

—Slug:.....COMM-0868.opin.letter.000_aldridge
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—For section.....Voices/Letters from readers
—Format.....LETTERS - Opinions - Letters to the Editor
—Dateline.....Brattleboro
—Article Number:.....43709



Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Play is a portal to understanding our youth

####END HED####

####BEGIN SUBHED####

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####END SUBHED####

3 TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

4 I walked out of New England Youth Theater (NEYT),
5 looked down and saw a four-leaf clover. I picked it and handed it
6 to my young family member, a member of the cast of the play I'd
7 just seen: *Transfixed!*

8 The magic of this play had followed us out into the
9 world! I was literally transfixed.

10 Make no mistake: This play is not just a children's
11 fantasy. It is full of parallels, analogies, truths, and humor for

12 adults as well. Most importantly, it's the voices of our young
13 people telling us what they want and need, a keyhole to peer
14 through in trying to understand their perspectives.

15 What I take away from this play will not be the same as
16 others because this is a story of different viewpoints and life
17 experiences. I felt the magical energy with which our young
18 people asked us to recognize the voices of the next generation.
19 They are living in a country of many opposing factions. They are
20 witnessing divisions — ideological, political, physical, and with
21 mortal consequences — happening in their own country and
22 they are trying to sort them out.

23 They are so brave to voice their dreams despite their
24 fears — and in such a positive, creative, joyful way! This play is
25 filled with magical beings and fantasy. But for these young
26 people, their fantasy is that we stand up and act as the adults in
27 their lives that we are supposed to be, that we find a way for all
28 to live in harmony.

29 My admiration goes out to these young playwrights and
30 actors, and the NEYT folks who guided and support them, who
31 worked the magic of formation! They invite you to don your
32 magical garb and join them.

33 So put on your wizard's hat and sparkle night-vest — this
34 is a must-see event for all ages and persuasions. You may just find
35 a four-leaf clover to bring back to this world!

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

####BEGIN BIO/COATTAIL####

36 For information about *Transfixed!* at New England Youth
37 Theatre in Brattleboro, visit neyt.org. The play will be performed
38 Friday and Saturday, June 5 and June 6.

####END BIO/COATTAIL####

LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

39

####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

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####END MAXISSUE####

LINKS:

40

####BEGIN LINKS####

####END LINKS####

VIDEO:

41

####BEGIN VIDEO####

####END VIDEO####

LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

42

####BEGIN LOGLINE####

####END LOGLINE####