



Don't Stop Believin'!

Book by
Craig Sodaro

Music and lyrics by
Bill Francoeur

 **Pioneer**
DRAMA SERVICE



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3. Publication notice: "Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado"



For Preview Only

DON'T STOP BELIEVIN'!

Book by CRAIG SODARO
Music and Lyrics by BILL FRANCOEUR

CAST OF CHARACTERS (In Order of Appearance)

<u>Teens:</u>		<i># of lines</i>
NORA TRUITT	high school senior with a rough past; doesn't like to get involved	130
ANGEL BROWN	Nora's friend; idealistic	70
PRESTON.....	leader of the athletes	20
TODD	second only to Preston	9
ELLA	Alice's sporty twin; sees the guys as equals	32
GUY	athlete	11
ALICE	Ella's sporty twin; they finish each other's sentences	21
SAMMI	artist	22
MARIA	artist	25
RON	artist	28
KITT	computer whiz	23
MIKE	computer whiz	25
BUBBA	tough guy	50
SPIKE.....	Bubba's funny right-hand man	35
CAMMY	loves the "bad boys"	32
JOEY	youngest of the teens; easily frightened and picked on	25
OPTIONAL EXTRAS.....	as desired as part of any group	n/a
<u>Adults:</u>		
BRADY FISHER.....	college student volunteering at the center; has his own secret	101
ALETA LAMPERT	head of the Lampert Community Center	85
CORAL DAHL.....	Aleta's lively, funny administrative assistant	83
JAKE CRUMBLY.....	greedy city council member	37
IOLA STRICKLES.....	another	44
LEE MITCHELL	city council member who actually cares about the city	14

DESIREE FLAMBEAU	annoyed neighbor who always has her dog Muffin in her arms	41
JEN HARPER	producer of We've Got Talent	18
PAUL ABBOT	judge on We've Got Talent	21
SIMONE GROWL.....	another judge	18
POLLY PICKUMS	wealthy woman who takes an interest in the center	36

SETTING

Time: Over the course of two weeks this year.

Place: The Ethel Lampert Community Center, the basketball court outside the center and a television studio office (played in front of the curtain).

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene One: The Ethel Lampert Community Center, an early fall Saturday morning.

Scene Two: The same, Monday afternoon.

Scene Three: Basketball court, immediately following.

Scene Four: The Lampert Center, an hour later.

Scene Five: An office at Crankout Television Studios, Tuesday.

Scene Six: The Lampert Center, Saturday, mid-morning.

ACT TWO

Scene One: The Lampert Center, the following Monday afternoon.

Scene Two: The Lampert Center, the next afternoon.

Scene Three: Basketball court, immediately following.

Scene Four: Outside of the center, Saturday morning.

Scene Five: The Lampert Center, a few minutes later.

SET DESCRIPTION

The Ethel Lampert Community Center is in a run-down area of a major city. The center is a colorful space with some nice classic architectural features such as wainscoted walls, thick door frames and so on. The main entry is on the back wall UP RIGHT with a door that leads outside. A brick wall with graffiti can be seen outside the door whenever it is open. The wing entrance DOWN RIGHT leads to the office and a storeroom. The wing entrance LEFT leads to restrooms and an outside basketball court and playground. There is a large box or crate containing basketballs just UPSTAGE of this entrance. UP LEFT is a platform or stage with a table on it covered with art supplies. A banner on the wall behind the platform reads, "Welcome to the Ethel Lampert Community Center." A portrait of Ethel Lampert, a gray-haired lady with a kind face, is on the wall next to the banner. A table with two chairs, two computers and a phone is against the wall RIGHT CENTER. There's a trash can next to the table, another by the art table. Student artwork decorates the walls along with a mirror and a few posters with rules and health suggestions. The center should give the appearance that while it's way underfunded, it's still cheerful.

The basketball court is played DOWNSTAGE of the Lampert Center set. This can simply be a free-standing basketball hoop or a section of brick wall with a hoop attached.

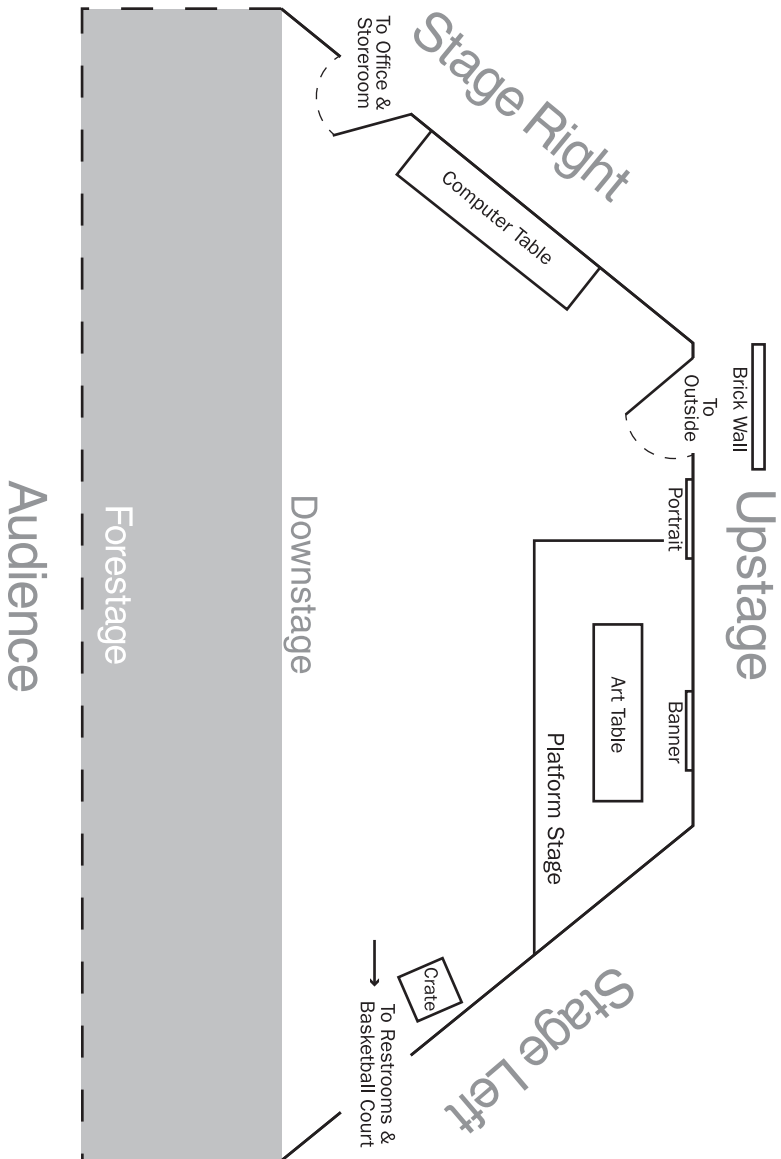
The television studio office is played in front of the curtain. A small desk and chair with a sign reading "Crankout Television Studios" is all that is needed.

