



Student Theatre And Radio

Catalogue of Shows

*STAR is a full semester course
developed by Mara Purl
empowering students to create
theatre, radio and television dramas
based on their own ideas, issues, and research.*

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America the Beautiful

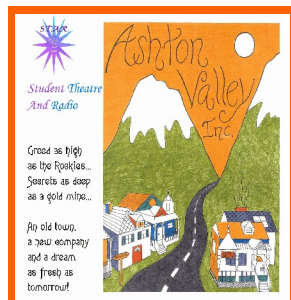


Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
original
music

Issues: Immigration, racial prejudice
Plot: A family from Peru moves to Los Angeles, but while the hard-working parents study to become legal immigrants, their high school age children struggle to keep their family secret.
School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA
Research Elements: extensive research and interviews re: immigration procedures and personal experiences

Ashton Valley, Inc.



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
college-level
research

Issues: corporate greed, history of Old West, mining processes, environmental compliance.
Plot: Employees at a small company discover not only that their missing boss has absconded with company funds, but that she's planned a clever scuttling of the firm.
School: Colorado College, CO
Research Elements: Archival studies, interviews with local business leaders and mining engineers

Boom

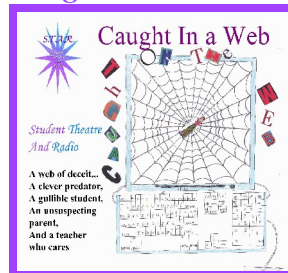


Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
multiple
perspective
s on single
event

Issues: Terrorism, anger management
Plot: Four students are falsely accused of damaging parked cars on campus, and harshly sentenced to jail time and community service. To retaliate, they plant a bomb on campus, eventually losing control of the damage done.
School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA
Research Elements: studies of headline news articles

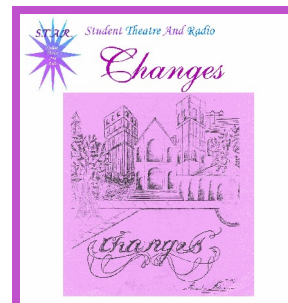
Caught In a Web



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Internet predators
Plot: An unwary student responds in a chat room to a "friend" who turns out to be a criminal wanted for sexual assault. Finally working with the police, the student helps in a sting operation that captures the criminal.
School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA
Research Elements: studies of headline news articles

Changes



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three
Features:
authentic
details
based on
experience
& police
assistance

Issues: Date rape, teen social behavior, police procedures.
Plot: A young woman dresses scantily and flirts outrageously, but is shocked when she is raped by the fellow student she is dating. With counseling, she learns that although rape is a crime, she can also express wisdom.
School: Florence Crittenton Center High School, Los Angeles, CA
Research Elements: interview with LAPD officer who visited class

Cruising

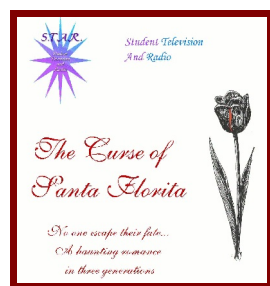


Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
original
music

Issues: White-collar crime on the high seas; earthquake recovery in a major city
Plot: An FBI agent tracks two credit-card thieves onto a cruise ship, uncovering their scam before passengers are fleeced. Meanwhile high school students whose parents are at sea deal with an earthquake at home in L.A.
School: Chatsworth High School, CA
Research Elements: interview with FBI agent who visited class for interview

(The) Curse of Santa Florita



Run Time:
82 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
professional
actors added
to cast

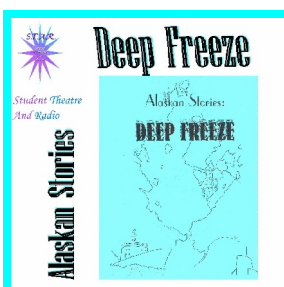
Issues: Family inheritance; California wine business; mad ambition.

Plot: A young man is thrilled when he inherits the family's elegant property and its famous vineyards. But the dark secret his family buried two generations earlier corrupts even those who mean well. Can he escape the Curse?

School: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, CO

Production Elements: students worked with Emmy-award-winning director

Deep Freeze: Alaskan Stories



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four
Features:
extraordinary
underwater
sound
effects

Issues: Arctic environmental studies, US - Russian political relations, the U.S. SICEX nuclear submarine program.

Plot: Two voyages embark for the arctic – a US sub (carring scientists and a pompous movie star), and a Russian ice-breaker. Scientists onboard must work together when the sub is trapped beneath the polar ice cap only the ice-breaker can free

School: University of Alaska Fairbanks Summer Fine Arts Camp, AK

Research Elements: Director of Arctic Studies and SICEX scientists visited class to be interviewed

Fountain Hills Mall



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
Live foley
recorded
at a real
mall

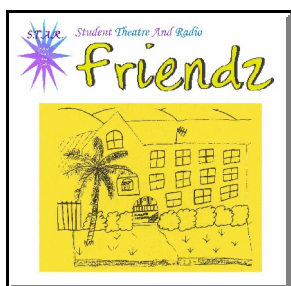
Issues: Corporate greed, child kidnaping

Plot: A mall owner contrives a kidnaping to increase publicity for his mall, and is horrified when his own daughter turns out to be the victim.

