

Village Theatre

Production Preview Guide



This all-new stage production will be bursting with Village Theatre's unique flair, as *Hairspray* gives new meaning to BIG entertainment. Tracy Turnblad is a big girl with big hair and an even bigger dream: to dance her way onto national TV, dethrone the reigning teen queen, win the affections of the local heartthrob, and integrate a TV network... all without denting her 'do! The Tony and Drama Desk Award-winning Best Musical teaches us to look past skin color and size in the fight for equal rights.

THE PURPOSE OF A PRODUCTION PREVIEW GUIDE:

Many people have different ideas about what material is appropriate, both for themselves and their families. This production preview guide is provided to give you the necessary information to determine if the content of our production is suitable for you and your loved ones. Please be aware that this document is provided with the intent of full disclosure, and therefore contains plot spoilers. Also, because all of our productions are locally produced, there may be cases where minor changes occur as the director prepares the show for the stage. In such cases, this guide will be updated accordingly. Once the show is open and on stage, there will be no further changes.

SCRIPT CONTENT DETAILS:

Language: There is one use of "ass" and two uses of "damn." Racially charged language is used throughout, including "Negro Day," "colored," "race music," and "cracker." There are insults and name-calling throughout, often targeting characters for their weight, mental ability, and perceived promiscuity: "Tracy Tugboat," "Miss Special Ed," "Thunder Thighs," "Trampy Ton-o-lard," "Tracy Turnblah is a tramp and she's retarded," "her daddy's a loser, a pervert, a souse."

Violence: During a game of dodgeball, Amber hits Tracy over the head with a ball, knocking her unconscious. After being released from prison, Penny is tied to her bed by her mother as a form of punishment – Seaweed later wields a knife and cuts through the knots to free Penny. There is a mention of gun violence on the news when Tracy escapes from jail: "if phone service is not available, simply shoot to kill."

Sexual Content: There are suggestive lyrics, dialogue, and dancing throughout the show, often involving teenagers. For example, Tracy walks past "the flasher who lives next door" in the beginning of the show, it is implied that one of the teenage dancers on the TV show is pregnant, Tracy fantasizes about a relationship with Link and sings "won't go all the way but I'll go pretty far," Amber spreads a rumor that Tracy "was in the back seat of a car with two boys at once playing tonsil hockey in the nude," and Seaweed pulls a condom out of his pocket during the dodgeball scene. A couple of dance sequences involve intimate physical contact between characters, including two instances where a female character grabs a male character's hands and places them on her breasts. Characters kiss a few times throughout the show.

Drugs/Alcohol: During “Good Morning Baltimore,” Tracy is greeted by an intoxicated “bum on his bar room stool” on her way to school. In the prison scene, the Matron says, “I don’t stand for no boozing, doping, cussing, gambling, fighting, or any other sort of unladylike behavior.” Velma smokes a cigarette in one scene.

PRODUCTION EFFECTS:

- A haze/fog effect is used in this production.
- A strobe-like lighting effect is used in this production.
- The music in this production is amplified.