

The Open Classroom  
Drama Department presents

**YOU'RE A GOOD MAN**  
**CHARLIE BROWN**



February 16, 17 & 18, 2012



Based on the cartoon characters created by Charles Schulz  
Music & lyrics by Clark Gesner & Andrew Lippa  
Produced by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark

## A Note from our Director, Gaby Saxton:

This show represents the end for some of my most beloved company members. This 8th grade graduating class will be extremely hard to say goodbye to in the spring. I have helped raise them - some since they were five - as their parent co-oper, teacher, director, and finally friend. This does not mean I don't love all my actors and crew...but every once in a while you get a set that is so special that it is painful to see them go. There are three kids especially amazing to me in this production and I will openly admit I chose this show for them.

One, of course, is my own son, Kirby. He represents the last Saxton actor to come through the OC. I started doing OC Drama for my eldest son, but continued for my youngest. As they say about Charlie Brown in the opening song, "you were made for this part"- so is Kirby. He starts his adventure toward adulthood but he will always have OC Drama, and me, behind him in whatever he tries. And he will never have a bigger fan than me! My favorite moment in this show comes at the end of the first song when Kirbo holds a 20 second note and does it beautifully.

I knew Gabrielle Grundvig would be the perfect Lucy - although Gabrielle is the farthest from Lucy in real life as you can get- but I have never had an actor pay attention, learn, and strive harder to become the best actress she could be in my time as a Director. Every moment Gabs is on stage she is working to be her best. Nobody has better diction, reaches higher, or gives more in their acting. Some may be better actors naturally but no-one gives more to their performances. Gaby will also work to follow directions and trust her directors even when she, herself, is not sure she can play the part. She was unsure she could "pull-off" Lucy, but Sissy and I knew. We told her she could and she did it with more heart and gusto than anyone else could. I am so proud to have given her a start in theatre and to have our opening night happen on her Mother's Birthday.

Often in theatre only actors get the applause, but make no mistake, Maisy Phelps is the heart of this department and it is time for her to take her bow (even if she has no desire to do so in front of any of you!). She loves this place and knows what I need even before I do. She is the hardest working member of our company and she is never seen on stage. Most of the time she hasn't even seen the shows from the audience's point of view but she knows them more intimately than anyone, including myself. Nothing - illness, Doctor's appointments, even her Father's passing - kept Maisy away from our theatre. I have never known a stronger person in my life and I tell her every day how much she means to me...but she will never understand. Her grace, commitment, and love of theatre makes me want to keep creating shows so that we may continue to provide a space for other kids as amazing as Maisy.

With all of the work being done on the building we did not know if we were going to have theatre this year. I have carried these three individuals in my heart, along with my other exceptional 8th graders whom I adore- Jordan, Emerson, Leo, Sarah, Dimitri, Jonah, Sam, Siobhan, Kiera, and Logon - as reasons to make it happen. I wanted these guys to have one last show and I wanted it to be *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

-Gaby

# *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* Cast and Crew

**Charlie Brown:** Kirby Saxton

**Snoopy:** Sadiki McWhinnie

**Lucy Van Pelt:** Gabrielle Grundvig

**Linus:** Sean Deegan

**Sally:** Faoiltiarna Schlenker

**Schroeder:** Emerson Call

**Little Red Haired Girl:** Jordan Allen

**Marcie:** Eliza Danzig

**Peppermint Patty:** Sarah Watterson

**Pig Pen:** Casey Horvat

**Violet:** Jasmine Trevizo

**Woodstock:** Jonah Deal

**Chorus:** Abigail Fausett, Adelaide Call, Brenda Magana, Cam Denton, Corbin Madrill, Dimitri Kasmas, Grace Wason, James Jette, Josh Davies, June Lee, Katie Watterson, Lorynn Thompson, Mandy Ellison, Michael Davies, Morgan Melville, Paige Sandoval, Ryan Grundvig, Zoe Colquitt, Sam Kennard, Olivia Davis, Skye Simmonds



**Director:** Gaby Saxton

**Musical Director and Choreography:** Maren “Sissy” Abercrombie

**Costume Design:** Val Saxton

**Set Design:** Gaby Saxton

**Set Build:** Tech Theatre Explore-Pete Jones, Gaby Saxton, Maisey, Alexi, Casey, Mandy, Gabrielle, Jordan, Sarah, Katie, Adelaide, Michael, Lilly, Sean, Jonah, Sam, Crew II Science and cast.