School: Fountain Valley School, CO

Research Elements: Visited local mall, interviewed business owners

Friendz



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Teen pregnancy, drug addiction.

Plot: At the Center, a home for teenage girls who are wards of the State, two girls give birth. One young mother's baby is crack-addicted, and she tries to swap her child with a healthy one. When she's discovered, rather than being punished, she is given help caring for her sick child, and learns a lesson about her own health and behavior.

School: Florence Crittenton Center High School, Los Angeles, CA

Research Elements: personal experience of young women living in a home for teenage mothers

Frozen Hearts: Alaskan Stories



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four

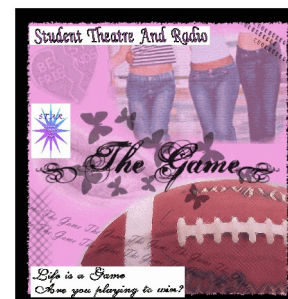
Issues: Alaskan statehood, Native Alaskan Tribal Corporations, ethics and morals

Plot: Through three generations, a bi-cultural family deals with the legacy of a Senator who secretly has children with two women of different races, one his wife and one his mistress.

School: University of Alaska Fairbanks Summer Fine Arts Camp, AK

Research Elements: assistance from Yupik Native Alaskans

(The) Game



Run Time:
30 minutes
Episodes:
Three
Features:
written &
performed by
international
students

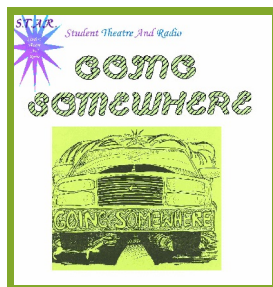
Issues: Athletic competition, rivalry, friendship, honesty, drug in sports.

Plot: Quarterback Davide is no longer certain he's the best player on the team, especially when stiff competition from Boris erodes his confidence. His confidence is shaken further when three girls he likes all seem to favor Boris as well. To handle the problem Davide drugs Boris's drink, nearly causing him to be disqualified from the game. Will the truth come out in time?

School: American School in Japan

Research Elements: personal experience of international students

Going Somewhere

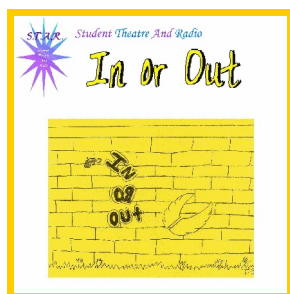


Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: searching for identity, coming of age, coercion in sports, student loans
Plot: A college athlete disappears from his dorm, and friends take a road trip to find him, uncovering that their friend was pressured to “throw” a key football game.

School: Fountain Valley School, CO

In or Out



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Peer-pressure and gang membership.

Plot: A young woman is pressured at school by class mates who want her to join their gang, while one friend encourages her to rely on her own spiritual values.

School: Florence Crittenton Center High School, Los Angeles, CA

Research Elements: personal experiences of former gang members

The Journal



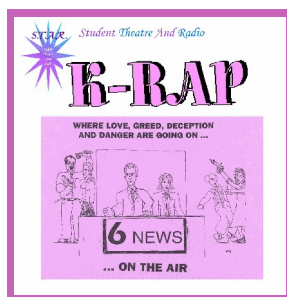
Run Time:
30 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Friendship, loyalty, privacy, relationships, journal writing.

Plot: When Stephanie notices Vanessa keeps a private journal, she plots to steal it – first to cover another of her own crimes, and second to break up Vanessa’s relationship with George. Who do you trust? Can you keep a secret?

School: American School in Japan

K-RAP



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four

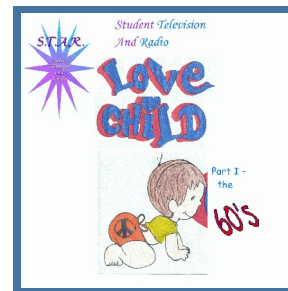
Issues: Consumer safety, truth in advertising, TV journalism, morality.

Plot: Employees at TV station K-RAP discover a lethal ingredient in a popular and addictive candy, and must choose whether or not to report this news, as the owner of their station is involved.

School: Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA), CA

Research Elements: class field trip to KCBS, Los Angeles to interview reporters, record test scenes in TV studio

Love Child – Part I



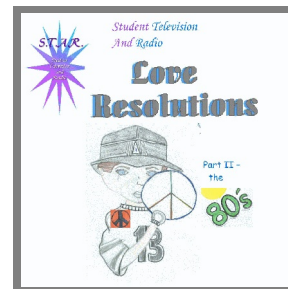
Run Time:
45 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Domestic Violence

Plot: It’s the 1960s—flower power & the peace movement on one hand, violent war protests against the Vietnam War on the other. Social pressure makes it necessary for a young couple to get married to raise the child they’re suddenly expecting. Will love be enough to keep them together?

