

Reflections

by

The Nalujuk Players
Amos Comenius Memorial School, Hopedale

Cast:

Grandmother.....	Brenda Flowers
Mother.....	Veronica Flowers
Teacher (1950) Ms. Thorne	Anjelica Vincent
Student 1 (1950) Ruth	Veronica Flowers
Student 2 (1950) Sarah	Madison Beattie
Student 3 (1950) Mary	Claire Igloliorte
Young Grandmother (1950) Betty	Alexis Coombs
Teacher (1980s) Ms. Penny	Veronica Flowers
Student 4 (1980s) Sandy	Alexis Coombs
Student 5 (1980s) Sue-Ellen	Claire Igloliorte
Student 6 (1980s) Bobby-Anne	Madison Beattie
Young Mom (1980s) Olivia	Anjelica Vincent
Teacher (2012) Ms. Doyle	Madison Beattie
Student 7 (2012) Maddy	Claire Igloliorte
Student 8 (2012) Lexi	Alexis Coombs
Student 9 (2012) Clara	Anjelica Vincent
Student 10 (2012) Angela	Brenda Flowers
Student 11 (2012) Destiny	Veronica Flowers
Child (2012) Jean	Halle Lucy_

Teacher Director: Courtney Reid

Program notes:

Through a series of flashbacks and 'reflections' we see how school life has changed through the past six decades.

Scene 1

SR: Child enters after getting ready for school, Grandma in her rocking chair knitting.

Child: Nan, have you seen my iPad? I need it for school.

Grandma: What, an eye patch? What's wrong with your eye?

Child: Nan, it's an iPad, EVERYONE'S got them, it's like a computer without a keyboard and cords. It's got a camera, touchable screen, cool apps... it's a rectangle about this size and flat.

Child shows the size of the iPad with her hands.

Grandma: Oh, you talking about this?

Grandma takes iPad out of knitting basket. Child sits down.

Grandma: I was using it to divide my needles and yarn.

Child: Nan it's not for that! It's for my school work.

Grandma: Well I didn't know what it was for and I certainly didn't have one when I was going to school. Let me tell you what school was like for me....

Lights dim on stage right. Lights up on stage left.

Scene 1

SL: 9:00a.m. kids walking into classroom quietly. Mary places the wood next to the stove. Sarah places the pail of water next to the window. Students go to their desks and get out slates. Teacher walks in after students.

Teacher: Good morning class.

Students: Good morning Ms. Thorne.

Teacher: Please stand for the Lord's prayer.

Everyone stand, folds their hands and bows head.

Teacher and students [together]: "Our father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into

temptation but deliver us from evil for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen."

Students take their seats.

Teacher: Mary, did you bring in the junks of wood for the fire?

Mary: Yes, ma'am, I put it over by the stove.

Teacher: Sarah, did you bring the pail of drinking water?

Sarah: Yes, ma'am, I placed it on the table next to the window to stay cool.

Teacher: Ruth, would you mind lighting the lantern? It's dull and rainy outside.

Ruth: yes, right away ma'am.

Ruth gets out of her seat and lights the lantern with a match.

Mary: Excuse me Miss, there's rain dripping on my desk.

Teacher: Move your desk to the side and get the bucket. The felt must have blown off the roof again.

Mary moves her desk and gets the bucket.

Betty: Ms. what do we have first? Arithmetic's, spelling, reading, or writing?

Teacher: We have spelling first. Take out your slates and I'll call out the words. Number one, Hopedale. *Pause.* Number two, Makkovik. *Pause.* Number three, Postville. *Pause.*

Students write down the words as the teacher calls them out. Sarah raises her hand.

Teacher: Yes Sarah?

Sarah: Ma'am, may I go get a glass of water?

Teacher: Yes, Sarah. Please be prompt.

Sarah gets up and notices that her dogs are untied.

Sarah: Ma'am, may I go outside? My dog team is untied and I wouldn't want to walk home.

Teacher: Yes, Sarah, you may. The rest of the class can sweep the floor while we are waiting.

Sarah gets up and goes out to get her dogs while the rest of the students sweep the floor. Teacher goes to her desk and does work. Students are left to talk amongst themselves. Ruth does not get out of her seat.

Mary: So, Betty, did you happen to see James at church on Sunday night?

Betty: Yes, I happened to catch his eye looking in my direction.

The girls cover their mouth and giggle.

Ruth: Girls, what on Earth are you giggling about?

Mary: Oh, nothing.

Betty: My dad, brother, and James are gone to the country caribou hunting.

Mary: Yeah, my dad is gone caribou hunting also.

Teacher: Ruth, I notice you are still in your seat and not doing your chores. Why is that?

Ruth: Sorry, I was up early this morning baking bread and I'm really tired.

Teacher: No excuses! Go do your work; I do NOT want to get out my strap!

Lights dim on stage left. Lights up on stage right.

Slide show and "One Room School" song plays.

Scene 2

SR

Grandmother: Those were the good ole days. My things have certainly changed since the 1950s.

