

## Past, Present and Future / Hopedale

### Story, theme and theatre style

Sweet story about growing old together and reflecting on the past

Good moral message about listening to both sides of the story.

The title is great / simple and effective

### STAGING

Nice connection to the audience from Amelia / direct address from the front of the stage

Long blackouts / could lose some of the black outs if you had a look at the 2 main worlds of the play (school and home/hang out space) and have those be there all the time with slight adjustments (disco light for the school dance for example)

Lighting can also be used to indicate a new space and time

Flashback was not clear / what were you trying to do to flashback?

The staging of the burial of the keepsake box with a box and blanket was simple but effective. Love that it stayed there the whole time.

Music in the change of scenes would work nicely and the lights could be slightly dimmed to allow for slight adjustments / sometimes can look like a dance and even be humorous.

Lastly, the ending can flow from one scene to the other to avoid feeling like the play is ending. The last line of each scene can suggest a continuing ....( ..come between our friendship again..even into our golden year..) by then all have left the stage one at a time after their intro and the last one leaves to get changed as others come on stage slowly... which will make sense.

### Character development and acting

You were all so clear on your characters! and personalities with nice little touches in the lines to help us understand who they are as a group dynamic / the leader, the jokester, the emotionally available one, the quiet one etc.

I recommend that you remove the apology (sorry) in the text of Amelia and add more excuses as though she is defending herself. We need to feel empathy for the group of

friends and understand why they would reject her for a while. If she apologizes, that is harder to do. It will also give Amelia somewhere to go. Amelia was honest when she said that she was afraid to say something / she shared her feelings and said she would like to go back in time and make another decision so respect her for that but if she gives a few excuses (it was my sister not me....) then the rejection makes sense. And then later the group is interested in hearing her side of the story which will satisfy the audience's need for them to have a realization too, because they miss her, which could lead to the reconciliation

I hope she can forgive us too / nice line to lead to reconciliation because time has passed and she must have suffered.

### Physical portrayal of characters

Your portrayal of older characters was excellent!!! BRAVO! We loved them and believe them.

The cracking of the bones when grannies got up was gold! could have it happen when they bend down too. In clown we have the rule of 3, it applies to all comedy actually. If you could figure out how to work in the cracking 3 times with the third time a little different and lowder, that would raise the roof!!!

I like the premise of them all growing old together and doing the time capsule. It shows commitment to friendship through thick and thin. very valuable lesson.

Maybe there could also be a little more realism with the jobs and accomplishments which seems all very successful / it sets a very high bar for the audience and feels unrealistic / we all go through highs and lows, making room for that story helps keep it real.

Great work ladies!!! I loved this group of friends! it felt like maybe in real life you are also friends. You seemed very comfortable on stage together. Natural! Keep up the great work!