Three Decades of Musical Direction: A Journey Through 31 Years of Community and High School Musicals

For over three decades, I have had the privilege of directing musicals at the community and high school levels. This journey has been an incredibly rewarding one, filled with challenges, triumphs, and countless moments of inspiration.



"More Fog, Please": 31 Years Directing Community and

High School Musicals by Susan Moore Jordan

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In this essay, I will share my experiences and insights from these 31 years of musical direction. I will discuss the different aspects of directing a musical, from selecting the show to working with students and volunteers, and explore the impact that these productions have had on the lives of students and communities.

The Challenges and Rewards of Musical Direction

Directing a musical is a complex and demanding undertaking. There are many challenges involved, including:

- Selecting the right show for the students and community
- Working within a limited budget
- Finding and scheduling rehearsal space
- Recruiting and managing a cast and crew
- Teaching students the music, choreography, and acting
- Overcoming technical difficulties
- Dealing with parent and community expectations

Despite these challenges, directing a musical can also be incredibly rewarding. It is an opportunity to:

- Share your love of music and theatre with others
- Empower students to express themselves creatively
- Build a sense of community and belonging
- Create memories that will last a lifetime

My Approach to Musical Direction

I believe that the most important aspect of musical direction is creating a positive and supportive environment for students. I strive to create a space where students feel comfortable taking risks, making mistakes, and learning from each other.

I also believe that it is important to be flexible and adaptable as a director. I am always willing to change my plans if necessary, and I am always open to suggestions from my students and colleagues.

The Impact of Musicals on Students and Communities

Musicals have a profound impact on the lives of students and communities. They provide students with opportunities to develop their creativity, confidence, and teamwork skills. They also allow students to learn about history, culture, and different perspectives.

Musicals can also bring communities together. They provide a shared experience for people of all ages and backgrounds. They can also help to promote local businesses and tourism.

Directing musicals for the past 31 years has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I have had the privilege of working with talented students, dedicated volunteers, and supportive communities. I am grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others through the power of musical theatre.

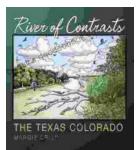
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