Evita is based on the historical story of María Eva Duarte de Perón, a poor Argentinian girl who grows up to be the wife of the president of Argentina, worshipped by her people. In Buenos Aires, Evita finds fame and power in her powers of seduction, eventually seducing the rising political figure, Juan Perón, who becomes the President of Argentina. As First Lady of Argentina, she aligns herself with the poor, winning herself, and Perón, popularity among Argentinians. Evita becomes a hero to the poor and the working class—and an enemy to the rich. This blockbuster musical shows both the righteous determination, and the ruthless power, of Argentina’s 20th century matriarch.

Activities

Spectrum of Difference
Answer questions about the themes of the show by making a mark on the line between disagree and agree. The closer you are to either side, the more certain you are. Have friends and family also make marks.

Write a Review
After seeing the production, have each student write a review of Orlando Shakes’ production of Evita. The review should include one paragraph each for introduction, the script, the score, the acting, the design, the staging, and the audience.

Discussion & Themes
Why do you think that Evita always and everywhere preached absolute devotion to her husband? How did Evita become a cultural symbol in the nineties? What do the authors think she symbolized? What do you think she symbolized? All in all, do you think Evita’s contributions to Argentine society were good or bad? Defend your answer.

See the full study guide for expanded activities.

Florida Standards

LA.FS.910. RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
LA.FS.910.RH.1: Key Ideas and Details
LA.FS.1112.SL.1: Comprehension and Collaboration
LA.FS.910.W.1: Text Types and Purposes
LA.FS.1112.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
TH.912.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts
TH.68.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential

PG-13 Language, Use of Alcohol and Tobacco, Sexual Themes, Violence, Upsetting Content

Most appropriate for Grade 8 and up. Children under 5 will not be admitted to the theater.