Outside the Lampert Center is played on a BARE STAGE in front of the CURTAIN.

SEQUENCE OF MUSICAL NUMBERS

MC 1	What Chance Have We Got?.....	Aleta, Coral, Jake, Iola, Lee, Teens
MC 2	What's Up With That?	Teens (except Nora, Ron, Joey)
MC 3	It's All About the Money.....	Jake, Iola, Lee, Aleta, Coral, Teens
MC 4	Sing, Sing, Everybody	Teens (except Joey)
MC 5	Too Hot!	Simone, Paul, Iola, Jake
MC 5a	Sing, Sing, Everybody—Reprise	Teens (except Joey), Brady
MC 5b	We've Got It All—Intro	Instrumental
MC 6	We've Got It All	Teens, Brady
MC 6a	Entr'acte (We've Got It All)	Teens, Brady
MC 7	Save This Place	Aleta, Coral, Brady, Teens
MC 8	Get in the Game.....	Preston, Todd, Guy, Ella, Alice, Bubba, Spike, Cammy, Joey, Coral
MC 9	Can You See What I See?	Brady, Nora, Optional Teen Chorus
MC 10	A Little Bit Country, A Little Bit Rock 'n' Roll	Teens
MC 10a	Row, Row, Row Your Boat	Teens
MC 11	Don't Stop Believin'!.....	Teens, Brady
MC11a	Curtain Call (A Little Bit Country, A Little Bit Rock 'n' Roll)	Ensemble

SET DESIGN



DON'T STOP BELIEVIN'!

ACT ONE

Scene One

1 AT RISE: The stage is dark on an early fall Saturday morning. We hear the jingle of keys. UP RIGHT, the entrance door of the Ethel Lampert Community Center opens. LIGHT pours in from outside, silhouetting ALETA. She stoops to pick up several pieces of mail just inside the
5 door then moves in the darkness to put her purse on the computer table. CORAL appears in the doorway.

CORAL: Why, Miss Lampert, I thought for once I'd beat you to work this morning!

ALETA: Couldn't sleep.

10 **CORAL:** Don't worry. We'll get funding somehow. You'll see. It's a beautiful day, and I've got a feeling we're going to hear good news from the Westbrook Foundation. (*LIGHTS UP as CORAL snaps on the light switch. ALETA turns and looks at CORAL, whose hair is bright pink.*)

15 **ALETA:** Goodness, Coral, what have you done to your head?

CORAL: Like it? I wanted my hair to match my name, Coral.

ALETA: (*Pulls out one envelope from the pile.*) Hon, you look like a bottle of Pepto-Bismol.

20 **CORAL:** Oh, go on! (*Notices the envelope.*) Oh, gosh! Miss Lampert, is that it? I know it'll be enough money to get this place up to code. It'll only take a hundred grand, and the Westbrook Foundation's rolling in more dough than the Pillsbury Doughboy.

ALETA: Only a hundred grand? (*Tears open the envelope and pulls out a letter. MUSIC CUE 1: "What Chance Have We Got?"*)

25 **CORAL:** (*Speaks.*) We got it, right? How much can we count on?

ALETA: (*Sighs. Speaks.*) We can count on trying again next round.

CORAL: (*Speaks.*) Well, if you don't succeed the first time—

ALETA: (*Speaks.*) What about the fourth time? The fifth time? Oh, Coral... (*Sings.*) What chance have we got?

30 **CORAL:** (*Sings.*) What more can we do?

ALETA: (*Sings.*) If we don't get the funding,
It looks like we're through.

CORAL: (*Sings.*) What chance have we got?

ALETA: (*Sings.*) We'll have to make do.

35 **CORAL:** (*Sings.*) Looks like we'll be needing
Lots of duct tape and glue.

- 1 **ALETA:** (*Raps.*) Tons of bills!
CORAL: (*Raps.*) Squeaky doors!
ALETA: (*Raps.*) Leaky roof!
CORAL: (*Raps.*) Scuffed up floors!
- 5 **ALETA/CORAL:** (*Sing.*) What chance have we got?
What more can we do?
If we don't find the money,
It looks like we're through! (*ALETA and CORAL remain ONSTAGE, carrying on the process of opening the center as the other groups ENTER and sing.*)
- 10 **NORA/ANGEL:** (*ENTER from the back of the auditorium and move to the stage. Sing.*) What chance have we got?
What more can we say?
It seems we're delinquents
- 15 Who've been led astray.
ANGEL: (*Sings.*) What chance have we got?
NORA: (*Sings.*) We're wastin' the day!
Maybe we should pack our bags
And both run away!
- 20 **ANGEL:** (*Raps.*) The Ethel Lampert Community Center.
NORA: (*Raps, freaking out.*) A.K.A. Alcatraz!
The Big House,
Life in prison!
- ANGEL:** (*Raps.*) Fifty hours. Don't be a spaz!
25 If we don't show up, I'm outta Glee Club.
Hey, girlfriend, can you relate?
If I mess up, screw up one more time,
I might not graduate!
- NORA:** (*Raps.*) Hate that tyrant, Mr. Purdy!
30 Hate this place, and I hate that school!
Hate my life, and I hate this day!
Hate the cops, and I hate the rules! (*MUSIC UNDER.*)
- ANGEL:** (*Speaks.*) You just a hatin' girl today, ain't-cha. C'mon, it won't be that bad. Besides, it's our own fault.
- 35 **NORA:** (*Speaks.*) Yeah! Why didn't you stop us?
ANGEL: (*Speaks.*) Against you, what chance have I got?
NORA/ANGEL: (*Sing, to AUDIENCE.*) What chance have we got?
Ain't no more to say.
Okay, we're delinquents,
- 40 So lock us away! (*They EXIT.*)

