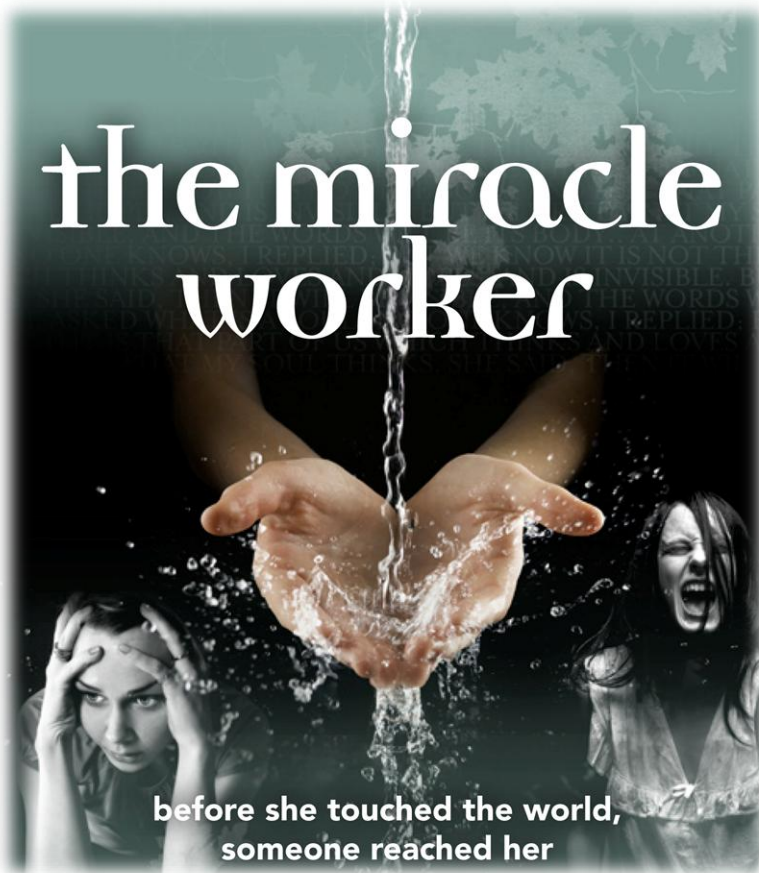


the miracle worker



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
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PLAY GUIDE

PART 2: LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES

For Discussion: Who is The Miracle Worker? | 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: WHO IS THE MIRACLE WORKER?

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

In the preface to William Gibson's 1983 play, "Monday After The Miracle," he writes: "...I have been asked a hundred times how I came to be so interested in her [Helen Keller]? I reply patiently I was never interested in her, the play is about her teacher, and for that reason is not named THE MIRACLE WORKER."

1. What is your definition of the word "miracle"? Using that definition, in what sense was Annie just as much a miracle as Helen?
2. Early in the play, when Perkins director, Michael Anagnos, advises her that her battle at Tewksbury is dead and to "let it stay buried," Annie says, "I think God must owe me a resurrection." Then, after the live-in, garden schoolhouse experience, the Anagnos advice and her response re-visits her, and Annie completes the previous thought, saying, "And I owe God one." Looking at the 5th script segment, how does James' mealtime grace about Jacob wrestling with the angel and refusing to let go, "except thou bless me," help us understand the word "resurrection" and the action of "owing" from God to Annie and from Annie to God?