

# BROADWAY

*Broadway*  
THE AMERICAN MUSICAL



## press information

THIRTEEN/WNET NEW YORK ROLLS OUT **BROADWAY ONLINE**, THE COMPANION WEB SITE TO THE UPCOMING SIX-PART PBS SERIES, **BROADWAY: THE AMERICAN MUSICAL**

Launching Monday, October 4, The Comprehensive Web Site Features Video Excerpts, Interviews With Broadway Legends, Rare Still Photos, Theater Memorabilia, Original Illustrations And Graphics, An Interactive Game, And Resources For Teachers And Students

One hundred years of Broadway milestones and musicals will flash to life with the click of a mouse when Thirteen/WNET New York unveils **BROADWAY Online**, one of the most comprehensive web sites ever dedicated to the history of American musical theater, on Monday, October 4 at [www.pbs.org/broadway](http://www.pbs.org/broadway).

**BROADWAY Online** is the companion to **BROADWAY: THE AMERICAN MUSICAL**, the landmark PBS series from Thirteen premiering Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 19-21 at 9 p.m. (ET) (check local listings).

Anu Krishnan, Web producer from Thirteen's award-winning Interactive and Broadband unit, says the site will serve as an endlessly entertaining accompaniment to the six-hour documentary. "Whether you are a committed Broadway aficionado or a newcomer to this unique American art form, you will find something of interest on every page of **BROADWAY Online**," she says. "Working with series creator Michael Kantor and theater historian Laurence Maslon, the site

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[pbs.org/broadway](http://pbs.org/broadway)

**BROADWAY: The American Musical** is a co-production of Ghost Light Films, Thirteen/WNET New York, NHK, and BBC in association with Carlton International.

Funding for the series was provided by Capital One, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Dorothy and Lewis Cullman, the Shubert Organization, the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cornelius V. Starr Fund for Arts Programming, the Ira and Leonore Gershwin Philanthropic Fund, Judith B. Resnick, Vivian Milstein, Rosalind P. Walter, Bob Boyett, the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Inc., Mary and Marvin Davidson, Allen & Company, Susan R. Malloy and the Sun Hill Foundation, the DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, the Karen A. and Kevin W. Kennedy Foundation, The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Mary Rodgers and Henry Guettel, public television viewers, and PBS.

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is a vast electronic storehouse of material essential to any exploration of Broadway history.”

Like the broadcast series, **BROADWAY Online** offers viewers the epic story of musical theater and its inextricable link to 20th-century American life through portraits of key figures who toiled both on and off stage to define and develop the Great White Way. Sections include “Stars Over Broadway,” a rich cache of photos and video clips that punctuate in-depth profiles of performers, directors, choreographers, composers, and lyricists; and “Hello Broadway,” featuring essays by Laurence Maslon that explore the influences on and evolution of the Broadway musical, touching on topics not included in the series or companion book. It also includes video excerpts of interviews with some of the scholars, writers and critics who appear in the broadcast series.

The “Broadway Milestones” timeline is an interactive visual journey through the century-long evolution of musical theater, while “Memorable Musicals” offers synopses of key musicals highlighted in the series, plus a wealth of production details such as lists of key backstage talent and original cast members.

The “Broadway Trivia Game” takes users on a tour of the theater district in a timed effort to make it to a show before the curtain rises. In “Broadway Stories,” fans can email favorite memories piqued by major shows and performers showcased on **BROADWAY** series. And if users ever wondered how a six-hour television series is created, they can get an insider’s behind-the-scenes look in “About the Series.”

The “For Teachers” section features three media-rich lesson plans designed for immediate use in middle and high school classrooms. Incorporating the broadcast series, lyrics, literary works, historical references, links, and hands-on activities, the lessons embrace a wide variety of subject areas, including history, literature, music, and social studies. Teachers will also be able to download a pdf of a unique education packet connecting the music and lyrics of key musicals to eras in American history.

**BROADWAY: THE AMERICAN MUSICAL** is a co-production of Ghost Light Films, Thirteen/WNET New York, NHK, and BBC in association with Carlton International. Michael Kantor is series producer-director. Bill O'Donnell is supervising producer. Jac Venza and David Horn are executive producers.

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Thirteen/WNET New York is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *Charlie Rose*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *Wide Angle*, *Stage on Screen*, *EGG the arts show*, and *Cyberchase* – as well as the work of Bill Moyers – to audiences nationwide. As the flagship public broadcaster in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metro area, Thirteen reaches millions of viewers each week, airing the best of American public television along with its own local productions such as The Ethnic Heritage Specials, The New York Walking Tours, *New York Voices*, *Reel New York*, and its MetroArts/Thirteen cable arts programming. With educational and community outreach projects that extend the impact of its television productions, Thirteen takes television “out of the box.” And as broadcast and digital media converge, Thirteen is blazing trails in the creation of Web sites, enhanced television, CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, educational software, and other cutting-edge media products. More information about Thirteen can be found at: [www.thirteen.org](http://www.thirteen.org).

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