- 1 **JAKE/IOLA/LEE:** (*ENTER from the back of the auditorium and move to the stage. Sing.*) What chance have they got?
- JAKE/IOLA:** (*Sing.*) We have them at last!
This building should come down.
- 5 **IOLA:** (*Sings.*) The place is a dump!
- JAKE:** (*Sings.*) Could well be the skids!
- LEE:** (*Sings.*) It's a shame what it's become,
No place for raising your kids!
- 10 **IOLA:** (*Raps.*) We could turn this place into a "stop and shop,"
- JAKE:** (*Raps.*) Chic boutiques, the cream of the crop.
- LEE:** (*Raps.*) I'm not sure I'm following your line of thought.
- IOLA:** (*Raps.*) A theater, a mall and a parking lot? (*MUSIC UNDER.*)
- LEE:** (*Speaks.*) You mean tear down the Lampert Center?
- 15 **JAKE:** (*Speaks.To IOLA.*) I'm all for it. How about you, Ms. Stickles?
- IOLA:** (*Speaks.*) Whatever you say, Mr. Crumbly!
- LEE:** (*Speaks.*) With two votes out of three, what chance have they got? (*MUSIC UP.*)
- JAKE/IOLA/LEE:** (*Sing.*) Livin' life in the city
- 20 Is a very tricky proposition.
When you live in the city,
Life can be a challenge everyday!
What chance have they got?
Good-bye to the past.
- 25 **LEE:** (*Sings.*) It simply is tragic.
- JAKE/IOLA:** (*Sing.*) We've got them at last! (*MUSIC UNDER. JAKE, LEE and IOLA EXIT. PRESTON, TODD, ELLA, GUY and ALICE ENTER LEFT.*)
- PRESTON:** (*Speaks.*) So what are our chances, All Stars?
- TODD:** (*Speaks.*) We're a slam dunk!
- 30 **ELLA:** (*Speaks.*) We rule the courts!
- GUY:** (*Speaks.*) My lay-up's supreme!
- ALICE:** (*Speaks.*) So how about guys against the girls?
- ELLA:** (*Speaks.*) Alice, that's three to two!
(*Sings.*) What chance have we got?
- 35 **PRESTON/TODD/GUY:** (*Aside to each other, sing.*)
We'll blow 'em away!
- ALICE:** (*Aside to ELLA, confident. Sings.*)
They don't stand a chance.

- 1 **ALICE/ELLA:** *(To each other, mischievous. Sing.)*
They're goin' down today. *(PRESTON, TODD, ELLA, GUY and ALICE EXIT LEFT. SAMMI, MARIA and RON ENTER UP RIGHT. KITT and MIKE ENTER LEFT, each holding a computer game.)*
- 5 **SAMMI/MARIA/RON/KITT/MIKE:** *(Sing.)*
What chance have we got?
What more can we do?
We have to make some money,
Or this ol' place is through!
- 10 **RON:** *(Raps.)* Let's paint the place!
SAMMI: *(Raps.)* Make it shine!
KITT: *(Raps.)* Give it a whole new slant.
MIKE: *(Raps.)* If we razzle 'em, bedazzle 'em...
MARIA: *(Raps.)* ...We just might get that grant! *(MUSIC UNDER.)*
- 15 **RON:** *(Speaks.)* We can paint the mural.
KITT: *(Speaks.)* You really think we have a chance?
MIKE: *(Speaks.)* Same as every other dragon slayer.
KITT: *(Speaks.)* I mean that the computer will work?
MIKE: *(Speaks.)* Fifty-fifty.
- 20 **KITT:** *(Speaks.)* Guess we gotta take our chances. *(SAMMI, RON, MARIA, KITT and MIKE EXIT UP RIGHT. CAMMY, BUBBA, SPIKE and JOEY ENTER LEFT. BUBBA has his arms tightly around JOEY.)*
CAMMY/BUBBA/SPIKE: *(Sing.)* What chance have ya got?
Joey, the nerd!
- 25 Squeeze'm like a zit and... *(Speak.)* POP! Custard pudding! *(They laugh and push JOEY around.)*
JOEY: *(Raps.)* Come on, you guys, leave me alone.
SPIKE: *(Raps.)* Look! I think he's gonna cry!
BUBBA: *(Raps.)* Don't worry, geek-freak, ain't got the time.
- 30 **CAMMY/BUBBA/SPIKE:** *(Raps.)* Got bigger fish to fry! *(MUSIC UNDER. BUBBA shoves JOEY aside. JOEY runs OFF LEFT as BUBBA, SPIKE and CAMMY laugh.)*
SPIKE: *(Speaks.)* What a mama's boy!
BUBBA: *(Speaks.)* So you think the All Stars'll be there?
- 35 **CAMMY:** *(Speaks.)* Nah! I mean, it's practically dawn!
SPIKE: *(Speaks.)* Yeah, I ain't been up this early since Christmas morning.
BUBBA: *(Speaks.)* No way!
SPIKE: *(Speaks.)* When I was five. *(They laugh. MUSIC UP. ALL SINGERS RE-ENTER and join OTHERS ONSTAGE.)*

- 1 **ALL:** *(Sing.)* Livin' life in the city
Is a very tricky proposition.
When you live in the city,
Life can be a challenge every day.
- 5 What chance have we got?
We'll never regret it.
Hold on to the vision,
We'll do what we must!
- 10 What chance have we got?
We won't ever let it
Determine who and what we are.
We've all got to trust!
- 15 What chance have we got?
How can we compare it?
We're up for the challenge.
Yes, we're here to stay!
- 20 What chance have we got?
We'll just grin and bear it.
Our hopes for tomorrow
Must start with today! *(IOLA, JAKE, LEE and JOEY EXIT scene. PRESTON, TODD, ELLA, GUY and ALICE EXIT LEFT grabbing basketballs from the storage box on their way out. KITT and MIKE head to the computers. SAMMI, MARIA and RON move UPSTAGE to work on their art projects. ALETA empties garbage into a bag. MUSIC OUT.)*
- 25 **SPIKE:** *(Complaining that others beat them to the basketball court.)*
What, the NBA draft picks woke up the roosters or what?
- ALETA:** *(Checks her watch.)* It's after nine, guys, and there's plenty of room outside.
- 30 **CORAL:** Why don't you join their game?
- BUBBA:** *(Laughs.)* 'Cause they play by the rules! *(CAMMY, SPIKE and BUBBA EXIT LEFT.)*
- ANGEL:** *(To CORAL.)* Miss Lampert?
- CORAL:** Oh, no, I'm Coral. *(Glances at ALETA.)* Better known as Pepto
35 to my friends!
- ALETA:** I'm Aleta Lampert. You girls from the neighborhood?
- ANGEL:** Well, yeah. *(NORA moves to the door, but ANGEL grabs her jacket and pulls her back. To ALETA.)* I'm Angel Brown, and this is Nora Truitt.
- 40 **ALETA:** Look, I've got to crunch some numbers, so if you don't mind, girls—

