

Theatre for Change

Using theatre productions and educational workshops to bridge cultural divides and lift up underrepresented voices, Imagination Stage's Theatre for Change (TFC) program explores complex social justice issues to help build a new generation of compassionate, collaborative children who are capable of changing the world.

5,474

students reached by the *Óyeme, the beautiful* spring 2023 tour and post-show workshops.

3,515

middle and high school students served by residencies and workshops in FY23

100

Metropolitan Police Department cadets participated in Theatre for Change workshops as part of their training



One teacher wrote about an *Óyeme!* student: 'I was amazed at how he and another student who has struggled with cultural identity were beaming with pride while explaining components of the play and the journey to their classmates.'"





¡Óyeme!

Translated as “Hear Me” in Spanish, this workshop series, developed in partnership with Montgomery County’s Department of Health & Human Services, empowers recently arrived migrant youth through the sharing of their stories. The multifaceted initiative includes *Óyeme, the beautiful*, an Imagination Stage-commissioned, touring production inspired by the workshops, an accompanying learning activity guide, post-production workshop, and professional development training for teachers.



100% of those who attended our ¡Óyeme! workshops are Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students.



Youth & Police Partnership

A series of workshops, in partnership with DC Police Foundation and DC Metropolitan Police, uses improv and acting to bring together young people and DC law enforcement officers in conversations that foster trust and understanding. The workshops led to a commissioned play, *10 Seconds*, a learning guide, and a post-performance workshop that have been presented in high schools and other community settings.



94% of students said that “the play was compelling.”



Voices Beyond Bars

Voices Beyond Bars supports youth ages 15–21 who are involved in the juvenile justice system. Incarcerated youth participate in a series of workshops that combine spoken word, writing, and performance to build key skills, such as collaboration, communication, and problem-solving. The program, which launched in Fall 2019, was shut down due to Covid-19, but has now restarted in two correctional institutions.



“When a young man was too emotional to finish his poem, a teammate hopped up to support him. A favorite caseworker was in the front row cheering the young men on.”

– “Voices Beyond Bars: Creating Theatre with Incarcerated Youth,” *Applied Theatre with Youth*, Routledge, 2022