



Vital Theatre Company 2162 Broadway, 4<sup>th</sup> floor NYC 10024  
212-579-0528 www.vitaltheatre.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE Contact: Suzu McConnell-Wood (212) 579-0528

## THE BULLY

*THE BULLY*, an original musical, acted by adults, for young audiences will be performed at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, under the auspices of \_\_\_\_\_.

Lenny is the smartest kid at Wilson Middle School and Steve is the school bully. Lenny makes fun of Steve in math class and Steve bullies Lenny in gym class, on the bus, at lunch...well you get the idea! One day a bus mix up leaves the two boys stranded at the Weltbottom School for Young Adults where they both get picked on for being the "new kids." Taunted by the terrifying "Mega," and her lackeys, the boys learn what life is really like for the other. They decide to work together and make a plan to get back to their own school. But before they can escape Meg catches them. The boys stand up to her and Meg realizes that she doesn't have any real friends at this school--just kids who are scared of her. She helps them get back to Wilson Middle School. Back in gym, Lenny faces the rope climb, and the kids tease him as usual. Will Steve and Meg stand up for their new friend or join in with the other bullies? "*The Bully*, like the best kind of teacher, nudges children toward the truth and then lets them discover it on their own." – Laurel Graeber *New York Times*.

*THE BULLY* is an original musical directed by **SUZU McCONNELL-WOOD** the music and lyrics are by **JOHN GREGOR** and the book is by **DAVID WILLIAMS**. John has also created music and lyrics for past Vital Children's Theatre shows including, *THE CHANGELING*, *THE NASTIEST DRINK IN THE WORLD*, *CALLING ALL TOYS* and wrote the book for *THE MASK OF THE DANCING PRINCESS*. David is author of more than sixteen plays, including *THE INFORMATION SHE CARRIED* and the 2003 Fringe Festival musical *TESS' LAST NIGHT*. He is a graduate of Cornell University. Suzu is the Director of Vital Children's Theatre and has also collaborated with John on *PINKALICIOUS – THE MUSICAL*. The Set design is by **MARY HAMRICK** and the costume design is by **AMY KITZHABER**. This 50-minute musical is recommended for audiences age 4 and up.

*THE BULLY* rehearsed for four weeks and then opened at Vital Theatre Company's theatre in Manhattan in December 2005. The first performance at a school was in January 2006 PS 298 in Queens New York. The first tour was to Maryland in July 2006 and has now performed in over 80 venues to over 15000 audience members. These locations include School Cafeterias, Performing Arts Centers and City Parks. After the show there may be a Q and A with the actors and then they will pack up all their belongings and hit the road again!



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VITAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY, is located at 2162 Broadway, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, at 76th and Broadway in New York City 's Upper West Side. Vital commissions four new musicals per year for children. Since its founding in 1999, Vital Children's Theatre Company has been honored with two AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE by the *Off Off Broadway Review* and received high acclaim from audiences and critics alike for being “a wonderful place for parents to introduce their kids to the glories of live theatre, done well and at modest prices.” (*OOBR.*) Now in its ninth season, the company is dedicated to producing entertaining and educational theatre for young audiences. To date, the company has presented 38 original productions for over 35,000 children and their families.

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