- 1 **CORAL:** Miss Lampert? I believe these girls are here to serve their court-ordered community service hours.
- NORA:** Lady, why don't you get a microphone so the whole world can hear?
- 5 **CORAL:** Oh, goodness! Well, I'll... I'll go take care of the petty cash, Miss Lampert. (*Hurries OFF DOWN RIGHT.*)
- ALETA:** Sorry, I did get a call that you'd be coming. Must have spaced it out.
- ANGEL:** We've each got to put in 50 hours.
- 10 **ALETA:** I don't know if we'll be open another 50 hours.
- KITT:** (*Shocked.*) Miss Lampert, are you kidding?
- RON:** The Urban Arts League mural competition is in two weeks!
- SAMMI:** Like, we've got the winning mural design!
- MARIA:** We've got to go and pitch our design. My art teacher said this
- 15 will help me get a scholarship to the Art Institute if we do good.
- ALETA:** Well. If you do well.
- RON:** Yeah! It'd be great to draw our way out of this 'hood.
- ALETA:** And to help you out, I had a paint store offer to donate one color of paint: "cheddar yellow."
- 20 **RON:** Cheesiest color ever!
- SAMMI:** Hey, it'll be perfect for, like, all the little taxis running around in the mural.
- NORA:** (*To ALETA.*) Look, lady, if this place is on its last legs, maybe the judge oughta find something else for us to do, right, Angel? C'mon.
- 25 (*Crosses to the door UP RIGHT.*)
- ALETA:** Hold it, Ms. Truitt. I don't hear any fat lady singing. We can use your help. There's a lot of stuff piled out back that's got to get thrown in the Dumpster. Ron, will you show the girls where the Dumpster is?
- 30 **RON:** (*Moves to the door. To NORA.*) Better put on your gas mask!
- ALETA:** (*To NORA.*) Here, would you mind throwing this away? (*Hands the garbage bag to NORA.*)
- NORA:** Mind? Why should I mind? I love being a slave! (*RON EXITS UP RIGHT. NORA follows.*)
- 35 **CORAL:** (*ENTERS DOWN RIGHT.*) Miss Lampert! Oh, goodness gracious! The petty cash. It's... gone!
- ALETA:** Again?
- CORAL:** All 15 dollars!
- ANGEL:** Who'd steal your petty cash? (*TODD runs ON LEFT. A ball flies*
- 40 *IN LEFT and hits him in the back.*)

1 **TODD:** Ouch! (*ELLA, ALICE and GUY ENTER LEFT.*)
ELLA: (*Calls OFF LEFT.*) Knock it—
ALICE: —off!
MIKE: (*Distracted from his computer work.*) Why do you two always
5 do that?
ALICE/ELLA: Do what?
MARIA: Finish each other's sentences.
ELLA: We're twins.
ALICE: We're not the kind that look alike—
10 **ELLA:** —but we sure think alike! (*ALICE and ELLA high-five.*)
ALETA: What's going on, guys?
TODD: Why can't those three find some other kids to bug? (*PRESTON
and BUBBA ENTER LEFT, scuffling, followed by CAMMY and SPIKE.*)
PRESTON: You fouled!
15 **BUBBA:** My bad!
ALETA: Guys, stop it! (*PRESTON backs off, but BUBBA attacks again.*)
I said stop it!
CORAL: (*Takes the ball.*) Goodness! I'm going to take the ball and lock
it up, that's what I'm gonna do! (*ANGEL grabs BUBBA'S free arm
20 and twists it behind his back.*)
BUBBA: Hey! That hurts!
ANGEL: Miss Lampert said to stop it.
BUBBA: Okay! Okay! (*ANGEL releases BUBBA.*)
SPIKE: Whoa! Bubba's met his match!
25 **BUBBA:** Shut up, Spike! Let's get out of here!
CAMMY: Yeah! The air is decidedly foul! (*BUBBA, SPIKE and CAMMY
cross to the door UP RIGHT.*)
ALETA: (*Blocks their exit.*) Sorry, but nobody's going anywhere until we
find out who stole the petty cash.
30 **PRESTON:** (*Glares at BUBBA.*) Not hard to figure that out! (*BUBBA
dives for PRESTON, but TODD sticks his foot out and trips him.*)
CAMMY: You see that? He did it on purpose!
CORAL: Oh, goodness, children! Can't we all be friends?
SPIKE: Sure, but first we're going to sue!
35 **ELLA:** Right after you get arrested—
ALICE: —for stealing!
BUBBA: We didn't steal nothin'!

1 **ALETA:** Now, now... (*Indicates CAMMY, SPIKE and BUBBA.*) ...it's not fair to assume that these three took the money. Any of you could have taken it. (*MUSIC CUE 2: "What's Up With That?"*)

ALL KIDS: (*Speak ad-lib.*) What?! We didn't do it! Why us?! Gimme a

5 break! (*Etc.*)

ELLA: (*Speaks.*) Maybe you misplaced it!

CORAL: (*Speaks.*) We did not misplace it.

ANGEL: (*Speaks.*) It ain't fair!

CAMMY: (*Speaks.*) Yeah!

10 (*Sings.*) Why are we the ones they're always blaming?

BUBBA/SPIKE: (*Sing.*)
Why are we the ones who always take the fall?

ANGEL: (*Sings.*) Why are we the ones they're always shaming?

ELLA/ALICE: (*Sing.*) S'cuse us for sayin', but you got a lotta gall!

15 **ALL TEENS:** (*Sing.*) Why is it they think we're guilty all the time,
Even if we didn't do the crime?
It's always our fault!
It's never their fault!
It's always our fault!

20 Whenever things go wrong,
(*A shout.*) Hey!
(*Sing.*) What's up with that?! Ah!
(*A shout.*) Hey!
(*Sing.*) What's up with that?!

25 **ALETA:** (*Speaks.*) No one's accusing you of anything.

TEENS: (*Speak.*) Yeah, right!

TEEN GUYS: (*Sing.*) If there's a fire somewhere in the city,

TEEN GIRLS: (*Sing.*) If there's a car got stolen off the street,

TEEN GUYS: (*Sing.*) If there's a fight, knock down and gritty,

30 **TEEN GIRLS:** (*Sing.*) If there's a hustle, somebody got cheat.

ALL TEENS: (*Sing.*) Thund'ring, lightning, rain or sleet or snow,
Hurricanes, floods, El Niño starts to blow,
It's always our fault!
It's never their fault!

35 It's always our fault!

Whenever things go wrong,
(*A shout.*) Hey!
(*Sing.*) What's up with that?!

And if by chance someone steals the petty cash,
40 Or the banks default, the world stock markets crash,

1 It's always our fault!
It's never their fault!
It's always our fault!

Whenever things go wrong,
5 (A shout.) Hey!
(Sing.) What's up with that?! Ah!
(A shout.) Hey!
(Sing.) What's up with that?!
What's up with that?!

10 What's up with that?! (MUSIC OUT.)

KITT: (Crosses to ALETA.) Miss Lampert? I think this is yours. (Hands money to ALETA.) It was under the keyboard.

CORAL: (Embarrassed.) Oh, goodness! That's right! I hid it there thinking I'd lock it up later. I guess it wasn't stolen after all.

15 **CAMMY:** Seems like an apology is in order.

ALETA: We're sorry, guys.

ALICE: C'mon... let's go outside—

ELLA: —and finish the game.

PRESTON: (To BUBBA.) But no elbows this time.

20 **BUBBA:** I'll be gentle as a newborn babe.

SPIKE: (Laughs.) Yeah, a baby gorilla! (Races OFF LEFT.)

BUBBA: You're gonna pay, Spike! (Races OFF LEFT. CAMMY, PRESTON, TODD, ALICE, ELLA and GUY follow him OFF.)

NORA: (ENTERS UP RIGHT with JOEY, who is yawning. RON follows them IN.) Ah, Miss Lampert?

