

# **kids broadway songbook songs original sung on stage by children**

**kids broadway songbook songs original sung on stage by children** have become a cherished part of musical theater, showcasing the talents and voices of young performers in vibrant and memorable productions. These songs, carefully crafted and originally performed on stage by children, not only highlight youthful energy but also capture the innocence and emotion unique to young characters. Many iconic Broadway shows feature children in prominent roles, delivering original songs that resonate with audiences of all ages. This article explores the essence of kids Broadway songbook songs, focusing on those originally sung on stage by children. It delves into notable examples, the significance of these songs in musical storytelling, and the impact they have on both performers and audiences alike. Readers will also find a curated list of popular songs and insights into how these pieces contribute to the broader Broadway musical landscape.

- The Importance of Kids Broadway Songbook Songs
- Iconic Original Songs Sung on Stage by Children
- Characteristics of Kids Broadway Songs
- Popular Broadway Shows Featuring Child Performers
- How Kids Broadway Songs Influence Young Performers and Audiences

## **The Importance of Kids Broadway Songbook Songs**

Kids Broadway songbook songs original sung on stage by children hold a unique place in musical theater. These songs serve as a vehicle for storytelling through the perspectives of young characters, often driving the plot forward with themes of growth, discovery, and innocence. The inclusion of children in Broadway productions introduces authenticity and emotional depth, as their performances bring a fresh and relatable viewpoint. Moreover, original songs performed by children are crafted to suit their vocal ranges and emotional capacities, allowing for genuine expression that captivates audiences. The importance of these songs extends beyond entertainment, providing educational and developmental opportunities for young actors and fostering an early appreciation for the performing arts.

## **Role in Narrative Development**

Original songs sung by children often reveal critical aspects of the story, character motivations, and themes that would otherwise be difficult to express through dialogue alone. These musical moments can highlight a child's perspective in complex narratives or add layers of emotional resonance.

## **Enhancing Audience Engagement**

When children perform original songs on stage, it creates an engaging dynamic that draws in audiences. The authenticity and charm of youthful voices add a genuine emotional touch, making the story more relatable and impactful.

## **Iconic Original Songs Sung on Stage by Children**

Several Broadway productions have featured original songs performed by children that have become iconic within the theater community. These songs are often included in kids Broadway songbooks and continue to inspire future generations of performers. They showcase the range of emotions and storytelling capabilities that young performers bring to the stage.

### **"Tomorrow" from Annie**

"Tomorrow" is perhaps one of the most famous songs originally sung by children on Broadway. Performed by the character Annie and her fellow orphans, this uplifting anthem embodies hope and optimism. Its memorable melody and encouraging lyrics have made it a staple in kids Broadway songbooks worldwide.

### **"I'm Not That Smart" from The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**

This humorous and heartfelt song is sung by a young contestant in a spelling bee. It highlights the self-doubt and vulnerability of children while still maintaining a light-hearted tone. The song's unique perspective makes it a standout piece originally sung by a child on stage.

### **"Little Lamb" from Matilda the Musical**

In "Matilda the Musical," original songs like "Little Lamb" are performed by children and serve to develop the story's themes of resilience and intelligence. These songs showcase the vocal talents of child actors and contribute significantly to the narrative arc.

## **Characteristics of Kids Broadway Songs**

Kids Broadway songbook songs original sung on stage by children share several defining characteristics that set them apart from adult Broadway numbers. These traits ensure that the songs are suitable for young performers and resonate with audiences, highlighting the unique qualities of children's voices and experiences.

## Vocal Range and Simplicity

These songs typically feature melodies that accommodate the vocal range of children, often avoiding overly complex or demanding notes. The lyrics are straightforward and age-appropriate, making them easier for young performers to learn and express authentically.

## Thematic Content

The themes explored in these songs often revolve around childhood experiences, such as friendship, dreams, fears, and self-discovery. They frequently include messages of hope, courage, and innocence, which are relatable to both child performers and audiences.

## Musical Style and Arrangement

Kids Broadway songs often employ lively, catchy rhythms and simple harmonic structures to engage young performers and listeners. The arrangements are designed to highlight the clarity and purity of children's voices, sometimes incorporating call-and-response sections or group singing to foster ensemble cohesion.

## Popular Broadway Shows Featuring Child Performers

Many renowned Broadway productions prominently feature children in their casts, with original songs performed on stage by these young actors. These shows have contributed significantly to the repertoire of kids Broadway songbook songs.

- **Annie:** Centers on the adventures of a young orphan with memorable original songs like "Tomorrow" and "It's the Hard-Knock Life."
- **Matilda the Musical:** Features a gifted young girl and includes original songs such as "Naughty" and "When I Grow Up" performed by child characters.
- **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee:** Showcases a group of children competing in a spelling bee, with songs like "I'm Not That Smart" and "The I Love You Song."
- **School of Rock:** Revolves around a group of musically talented children, featuring original songs that highlight their skills and personalities.
- **Oliver!:** A classic musical featuring children in lead roles, including iconic songs like "Consider Yourself" and "Food, Glorious Food."

# How Kids Broadway Songs Influence Young Performers and Audiences

Kids Broadway songbook songs original sung on stage by children have a profound impact on both the young performers who bring them to life and the audiences who experience them. These songs foster artistic growth, build confidence, and create memorable theatrical moments.

## Development of Young Talent

Performing original Broadway songs tailored for children allows young actors to develop vocal skills, emotional expression, and stage presence. These experiences can be formative, encouraging lifelong involvement in the performing arts.

## Building Confidence and Teamwork

Participating in group numbers or solos from kids Broadway songbooks offers opportunities for personal growth. Children learn the value of preparation, collaboration, and the joy of sharing stories through music.

