

JOURNEY EAST 2007 PRESENTS

A Beautiful Journey

Introductions: Hosts; Tom Connor; Journey East delegation

Audience participation: Before the show begins, several performers will show the audience how to be a “storm.” We need your help in our show. You’ll need to be a storm. And we’ll show you how. When we hold up the “storm” sign during the show, you should begin.

Introduction of the show: What you are about to see is a completely original music-theatre piece created especially for you, our Chinese friends. Our students and we teachers spent seven weeks writing songs and their music, learning dance and movement and creating dialogue and action to bring you our story, “A Beautiful Journey.” We hope you will enjoy it.

Jasmine Flower: Our story opens with a beautiful Chinese verse, “Jasmine Flower.” We soon see that beauty is not welcome in this place called Grayville where angry and violent people have taken charge. Then we see a good, but lonely child who finds a single flower. She has never seen a flower before. Inspired by the flower’s wonderful colors and lovely scent, the Child begins a journey through the world to find other beautiful things.

Journey to the realm of Art: She travels through a forest and meets three Artists. They have become bored and uninspired. When they see the Child’s flower, they are inspired to create beautiful work. They thank the Child by giving her the color, red. This is the first of many colors of the rainbow that the Child gathers along the way.

Meeting Animal Ugly in the Forest: She travels on with a new friend and meets a wild and ugly animal. Although this Animal Ugly seems terrifying at first, we soon see that she is sweet and kind. She makes friends with the Child and the Artist, and they travel on.

Journey to the realm of Music: The travelers soon encounter several musicians who are making fine music, but who seem to lack something. When they see the flower, they are inspired to write a song.

Through the Forest of Talking Trees: With a new color and new friends, the Child travels on through a magical forest of talking trees. The trees speak about the many places where we can find beauty in the world.

A Tropical Paradise: A happy surprise! The group lands in a tropical paradise. They have a wonderful time until Animal Ugly nearly drowns. When she is saved, she realizes that she is loved for her beauty within.

Journey to the realm of Dance through a Storm: The group travels on through a storm and encounters a group of dancers who cannot learn to dance together. They, too, are inspired by the Child’s flower and they learn to dance in unity. Our Child has had many experiences that have taught her that one single, beautiful flower can inspire harmony and unity. She just wishes she could find that same beauty at home in Grayville.

Discovering beauty back home: Encouraged by her friends, and the colors she has gathered along the way, the Child travels home. She discovers that each angry and violent person in her hometown has beauty within as she and her friends help the people of Grayville discover their rainbow of colors. They end their story inspired to discover and preserve the beauty of the world.

Beauty – Harmony – Unity