25 **ALETA:** Joey? You're usually here earlier on Saturdays.

NORA: He was hiding by the Dumpster.

CORAL: Oh, for the love of Pete! Are you in one of your moods, Joey? Come on, let me see a nice, big smile! (JOEY yawns.)

30 **KITT:** You can play our computer game with us, Joey.

JOEY: Sure. But... but I gotta go first. (EXITS DOWN LEFT.)

NORA: Not too talkative, is he?

ALETA: Once in a while he's got something to say.

CORAL: But he's faithful as the day is long. Comes every day and we practically have to boot him out when we close.

35 **NORA:** When do you close?

CORAL: Five o'clock.

NORA: (Deflated.) Gee, only eight more hours. (JAKE, LEE and IOLA ENTER UP RIGHT.)

40 **LEE:** Miss Lampert?

1 **ALETA:** Councilman Mitchell, how nice of you to drop by.
RON: (*Worried.*) Uh-oh!
LEE: You know Councilman Crumbly and Councilwoman Stickles?
ALETA: We've met, yes.

5 **JAKE:** (*Oozing charm.*) We thought we'd come down and see how the improvements are coming along.
ALETA: We haven't got all our funding yet.
SAMMI: (*To IOLA.*) Like, the city can stake us some, right?
IOLA: (*To SAMMI.*) Didn't anybody ever tell you children should be seen
10 and not heard? (*Turns back to ALETA. SAMMI sticks her tongue out at IOLA.*) As you're well aware, Miss Lampert, this area of the city has been targeted for rejuvenation.
JAKE: You wouldn't want to stand in the way of progress, would you?
ALETA: My aunt, Ethel Lampert, built this center as part of another
15 rejuvenation of the community 60 years ago. It's been serving the community nonstop since then. This is a center for the youth of this neighborhood. Without it, there would be nowhere for these kids to go.
IOLA: They ought to be at home.

20 **LEE:** For a lot of kids, it's safer here. (*PRESTON and BUBBA burst ON LEFT fighting again. CAMMY, SPIKE, TODD, ELLA, GUY and ALICE follow them ON, screaming and shouting.*)
CORAL: Oh, goodness! Goodness!
ALETA: Kids! Kids! Stop this!

25 **IOLA:** We'd better call the police, Jake!
JAKE: (*Takes out his phone.*) I've got my phone right here!
NORA: Wait! Wait! (*ANGEL blocks PRESTON and BUBBA from exchanging more blows.*) They're just...rehearsing.
IOLA: Rehearsing for what?

30 **NORA:** A play they're putting on.
CORAL: A play! Of course! Goodness, I used to be an actress!
IOLA: (*To CORAL.*) What'd you star in? *Hair*?
JAKE: Just what play are these hooligans doing?
ANGEL: Ah... ah... *Romeo and Juliet*. This was Act One, Scene Two.
35 The big fight.
LEE: There, you see? They're into the classics.
IOLA: You believe that? They're just stalling.
JAKE: They don't know Shakespeare from Homer Simpson.
BUBBA/SPIKE/CAMMY: D'oh!

1 **IOLA:** (*Speaks.*) No money... no improvements... (*MUSIC CUE 3: "It's All About the Money."*)

JAKE: (*Sings.*) Ain't nothin' personal, you leave us no choice!

IOLA: (*Sings.*) No sense in fighting it or raisin' your voice.

5 **JAKE:** (*Sings.*) You know as well as I, it's just a matter of time.

IOLA: (*Sings.*) We've heard you couldn't conjure up one thin dime.

JAKE: (*Sings.*) It's time to stop procrastinatin'
And admit you gotta close the door.
Yeah, yeah!

10 **IOLA:** (*Sings.*)
Nobody cares about this old, decrepit, run-down place anymore.

JAKE/IOLA: (*Sing.*) You see, it's all about the money!
Yes, it's all about the money!
It's all about the money, honey!

15 The outlook isn't sunny.
Better roll up the carpet and pack your bags!

ALETA: (*Speaks.*) We're not about to do any such thing.

CORAL: (*Speaks.*) We'll get the money. Just wait and see.

JAKE: (*Snickers. To IOLA, speaks.*) Yeah, right.

20 **BUBBA:** (*Threatening to JAKE, sings.*)
Ain't nothin' personal, but time ya made tracks.

CAMMY: (*To JAKE, sings.*)
You heard the man, besides you've messed up your facts.

PRESTON: (*To IOLA, sings.*)
We're gonna raise the cash, it's just a matter of when.

25 **ALETA/CORAL/LEE:** (*Sing.*)
In time we'll get this old place up and running again.

ALL TEENS: (*Sing.*) No matter how you spin it,
You ain't never gonna shut us down.

30 Yeah, yeah!
The Ethel Lampert Center's
Gonna be the very coolest place in town.

ALETA/CORAL/LEE/TEENS: (*Sing.*)
We know it's all about the money.
Yes, it's all about the money.

35 **TEENS:** (*To JAKE and IOLA, sing.*)
We're gonna raise the money, honey,
We can feel it in our gut.
Don't let the door hit ya square in the you-know-what!

40 (*MUSIC UNDER.*)

- 1 **IOLA:** (*Speaks.*) Miss Lampert, I think you need to control your delinquents.
TEENS: (*Outraged, ad-lib.*) What?! Hey! Delinquents! Yo, what's up with that!
- CAMMY:** (*To IOLA, speaks.*) You wanna take it outside?!
- 5 **IOLA:** (*To ALETA, speaks.*) See what I mean? (*MUSIC UP.*)
JAKE: (*Sings.*) It's time to stop hallucinating
And accept you gotta pull the plug.
ALETA: (*Speaks.*) I don't think so, Mr. Crumbly.
CORAL: (*Speaks.*) You tell'm, Miss Lampert!
- 10 **IOLA:** (*To ALETA, with overly sweet sarcasm, sings.*)
And when you finally walk away,
I'll be the very first to give you a hug!
JAKE/IOLA: (*Sing.*) You see, it's all about the money!
ALL OTHERS: (*Frustrated, sing.*) Yes, it's all about the money!
- 15 **JAKE/IOLA:** (*Sing.*) Hey, it's all about the money!
ALL OTHERS: (*Sing.*) Yes, it's all about the money!
JAKE/IOLA: (*Sing.*) It's all about the money, honey!
Don't try anything funny.
Better take down the curtains and pack your bags!
- 20 **ALL OTHERS:** (*Sing.*)
Ya know, it's your kind of people that make us gag! (*MUSIC UNDER.*)
IOLA: (*To LEE, speaks.*) It doesn't matter what you say or do.
JAKE: (*Speaks.*) The vote will still be one to two. (*To ALETA.*) You're living in the past, Miss Lampert. Admit it and move on. (*EXITS.*)
- 25 **IOLA:** (*To ALL OTHERS, speaks sweetly.*) Oh... and good luck with your little money-making projects. (*EXITS, laughing. ALETA, CORAL, LEE and TEENS are left looking at each other, forlorn and speechless as LIGHTS FADE to BLACK. MUSIC OUT.*)