## Audience Connection and Cultural Impact

Original songs performed by children on Broadway create a unique connection with audiences by portraying authentic child perspectives. They contribute to the cultural fabric of musical theater, ensuring that stories about and by children remain relevant and cherished.

## Examples of Educational Benefits

- Enhancement of memory and learning through song repetition
- Improvement of language skills and vocabulary
- Encouragement of empathy by exploring diverse characters and situations
- Promotion of creativity and self-expression

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What are some popular songs from kids Broadway songbooks**

## **originally sung by children on stage?**

Popular songs include "Tomorrow" from *Annie*, "Gimme Gimme" from *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and "Naughty" from *Matilda the Musical*, all originally performed by child actors on Broadway.

## **Why are songs originally sung by children on Broadway important for kids' songbooks?**

Songs originally performed by children resonate more with young singers as they are tailored to their vocal range and themes, making them relatable and enjoyable to perform.

## **Which Broadway musicals feature original songs sung by children on stage?**

Musicals like *Annie*, *Matilda the Musical*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Oliver!* feature original songs performed by child actors on Broadway.

## **Can kids perform Broadway songs that were originally sung by children on stage in school productions?**

Yes, many kids Broadway songbook songs are suitable for school and community theater productions as they are designed for young voices and often come with appropriate sheet music.

## **Where can I find sheet music for Broadway songs originally sung by children?**

Sheet music can be found in kids Broadway songbooks available at music stores, online retailers like Musicnotes, or through publishers specializing in musical theater.

## **What vocal range do kids Broadway songs typically cover for songs originally sung by children?**

These songs generally cater to the vocal ranges of children, often spanning from middle C to high A or B, making them accessible for young performers.

## **Are there any awards or recognitions for Broadway songs originally performed by children?**

While specific awards for songs performed by children are rare, many musicals featuring child performers have won Tony Awards and other honors recognizing the overall production and music.

## **Additional Resources**

1. *Sing Out Loud: Kids' Broadway Songbook Collection*

This songbook features a vibrant selection of beloved Broadway songs originally performed by child

actors on stage. It includes classics from musicals like *\*Annie\**, *\*Matilda\**, and *\*School of Rock\**. With easy-to-follow sheet music and lyrics, it's perfect for young performers looking to bring the magic of Broadway into their homes. The arrangements are tailored for beginner to intermediate skill levels, encouraging confidence and musical growth.

## *2. Broadway Kids: A Musical Journey Through Childhood Hits*

Explore a curated collection of iconic songs that were originally sung by children in popular Broadway shows. This book offers engaging piano accompaniments and vocal lines suitable for young singers. Each song comes with background notes about the show and the original child performers, adding context and inspiration. It's an ideal resource for music teachers and young Broadway enthusiasts alike.

## *3. Young Voices on Stage: The Ultimate Kids Broadway Songbook*

Celebrate the joy and talent of child performers with this comprehensive songbook filled with show-stopping numbers from musicals featuring kids. From *\*Billy Elliot\** to *\*The Sound of Music\**, the selections showcase a variety of styles and moods. The book includes vocal melodies, chord symbols, and easy piano parts, perfect for school performances or solo practice. Fun illustrations and performance tips help bring each song to life.

## *4. Little Stars of Broadway: Songs Sung by Kids*

This collection highlights memorable songs performed by children in Broadway productions, offering a blend of upbeat tunes and heartfelt ballads. Each piece is arranged for young voices, making it accessible for beginners and intermediate singers. The book also features historical notes about the original child performers and their roles, enriching the learning experience. It's a wonderful tool for budding musical theater artists.

## *5. Kids on Broadway: Sing-Along Songbook for Young Performers*

Designed for young singers and their families, this songbook compiles popular Broadway songs originally performed by child actors. The arrangements are simplified to encourage sing-alongs and group performances. Lyrics, easy piano accompaniments, and helpful performance tips make this book a great addition to any home or classroom. Songs from shows like *\*Annie\**, *\*Frozen\**, and *\*Matilda\** bring excitement and energy to every page.

## *6. Broadway Beginnings: Songs for Young Voices*

Focusing on the early roles of children in Broadway musicals, this songbook gathers songs that have launched many young performers' careers. The music is arranged to suit a variety of vocal ranges and skill levels, ensuring accessibility. Each song is accompanied by interesting facts about the show and its young cast members, providing educational value alongside entertainment. This book is a perfect starting point for children interested in musical theater.

## *7. Stage Stars: Broadway Songs Originally Sung by Kids*

Featuring a dynamic selection of songs from Broadway musicals with prominent child characters, this songbook is tailored for young singers. The arrangements balance musical challenge with playability, fostering growth and enjoyment. It includes favorites from shows like *\*Oliver!\**, *\*Cinderella\**, and *\*The Lion King\**, complete with full lyrics and piano scores. Performance notes help young artists understand character and emotion in each number.

## *8. Broadway Kids' Favorites: Songs from the Stage*

This collection offers a delightful mix of songs performed by children on Broadway, blending timeless classics with modern hits. The book includes clear vocal lines and easy piano arrangements, ideal for solo or group practice. Each song entry features a brief synopsis of the musical and the role of the

child character. It's an inspiring resource that encourages kids to explore the rich world of musical theater.

#### *9. From the Spotlight: Broadway Songs Sung by Children*

Designed to showcase the talents of young Broadway performers, this songbook compiles songs that highlight children's voices on stage. The music is arranged for accessibility and enjoyment, with helpful tips on phrasing and expression. Selections range from joyful ensemble numbers to touching solos, reflecting the diverse roles children play in musicals. This book is perfect for young performers aiming to capture the spirit of Broadway.

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