest

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On Wednesday, members of a New York-based traveling theatre team paid a visit to aspiring actors and actresses at Travelers Rest High School, offering students a firsthand look at the creation process of theatrical production.

Professionals in the Roundabout Theatre Company, currently touring in the Tony award-winning musical comedy “Anything Goes,” spent most of the day working with drama teacher Tim Brown’s classes on a “postcard production” of one scene from the play.

During the workshop, more than fifty students experienced the process of creating a real theatrical production in a little less than 3.5 hours. Students were divided into teams and paired off with a mentor from the real cast. Each team specialized in one aspect of production: acting, directing, sets, lighting and sound or costumes.

Students collaborated and used methods like text analysis, design concept meetings and rehearsals to make creative choices. The workshop culminated with their interpretation of one scene from “Anything Goes.”

“You have to learn to be passive with your own ideas so that something can actually get done,” said one student, a member of the acting team.

Others said that the workshop helped them better understand the specific responsibilities of each role in theatre production.

The Roundabout Theatre Company’s visit to the Greenville County school was part of their scheduled national tour. So far, the 18 certified teaching artists in the company have visited 12 different states and 14 cities, giving various workshops to more than 1,000 students.

The company will stay in town through Sunday, Nov. 17, with nightly performances of “Anything Goes” at The Peace Center in downtown Greenville.