School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy

Love Resolution – Part 2



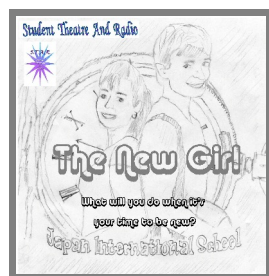
Run Time:
48 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Environment: toxic water in small town; corporate compliance, scientific testing.

Plot: It’s the 1980s—leveraged buy-outs, burgeoning new technologies, and the environmental movement. But old loves and ancient ills clash until they are faced and healed. Can issues that have persisted over two decades be resolved?

School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA

(The) New Girl



Run Time:
36 minutes
Episodes:
Three

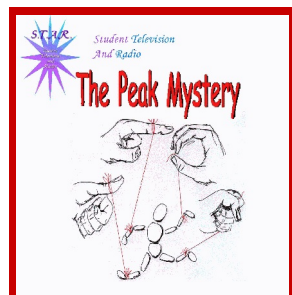
Features:
Recorded by
students both
in Tokyo and
Los Angeles

Issues: New student, cliques, jealousy, honesty, integrity, faith

Plot: Amber, a student in Los Angeles, reflects on her semester in Tokyo, where her new friends Summer and Erik have been going steady most of high school. But when Katrina arrives as a new girl at school, she does everything she can to break them up, and ruin friendships in the process.

School: American School in Japan

(The) Peak Mystery



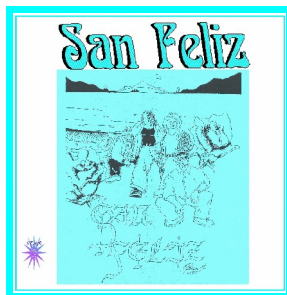
Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four

Issues: point-of-view and perspective, friendships and priorities, fraud and school pressure.

Plot: An FBI investigator searches for a student missing from Peak College, to discover a complex web of fraud and conflicting stories, as each of four narrators tells the same story from his or her own point of view.

School: Colorado College, CO

San Feliz



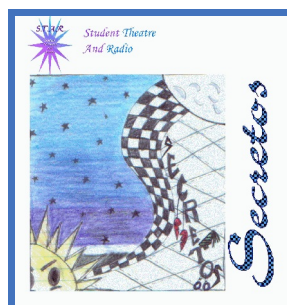
Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Consumer & FTC regulations, investigative journalism

Plot: An investigative reporter in a large port city in California discovers a company is importing unapproved products and producing a dangerous soft drink and . But to prove it, the reporter must pose as an employee at the plant.

School: San Pedro High School, CA

Secretos



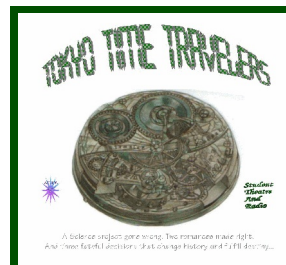
Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Blackmail, race relations, secrets, jealousy, manipulation, judgement

Plot: Family members and friends each have a secret they think will not affect anyone else. But when arguments about interracial dating cause fear, parents discover they've been judging wrongly, friends discover they can trust one another after all, and authenticity proves to be stronger than secrets.

School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA

Tokyo Time Travelers



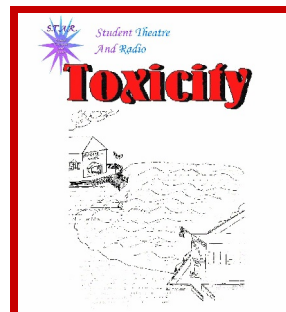
Run Time:
40 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Issues: Science projects, quantum theory, time travel, history.

Plot: Johnny is trying to help his friend Rudiger with an unlikely science experiment that suddenly works too well. Finding himself fifty years in the past, Johnny and his friends solve a mystery and Johnny finds the girl of his dreams. Does he stay in the past? Or go back to the future?

School: American School in Japan

Toxicity



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four

Issues: Environment, toxic water in small town, corporate compliance, scientific testing.

Plot: Students from rival schools situated on either side on the same pond competing for a national science prize, discover chromium-6 in the local water supply and uncover a plot by a so-called philanthropist

School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA
Research Elements: interview with director of Heal The Bay who visited class for interview

Westland High



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Three

Features:
based on
actual
events

Issues: Domestic Violence

Plot: A high school senior is the star athlete of his school, but all his life has hidden his father's violence. Now in counseling, he realizes the tragic death of his mother years earlier was not his fault, and at last he begins to heal.

School: Fountain-Ft. Carson High School, CO

Research Elements: interviews with counselors who visited class

Wrong Way



Run Time:
60 minutes
Episodes:
Four

Issues: Teens wrestle with drunk driving, alcoholism and drug abuse

Plot: A high school is spending her Prom night in a coma. We are privy to her dream-thoughts as she reviews her own and her friends' abuse of alcohol and drugs to deal with their frustrations. Meanwhile her friends' concerns wakes them up to a sense of how previous life is and how to lead their lives better.

School: North Hollywood High School Media & Entertainment Academy, CA

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