End of Scene One

ACT ONE

Scene Two

- LIGHTS UP: The Lampert Center, Monday afternoon. KITT and MIKE
30 are at the computers. SAMMI, MARIA and RON are at the art table drawing on a large sheet of paper. ANGEL is helping them. CORAL stands at the table RIGHT CENTER, talking on the phone.
CORAL: This month will be just fine, Mrs. Speedman. I'll schedule your meeting for the 20th. Next month? Well, I'm not sure about that.
35 Why? Well, 'cause the city council's two-thirds horses' patoots! Bye. (*Hangs up.*)

- 1 **MIKE:** Don't worry, Ms. Dahl. Kitt and I are surfing for a silver bullet.
CORAL: (*Disappointed.*) They're only good for killing vampires, Mike.
ANGEL: (*To SAMMI, RON and MARIA.*) Gosh, guys, it's really looking good!
- 5 **MARIA:** We've spent a lot of time on it.
SAMMI: And then some.
ANGEL: Where did you come up with your idea?
MARIA: Brady's been a big help.
RON: He's really good at art.
- 10 **DESIREE:** (*Bursts IN UP RIGHT holding a tiny stuffed dog in her arms, covering its ears. BRADY follows her ON.*) I don't care what you say, young man!
BRADY: But, Ms. Flambeau—
DESIREE: Ms. Dahl, there's way too much noise going on over here!
- 15 Muffin can hear the shouting and screaming all hours of the day and night!
BRADY: The center's closed at night.
DESIREE: (*Ominous.*) The noise echoes.
CORAL: Ms. Flambeau, can't you just close your windows?
- 20 **DESIREE:** Poor Muffin needs fresh air! It's so hot in that stuffy apartment. Besides, I know my rights!
BRADY: All right, Ms. Flambeau, we'll try extra hard to keep the basketball court quiet.
RON: Good luck!
- 25 **DESIREE:** If you don't, I'm going to call the city council and complain!
CORAL: Oh, goodness! Please don't call the city council. Please, please, please!
DESIREE: And here I thought retirement would be so peaceful and quiet. I could spend my day listening to my music and remembering
- 30 all the wonderful choir students I used to teach. But no! I listen to thugs shouting and bouncing a basketball day and night. Do you know how many times that ball hits the backdrop?
BRADY: The backboard?
DESIREE: That's what I said! Now, no more noise, or I'm going to take
- 35 action! I know my rights! (*EXITS UP RIGHT.*)
CORAL: Glad you got here late, Brady. You took the first hit.
BRADY: She got me like a torpedo. Doesn't she have anything better to do?
MIKE: No. It's like her hobby to watch us.
- 40 **KITT:** And complain.

- 1 **SAMMI:** *(Extends her arms out.)* She's got, like, a telescope this big!
MARIA: You can see it in her living room window.
CORAL: She spies on everybody.
BRADY: *(To ANGEL.)* Hey, you're new here, aren't you?
- 5 **RON:** She's Angel.
BRADY: No doubt.
SAMMI: Ooooo, Mr. Flattery himself.
RON: Her name's Angel.
ANGEL: *(Offers her hand.)* Angel Brown.
- 10 **MIKE:** She's serving her time here.
BRADY: Community service, huh? Well, you're not the first one!
(LIGHTS FADE to BLACK.)

End of Scene Two

ACT ONE

Scene Three

- LIGHTS UP: Immediately following on the basketball court, played DOWNSTAGE of the Lampert Center set. SPIKE and GUY scuffle as
15 **BUBBA, CAMMY, PRESTON, ELLA and ALICE** egg them on. ALICE holds a basketball.
- GUY:** Play by the rules, guys!
SPIKE: We make up our own rules!
BUBBA: Get your hands off Spike, Guy!
- 20 **PRESTON:** Shut up, Bubba!
BUBBA: Gonna make me? *(Dives for PRESTON, who feints to one side. BUBBA falls on the floor.)* Why you—
ELLA: Guys, knock it—
ALICE: —off!
- 25 **CAMMY:** You knock it off! You guys started it! *(NORA and ANGEL ENTER RIGHT.)*
GUY: *(To SPIKE.)* You gave Todd a bloody nose!
SPIKE: It was an accident!
CAMMY: Yeah! He tried a stupid move—
- 30 **ALICE:** It's called—
ELLA: —a lay-up!
NORA: Hey! Knock it off! All of you! Knock it off! *(BRADY, ALETA, CORAL, SAMMI, RON and MARIA ENTER RIGHT.)*
- ALETA:** What's going on?
- 35 **BUBBA:** They jumped us!

- 1 **GUY:** You started it!
NORA: Hey! Shut your faces! All of you!
BRADY: What happened, guys? *(To NORA.)* Who are you?
NORA: I'm no one.
- 5 **MARIA:** That's Nora, Brady. She's serving her time here, too.
NORA: There are an awful lot of big mouths around here! *(To BRADY.)*
Why do you care? Who are you?
BRADY: I'm Brady.
SAMMI: And he doesn't have to, like, be here.
- 10 **MARIA:** He volunteers.
BRADY: Well, not exactly.
NORA: You must be bucking for sainthood!
ALETA: All right, where's Todd?
GUY: Bubba broke his nose!
- 15 **BUBBA:** 'Cause he rammed it into my elbow!
ALICE: You elbowed him!
ELLA: Like that! *(Demonstrates.)*
BRADY: Is Todd lying somewhere in a puddle of blood?
NORA: It wasn't that bad. He got a bloody nose and went to the john.
20 *(TODD ENTERS RIGHT, holding tissues to his nose.)*
CORAL: You all right, Todd?
TODD: Yeah, but somebody better go check the boys' stalls. That kid's
sleeping there. *(BRADY EXITS RIGHT.)*
ALETA: Joey?
- 25 **BUBBA:** The little creep!
SAMMI: Like, what did Joey ever do to you?
SPIKE: He was in Bubba's brother's car this morning, Miss Lampert.
BUBBA: Trying to steal the CD player.
ALETA: Oh, that's hard to believe.
- 30 **CAMMY:** Believe it! We saw him with our own eyes.
MIKE: *(Runs ON RIGHT, followed by KITT.)* Hey! Hey, everybody!
KITT: We've found something!
BRADY: *(ENTERS RIGHT with JOEY.)* You feel okay, kid? *(JOEY nods
and yawns.)*
- 35 **BUBBA:** He's not going to feel so great if I got anything to say about it.
ALETA: Well, you don't, Bubba! We've got some snacks, Joey. Want
something to eat?
JOEY: Yeah, sure. *(Moves to ALETA.)*