Child: I think I'd be bored if I grew up back then.

Grandmother: No my child, we were never bored.

Child: What did you do after school?

Grandmother: Well, the girls would spend their time cleaning, cooking, ironing, sewing and doing the dishes. The boys would bring in wood, get water and go hunting.

Child: What did you do for fun?

Grandmother: We went to church, picked berries, went sliding and played Inuit games.

Child: I bet life was a lot different back then.

Mother walks in.

Mother: What are you two talking about?

Child: I was looking for my iPad and Nan started telling me about what school was like in her days. Did you know that Nan had to bring her own fire wood and drinking water to school?

Mother: Well, I never had to do that, but let me tell you what it was like when I was going to school...

Lights dim on stage right. Lights up on stage left.

Scene 3

SL Kids walking into class laughing and singing but take their seats shortly after. Teacher walks in.

Teacher: Good morning class!

Students: Good morning Ms. Penny.

Teacher takes out the register.

Teacher: Bobby-Anne?

Bobby-Anne: Present.

Teacher: Sandy?

Sandy: Present.

Teacher: Sue-Ellen?

Sue-Ellen: Present.

Teacher: Olivia?

Bobby-Anne: She's not here yet.

Teacher: O.K., thank you Bobby Ann. Please take out your history books. We are going to learn about an explorer named John Cabot. In 1497, he left England on the boat, the Matthew, in search of Asia. He had mistaken Canada for Asia and claimed Canada. When he got to Cana-

Bobby-Anne starts singing Dancing Queen

Bobby-Anne: Dancing queen young and sweet only-

Teacher: Bobby-Anne!

Bobby-Anne stops singing.

Teacher: When he got to Canada he noticed that the waters were filled with cod fish.

Olivia enters the classroom all out of breath and in a hurry.

Olivia: Sorry Ms. Penny, the chain came off my bike and I had to run the rest of the way. Can I get a drink at the tap? All of this running made me thirsty.

Teacher: Yes, you may.

Olivia goes to the tap to get a glass of water.

Sandy: Ms., could I please turn on the lights so I could see the chalkboard?

Teacher: Yes, Sandy.

Sandy goes and turns on the lights, Bobby-Anne starts singing AGAIN.

Bobby-Anne: So when your near me darling can't you hear me SOS-

Teacher: BOBBY-ANNE! STOP INTERRUPTING!

Bobby-Anne stops singing.

Sue-Ellen: May I go get a drink too? My dad didn't get a chance to get water this morning.

Teacher: Yes Sue-Ellen you may go. It's a luxury to have running water here at the school.

Sue-Ellen goes to get a glass of water. Bobby-Anne starts singing again

Bobby-Anne: Mamma Mia here I go again my, my how can I resist you...

Teacher: BOBBY-ANNE THE NEXT TIME YOU INTERRUPT, YOU WILL BE WRITING LINES ON THE CHALK BOARD!

Bobby-Anne: Sorry Miss, my mom just brought back the new Abba 8-track yesterday when she came in on the float plane from Goose-Bay.

Olivia: I just got the new Kenny Rogers record last week.

Teacher: Okay class, we need to get back on track. Does anyone know why John Cabot was excited to find cod fish in the ocean? What does this mean for England?

Sandy raises her hand.

Teacher: Yes Sandy?

Sandy: They were hungry from the trip.

Teacher: Well, not quite.

Sue-Ellen raises her hand.

Teacher: Yes Sue-Ellen?

Sue-Ellen: Because they were really big?!

Teacher does a face palm. Olivia raises her hand.

Teacher: Yes Olivia? Do you know the correct answer?

Olivia: John Cabot was the first explorer to reach Newfoundland therefore England now had control of the land and resources. This includes the cod fish.

Teacher: Very good, Olivia.

Bobby-Anne: Ms. Penny, where did you get your dress?

Teacher: I made it with my new sewing machine I purchased from Eaton's.

Bobby-Anne: It's very pretty miss. My mom was looking for an Eaton's catalog. May I borrow it for my mom?

Teacher: I'm sorry Bobby-Anne, but it's in the outhouse. Now, back to the lesson. John Cabot was a very brave explorer...

Bell rings.

Teacher: You're dismissed for recess. We'll continue this lesson next class.

Teacher exits the classroom.

Sandy: Who wants to play monkey dance?

Sue-Ellen: No, that's too difficult. Let's try foot to foot. The losers will have to buy the winner a snack from Sylvia's takeout at lunch time.

All students begin to play foot to foot. Lights dim on stage left. Lights up on stage right.

Scene 3

SR Grandma in her chair, knitting.

Child: Mom, what was your favorite northern game as a child? We still play them today sometimes in gym class.

Mom: My favorite ones were seal crawl and owl hop.

Child: How do you play seal crawl?

Grandma: Oh, we used to play that too when I was a young girl. You would get on the floor on your belly at the starting point and cross over your legs. You'd then lift yourself up with your arms and crawl as fast as you can.

