

MARQUEE

theatrical productions



Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

“RENT Student Edition” is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Music Theatre International.

Students *MUST* be under age 19 by show time to take part per licensing requirement.

Synopsis

Set in the East Village of New York City, *Rent School Edition* is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, it has become a pop cultural phenomenon with songs that rock and a story that resonates with audiences of all ages.

Based loosely on Puccini's *La Boheme*, *Rent School Edition* follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. The physical and emotional complications of the disease pervade the lives of Roger, Mimi, Tom and Angel. Maureen deals with her chronic infidelity through performance art; her partner, Joanne, wonders if their relationship is worth the trouble. Benny has sold out his Bohemian ideals in exchange for a hefty income and is on the outs with his former friends. Mark, an aspiring filmmaker, feels like an outsider to life in general. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking musical.

THIS SHOW HAS MATURE THEMES - A mature approach will be required in the classroom among all students.



COMMITMENT:

Commitment and strong attendance are essential when taking part in a theatrical production. Every rehearsal is a step toward creating something meaningful together, and each cast and crew member plays a vital role in that journey. Theatre is a collaborative art form that thrives on trust, consistency, and teamwork — and being present and prepared is one of the most important ways to support your fellow performers and the overall success of the show.

We do understand that illness or unexpected circumstances can occur throughout the school year, and we are always compassionate in those situations. However, please note that **more than three absences** may result in adjustments to staging, including being removed from certain scenes or songs. This is not a punishment, but rather a necessary step to ensure that the flow of the production remains strong and that the hard work of the full ensemble is protected.

Thank you for your understanding and for being part of a team that values reliability, respect, and the joy of creating theatre together.

Character Breakdown

Mark Cohen

Filmmaker and video artist. Knee deep in his own soul-searching, Mark is the typical young artist. He and Roger are roommates in the loft. A bit of a nerd.

Gender: male

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range: C3-G#4

Roger Davis

A struggling musician and former drug addict. He is reminiscent of Kurt Cobain. Roommates with Mark in the loft and battles with being HIV-positive.

Gender: male

Age: 20 to 25

Vocal range: F#2-A4

**Tom Collins**

A computer genius and liberal professor. He is a nurturer with a smooth and relaxed disposition. Used to be a roommate in the loft and is HIV-positive.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 35

Vocal range: F#2- A4

Benjamin Coffin III

The landlord of Mark and Roger's apartment building. A former roommate in the loft, Benny traded in his personal morals for power and wealth.

Gender: male

Age: 25 to 35

Vocal range: D3- F#4

Joanne Jefferson

A public interest lawyer and headstrong lesbian. She is smart and purposeful in all her decisions. Carries on a tumultuous relationship with Maureen.

Gender: female

Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range: G3 - E5

Angel Dumott Schunard

The eccentric HIV-positive street drummer. A drag queen with an incredible gift of dance and a magnetic personality. He becomes Tom's lover.

Gender: male

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range: C3 - D5

Mimi Marquez

An HIV-positive stripper with drug addictions. Slender and sickly, she conceals it all at her job in the local strip club. She lives in the same building as the loft.

Gender: female



Age: 18 to 21

Vocal range: F#3 - E5

Maureen Johnson

An unpredictably zany performance artist. Maureen oozes sexuality and used to live in the loft. She has recently dumped Mark for Joanne.

Gender: female

Age: 20 to 25

Vocal range top: G3 - F5

Ensemble

Cops; Vendors; Support Group (Paul, Steve, Gordon, Pam, Ali, Sue); Homeless People (Squeegiemans, Blanket Person); Junkies; Parents (Mrs. Cohen, Mr. And Mrs. Jefferson, Roger's Mom, Mimi's Mother); "Leap Of Faith" Backups; Bohemians

REHEARSALS

Tuesdays from 7pm-9:30pm

September 9, 2025 - May 23, 2025