- 1 **CORAL:** Maybe we ought to call Child Protective Services and find out— (*JOEY, terrified, runs OFF RIGHT.*) Oh, no, Joey—
- BRADY:** I'll get him. (*EXITS RIGHT.*)
- ANGEL:** He's sure afraid of something.
- 5 **PRESTON:** (*Looks at BUBBA.*) And something's standing right here!
- BUBBA:** Hey! It's not our fault!
- SPIKE:** He's just weird.
- NORA:** (*To BUBBA and SPIKE.*) You know what I don't get? How come you guys hang around here anyway? All you do is pick fights.
- 10 **BUBBA:** I don't know. It's better than nothing.
- SPIKE:** It ain't Paris! That's for sure.
- RON:** Yeah, but, come on, you like it here.
- MARIA:** We all do.
- SAMMI:** It's, like, our home.
- 15 **CORAL:** Awww...
- ALETA:** Kids, that's so nice to hear, but you all should know something...
- MIKE:** Wait, Miss Lampert. We said we found something.
- RON:** What kind of something?
- KITT:** A way to get enough money to bring this place up to code so they won't shut it down.
- 20 **MIKE:** Ever hear of *We've Got Talent*?
- CORAL:** Oh, I love that show!
- PRESTON:** (*Mimicking.*) Hi! I'm Bryan Seafoam, your host. Allow me to present your judges—Simone Growl.
- 25 **ELLA:** (*Mimicking, stretching the word out.*) You—
- ALICE:** (*Mimicking.*) —stink!
- PRESTON:** (*Mimicking.*) And Paul Abbot!
- RON:** (*Mimicking.*) Better luck next time.
- KITT:** They're in town next Saturday for auditions.
- 30 **MIKE:** If we get on the show and win, we get \$100,000!
- ALETA:** They're auditioning here? Saturday?
- CORAL:** Oh, my gosh! Singing! Dancing!
- ALETA:** A hundred thousand dollars?
- KITT:** The website is up on the computer.
- 35 **ALETA:** Coral, let's go take a look. (*She and CORAL EXIT RIGHT.*)
- CAMMY:** (*Laughs.*) They're crazy! To get on that show somebody around here's gotta have talent. (*BUBBA, SPIKE, CAMMY, PRESTON, GUY, ELLA, ALICE and TODD laugh and return to their*

1 *basketball game. [NOTE: They pass the ball rather than dribble to minimize the noise.]*

KITT: I thought it was a great idea.

ANGEL: It is a great idea.

5 **NORA:** Angel, I don't like that look on your face.

ANGEL: What look?

NORA: Determination!

ANGEL: *(To KITT and MIKE.)* Let's start singing.

SAMMI: *(To NORA.)* What's she up to?

10 **NORA:** I think it's her Glee Club obsession.

KITT: What can we sing that we all know? I mean, we all listen to different kinds of music.

MIKE: Good point.

ANGEL: I've got it! A lot of us were in choir together in elementary

15 school. How about, "Sing, Sing, Everybody"?

CAMMY: You've got to be kidding.

ANGEL: At least it's a song most of us know.

PRESTON: *(Sarcastic.)* How can I forget?

ANGEL: Come on, you guys, it's just a warm up. Not for the competition.

20 **CAMMY:** I hope not!

ANGEL: It'll give us a chance to see how we sound together.

KITT: I guess.

MIKE: Sing on. *(MUSIC CUE 4: "Sing, Sing, Everybody." Of course, go for the humor. Though the song should be sung on key, it is sung very tentatively and half-heartedly.)*

25 **ANGEL:** *(Speaks.)* All right, here we go. Ready... set... go!

ALL: *(Except BUBBA, SPIKE and PRESTON, who can't believe what they're seeing and hearing, sing.)*

 Sing sing, everybody, sing sing, sing sing.

30 Sing sing, everybody, sing sing, sing sing

 'Tis a song so merry, the fairies all sing it.

 Sing sing, everybody, sing sing, sing sing! *(MUSIC UNDER.)*

KITT: *(Speaks.)* Hey, I think we've got talent!

ANGEL: *(Speaks.)* I don't know. Cammy, you were a bit off key.

35 **CAMMY:** *(Speaks.)* So who died and left you the queen?

ANGEL: *(Speaks.)* Try it again, guys. With poise, good posture and this time, from the diaphragm. *(The singing TEENS stand up straighter.)*

SPIKE: *(Speaks.)* From the what?

BUBBA: *(Aside to SPIKE, speaks.)* What the heck's that?

- 1 **CAMMY:** (*Aside to SPIKE and BUBBA, speaks.*) It's a music term, dummies. It means to push and squeeze the notes out from the bottom up!
- BUBBA:** (*Eyebrows raised, shocked.*) Huh?
- 5 **SPIKE:** (*Equally confused. Speaks.*) From the bottom up?
- CAMMY:** (*Speaks.*) That's right.
- BUBBA:** (*Aside to SPIKE.*) Sounds like it hurts.
- ANGEL:** (*Rolling her eyes. Speaks.*) Second verse, on the count of three. One, two, three... Go! (*MUSIC UP*)
- 10 **ALL:** (*Except BUBBA, SPIKE and PRESTON, sing. This time it's much stronger.*) Sing sing, like a birdie, tweet tweet, tweet tweet!
Sing sing, like a birdie, tweet tweet, tweet tweet!
'Tis a song so forthright, the woodsprites all sing it.
Sing sing, like a birdie, tweet tweet, tweet tweet! (*MUSIC UNDER.*)
- 15 **SPIKE:** (*Speaks.*) You guys sound like a bunch of alley cats!
- ANGEL:** (*Speaks.*) That's why we need you singing, Spike.
- BUBBA:** (*Speaks.*) You mean bullfrog here? He couldn't carry a tune with a wheelbarrow!
- PRESTON:** (*Speaks.*) Especially on TV. This is stupid.
- 20 **KITT:** (*Speaks.*) Just because you think it's stupid doesn't mean we can't try, Preston.
- SPIKE:** (*Enraged. Speaks.*) I ain't singin' that bogus song. And I sure ain't singin' from my whatchacallit, diagram, neither!
- BUBBA:** (*Speaks.*) Yeah! We ain't pushin' 'n' squeezin' nothin'!
- 25 **CAMMY:** (*Rolls up a fist and puts it up to SPIKE'S and BUBBA'S faces. Speaks.*) How would you two like one of these?
- SPIKE:** (*Looks at CAMMY'S fist then to ANGEL, speaks meekly.*) What verse are we singin'?
- BUBBA:** (*Speaks.*) Yeah, what verse?
- 30 **ANGEL:** (*Speaks.*) Verse three. You too, Preston! (*PRESTON rolls his eyes and begrudgingly joins in.*) One, two, three, go! (*MUSIC UP. As SPIKE and BUBBA sing, they have contorted looks on their faces as they "push and squeeze" from the "bottom up."*)
- ALL:** (*Sing.*) Sing sing, like a bullfrog, croak croak, croak croak!
- 35 Sing sing, like a bullfrog, croak croak, croak croak!
'Tis a song so loony, the goonies all sing it.
Sing sing, like a bullfrog, croak croak, croak croak!
Sing sing, like a bullfrog, croak croak, croak croak! (*MUSIC OUT. BLACKOUT.*)