Child: Oh, like this?

Child tries to demonstrate it but does it wrong.

Mother: No, not like that. Let me show you how to do it.

Mother demonstrates it proper.

Child: Oh, ok. Like this?

Child does it proper. Bus honks.

Grandma: Oh, your bus is here.

Mother: Have a good day at school.

Child picks up her school bag.

Grandma: *[Laughing]* Don't forget your eye patch!

Child: *[Smiling]* Yes Nan, I have my eye patch. Bye!

Child holds up iPad and puts it in her school bag. Child exits. Lights dim on stage right. Lights up on stage left.

Scene 3

SL Student enters class as the bell rings and teacher walks in behind them.

Teacher: Good morning, guys.

Students: Hey miss. We got gym?

Teacher: Nope. It's your lucky day! You got me all day!

Students sigh.

Teacher: First things first. Let's see who's here. Lexi?

Lexi: Hi.

Teacher: Maddy?

Maddy: Here.

Teacher: Clara?

Clara: Sup?

Teacher: Jean?

Jean: Not here.

Teacher: Don't be smart, Jean.

Teacher: Destiny?

Lexi: She's not here yet.

Teacher: Angela?

Maddy: She's not here yet. She probably slept in again because she was on Facebook all night.

Teacher: Stop assuming Maddy, you don't know that for sure.

Maddy: Yes she was on Facebook.

Teacher: How do you know?

Maddy: Cause I was up all night chattin' to her.

Teacher: Oh, I see. Let's just get on to the lesson now.

Clara: What do we have first?

Teacher: We have language. Take out your i-thingies.

Jean: You mean iPads?

Teacher: Yea, whatever i device you have with you. It can be your iPhone, iPad, or iPod.

Students take out their i-devices.

Teacher: Go on notes and write a little paragraph about Christmas traditions. You can use safari for your research.

Teacher hears the angry birds theme song.

Teacher: Hey, who's on angry birds?!

Students: Not me.

Maddy: It was Lexi. *Pointing*

Lexi: Not even! Stop trying to get me in trouble. I don't want to have detention after school. I have plans.

Students continue to work on their iDevices. Angela and Destiny stroll in with their music blasted on their headphones.

Destiny: We ga gym awa miss?

Teacher: No. Why are you guys late?

Angela takes out earphones.

Angela: Wha?

Teacher: Why are you late?! This is the third time you've been late this week!

Angela: I was up late last night.

Teacher: Destiny, why are you late?

Destiny: I just came from store. I had to get coke and chips for recess. *[Holds up bag of junk].*

Teacher: Oh yeah, who brought back their homework?

Clara, Jean, and Maddy pass in their homework to the teacher.

Teacher: What about you, Angela?

Angela: It's home.

Teacher: What's it doing back there?

Angela: Having more fun than me.

Teacher: Angela! Keep that up and you'll be staying after school with me.

Angela smiles.

Jean: Miss, could I go bathroom a bit?

Teacher: Yes, sign out and take the hall pass. Don't go roaming the hallways!

Jean: I won't.

Maddy falls asleep on desk, Lexi pokes her and she sits up again.

Clara: Lexi, where you get your Bench sweater?

Lexi: I bought it on e-bay and I just bought another one. I got a good deal too.

Lexi shows it to Clara on her iPod.

Clara: Ee, cool color.

Teacher: FOCUS, PEOPLE! These paragraphs are due by the end of class!

Students: OK, fine.

Jean enters the classroom.

Destiny: Walkin' around, hey?

Jean: No.

Jean sits down and continues to work.

Teacher: The bell is about to ring. E-mail me your work. I'll put your marks on Edmodo by tomorrow.

Bell rings. Students put their iDevices away.

Teacher: OK guys, get ready for math class. We'll be working on the smart board.

Students sigh. Lights suddenly turn off.

Maddy: Hey, powers off!

Students: Wa-hooooo! No school!

Angela: Oh man, no power, which means there'll be no internet. How am I supposed to chat with my friends now? I'm going to be SO bored!

Destiny: I know. My iPad is almost dead too. How am I supposed to charge it?

PA announcement: "Sorry for the interruption, due to a power outage, school will be cancelled until further notice".

Students cheer again.

Teacher: You are dismissed for the morning. Make sure you bring your homework tomorrow.

Students pack up their belongings and get ready to go home.

Jean: My nan was telling me this morning all of the things that she used to do when she was a kid with no power. She used to go berry picking, play Inuit games, and do chores around the house. We can still have fun with no power.

Lexi: *[Looking at her iPod].* There's no app for Inuit games on my iPod.

Jean: You use YOUR BODY to play the games, not just your fingertips.

Maddy: That sounds like fun. Let's try that.

Clara: Yeah! We'll go to my house and play them.

Destiny: Let's go.

Angela: Come on!

Maddy is zipping up her school bag.

Maddy: Hey, wait up guys.

Students walk out of the classroom.

End