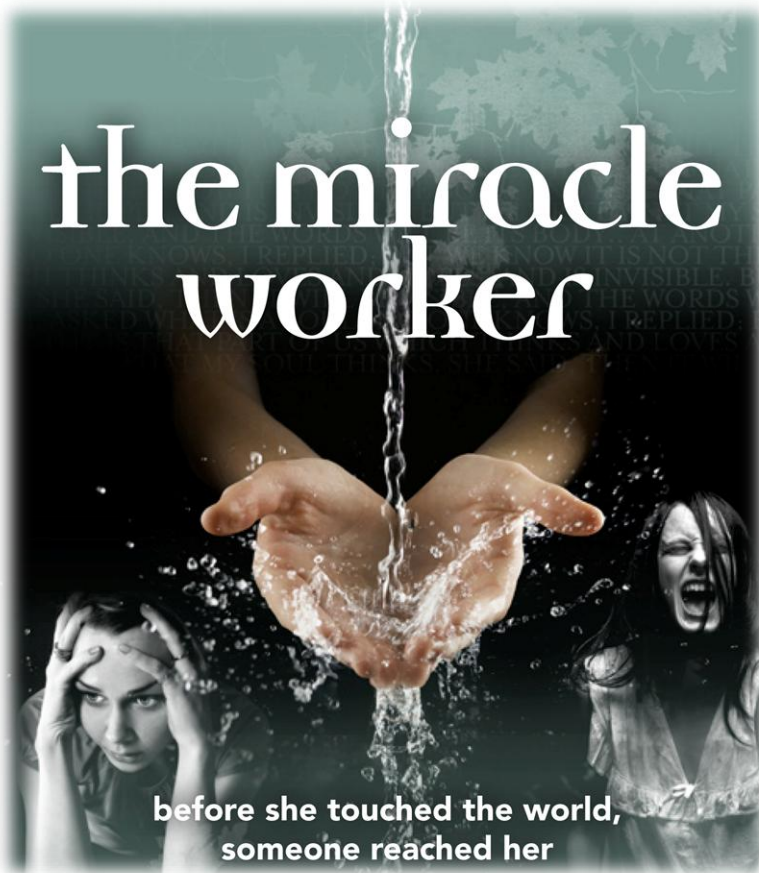


the miracle worker



before she touched the world,
someone reached her

OCT. 10 – 31, 2009

By William Gibson | Directed by Meg Roe

Co-sponsored by:

A PLAYHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION



Leith Wheeler
INVESTMENT COUNSEL LTD.

Hyphen
Communications

PLAY GUIDE

PART 2: LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES

For Discussion: Blind Obedience | Grade 9 and up

Created by Dr. Warren McKinnon, UBC Continuing Studies, PTAB* Member

DOWNLOAD OTHER PARTS (GLOSSARY, QUOTES, LINKS)

AND MORE LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES AT VANCOUVERPLAYHOUSE.COM

Created to provide you with explorations and insights into *The Miracle Worker* beyond the actual performance, this Play Guide includes information on its creators and characters, notable quotables and more:

You can download additional suggested practical lessons and activities linked to *The Miracle Worker* at vancouverplayhouse.com! As a teacher, you can adapt these to your classroom activities before or after your performance. As a parent, you can draw on some activities to enhance your child's theatre experience. And, as a patron at large, these activities might stimulate your own exploration or offer a new insight into the production.

***Playhouse Teachers Advisory Board**

FOR DISCUSSION: BLIND OBEDIENCE

Type: post-viewing (recommended) or pre-viewing | **Suitability:** grade 9 and up

The conflict between the Kellers and Annie over behavioural expectations and learning levels continues after the two-week, live-in, garden schoolhouse experience. The Kellers are pleased because, in a way, like Annie's earlier reference to a dog, Helen is housebroken – "manageable, contented, cleaner." While Annie understands that "obedience is the gateway through which knowledge enters the mind of the child," she is also convinced that "obedience without understanding is a...blindness."

1. What experiences have you had at school, at home, or on a sports field, when it seemed the primary focus was really to make you manageable and blindly obedient?
2. Captain Keller thinks that Annie asks too much of Helen and concludes that "God may not have meant Helen to have the eyes you speak of." At various ages and stages in our life, society draws some pre-ordained conclusions about what people might or might not be capable of doing. Identify those ages and stages and explain the reasoning behind these conclusions.