End of Scene Three

ACT ONE
Scene Four

- 1 LIGHTS UP: The Lampert Center, an hour later. We hear the sound of the teens singing “Sing, Sing, Everybody” OFFSTAGE, rather poorly. NORA sits on the edge of the platform stage being generally bored. ALETA ENTERS DOWN RIGHT with CORAL.
- 5 **CORAL:** Oh, Miss Lampert, I’m so excited! We’re all signed up to audition!
- ALETA:** Now, take it easy. They said there are 35 groups from this city alone. (*Grabs her purse from the computer table.*) I’m going to see Reverend Smith. He said he’s got a few things we can use.
- 10 **CORAL:** Tens and twenties?
- ALETA:** (*Looks at the portrait.*) Oh, Aunt Ethel, we’re in a pickle, and all you can do is watch.
- NORA:** She was your aunt?
- ALETA:** Oh, yes. And you’d never know it from that picture, but she was
15 a real ball of fire. Orphaned when she was 12, built a fortune on her own, outlived three husbands and donated to every worthwhile organization in this city before she died.
- NORA:** Wow. How’d she make her money? (*ALETA hesitates.*)
- CORAL:** Oh, goodness! Go on, tell her!
- 20 **ALETA:** (*Sheepish.*) Lingerie.
- NORA:** You’re kidding!
- ALETA:** She knew what ladies wanted. Now, I’ll be back in a half-hour. (*Listens.*) Oh, dear. Maybe they’d better change the name of the show to *I Wish We Had Talent*. (*EXITS UP RIGHT.*)
- 25 **CORAL:** Well, Rome wasn’t built in a day. How come you’re not out there, Nora?
- NORA:** Not my thing.
- CORAL:** What is your thing, Nora?
- NORA:** Playing it cool.
- 30 **CORAL:** Nice work if you can get it! (*Shrugs, EXITS LEFT as BRADY and JOEY ENTER UP RIGHT.*)
- BRADY:** Now remember what I said. Nobody’s going to call anybody. Okay?
- JOEY:** Thanks, Brady. (*JOEY EXITS LEFT.*)
- 35 **NORA:** So what’s up with the kid?
- BRADY:** I’m not sure. He’s really afraid of social services. He was in an alley sitting in a doorway holding a stray cat.
- NORA:** Did he say anything?

PRODUCTIONS NOTES

PROPERTIES ONSTAGE

The Ethel Lampert Community Center: Table with two chairs, two computers and a phone, a raised platform with a table, art supplies and large sheets of paper, crate with basketballs, two trashcans. Hanging on the walls: student artwork, portrait of Ethel Lampert, banner welcoming people to the community center, mirror. In ACT ONE, Scene One, envelopes on the floor, money hidden underneath one of the computer keyboards. In ACT ONE, Scene Six, two extra chairs. In ACT TWO, Scene Five, two extra chairs, balloons, stars, large musical notes.

Basketball Court: A hoop and optional brick wall background.

TV studio: Small desk, chair and sign that reads, "Crankout Television Studios."

PROPERTIES BROUGHT ON

ACT ONE

Scene One:

Keys, garbage bag (ALETA)
Computer games (KITT, MIKE)
Cell phone (JAKE)

Scene Two:

Stuffed dog (DESIREE)

Scene Three:

Basketball (ALICE)
Tissues (TODD)

Scene Four:

Stuffed dog (DESIREE)

Scene Five:

Clipboard (JEN)

Scene Six:

Makeup, brush, mirror, jar of Vaseline (CORAL)
Gum (ANGEL)
Wrapped piece of gum (NORA)
Stuffed dog (DESIREE)
Coins (ALETA)
Watch (PAUL)
Purse, nail file (SIMONE)

ACT TWO

Scene One:

Phonebook (CORAL)

Cell phones, ripped-out phonebook pages (BRADY, ANGEL)

Bag (MARIA)

Money (RON, ELLA)

Stuffed dog (DESIREE)

Scene Two:

Fast food drink (JOEY)

Stuffed dog (DESIREE)

Scene Three:

Stuffed dog (DESIREE)

Scene Four:

Towel (NORA)

Scene Five:

Bag containing Simone's purse and Jake's watch (POLLY)

COSTUME SUGGESTIONS

Don't Stop Believin'! is a contemporary musical, so all characters are in current fashions. Of course the costumes fit the characters, so here are a few suggestions:

CORAL hair is bright pink and she wears flashy colors and lots of sparkling jewelry. In ACT TWO, Scene Two she wears a dance leotard and several flowing scarves.

ALETA dresses professionally, but her clothes should be specifically chosen so that it doesn't look like she's spending a great deal on her appearance. She wears a watch and carries a purse.

IOLA dresses very nicely, wearing what appears to be expensive business outfits.

JAKE and LEE wear well-fitting suits with coordinating ties and shirts.

SIMONE dresses in a flashier way than IOLA and spares no expense when it comes to choosing clothes. She may "dress down" in her first appearance at the studio, but appears in "star" costume with a flashy new purse at the auditions.

PAUL wears trendy, tailored clothes. He doesn't wear suits, but rather shirts open at the neck showing a gold necklace or a dark jacket over a dark, fitted T-shirt. He wears a gold Rolex to the auditions.

DESIREE wears fashions an older, eccentric person would wear. Her pants can be too short, her blouse too big, scarves not matching, and so on.

BUBBA, CAMMY and SPIKE wear hoodies, T-shirts or muscle shirts as desired. They wear baggy jeans and athletic shoes.

PRESTON, TODD, ALICE, ELLA and GUY wear T-shirts, shorts and athletic shoes.

RON, MIKE, KITT, SAMMI and MARIA wear typical everyday dress for teenagers.

ANGEL dresses in fashion, while NORA shows some rebelliousness in her outfits.

BRADY wears jeans and polo shirts.

JOEY wears tattered jeans and T-shirts.

JEN dresses professionally in pants and blouse.

POLLY wears a nice dress in an old-fashioned style, emphasizing a “grandmotherly” appearance. A white wig and glasses will help create this character.

NOTE: A big decision will be what the kids wear for the performance in the final scene. As suggested in the script, they should all dress alike in some way so they appear to be part of a group. This can be as simple as jeans and T-shirts with the shirts all being the same color or sporting a “Left, Right and Center” design or a logo for the community center. Color coordinated flashy stage outfits are another option. Coral and Aleta should wear what the kids wear at the end.

Since the musical takes place over a period of two weeks, costumes can be changed as desired.

SOUND EFFECTS

Dog howling, drum roll.

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