**Program/Poster/T-Shirt design:** Angie Millgate

**Production Photos:** Angie Millgate

**Props:** Props Explore class, Chrissy McWhinnie, Jen Hyde, Khyia, Rachel, and Zoe.

**Portrait Artwork:** Beverly Hill

**Banner Art work:** Aileen Hagen, Tina and Upper Grade students

**Stage Manger:** Maisy Phelps

**House Manger:** Sienna Miller

**Asst. Stage Manager:** Siobhan Lowther

**Back Stage Crew:** Andrew, Ainsley (former OC graduate), Josh, Sam, and Ivy

**Spotlights:** Jake and Preston

**Mics:** Logan

**Sound:** Kiera

**Light Board:** Cierrah

**Pianist:** Leo Stillinger

## A Note from our Musical Director/Choreographer:

Happiness is spending my time doing what I love the most with the people that I love the most. When I started working at the OC as Easton's aide (when these eighth graders were in kindergarten), I knew I'd found a great job, but I had no idea I would fall in love with these children. Now that I have my own child, I can honestly say that one of my greatest wishes for her is that she can become as awesome as these kids.

It has been an honor to share my love of music with these kids. Seeing them grow from timid whisperers to confident singers makes me so proud! I hope they take that lesson into their lives and "go big or go home". I love these kids. Every single one.

Also, I'd like to echo Gaby's sentiments. I'll miss these eighth graders desperately. It has been amazing watching them grow.

Lastly: I love working with Gaby. She is a gifted director, and I have learned more from working with her over the past several years than in all my college classes combined. She teaches much more than just acting, she teaches confidence, passion, risk-taking, and love. Thank you Gaby. You are much more than just my sister—you're my greatest example and my best friend.

-Sissy



## Special Thanks...

To Sissy and Cielle who donated every afternoon to be here with our kids. Without them we would not have a musical or the cutest mascot ever! A heartfelt thanks, and huge appreciation, to Angie Millgate and Val Saxton for our awesome poster, program, shirts, and the most amazing costumes ever! Thanks Chris (who always works hard to get us what we need to produce the shows our kids desire for themselves) and Carolyn, Mark Abercrombie, West Jordan High School, Tina, Claudia, Denny Jo, Penny, Pam, and O'lynn. Thanks to the whole OC Faculty, Barb, Laura Lockhart, Chrissy McWhinnie, Jen Hyde, Beverly Hill, and Aileen Hagen. I also want to acknowledge all the snack donations, hair, costumes, and make-up support from the variety of our wonderful parents. The gift of your children, and their time, cannot be matched. Thank you for sharing your amazing, gifted, and talented children with us. We want to give a special thanks to our set builder supreme, Pete Jones. He built us our whole set and made tech theatre so much fun! And we must thank, and acknowledge, Will Saxton and Murray High Drama. We could not do these shows without your love and support!

## Abigael “Abby” Fausett



(Chorus) is in 6th grade. She has been in many plays over the years, but the ones she has enjoyed more were done by

The OC where she has been in *Charlotte’s Web* and *Schoolhouse Rock*. Abby wants to give big thanks to her parents and stepparents for supporting her through this play. She also wants to give thanks to Gaby and Sissy (the directors), and Tina my teacher, for also helping with production. “Thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!” Abby says, “And see you at the play!!”

## Brenda “B-Rey” Magana



(Chorus) is in 5th grade. Brenda is passionate about acting and she is very excited for her second performance

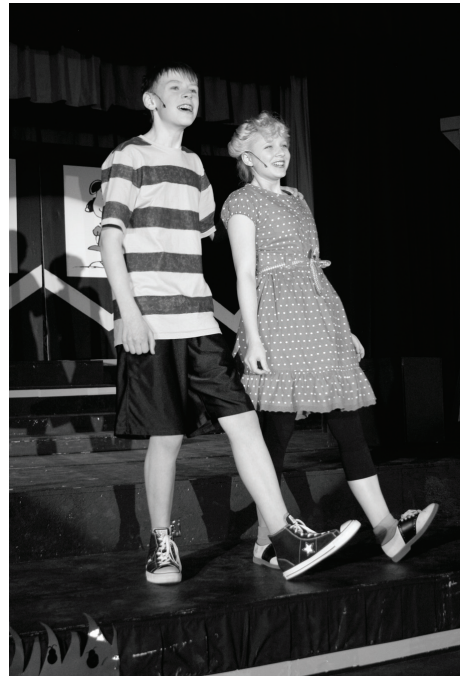
and finally getting to work with Gaby. She has begun to learn to play the guitar with hopes of one day writing and recording her own music, just as her idol - Taylor Swift. She looks forward to being part of many productions here at the OC, and MANY MANY MORE thereafter. Brenda says, “To my big (HUGE) family- THANK YOU for all your loving support! <3 B-Rey”

## Adelaide Call (Chorus) is in 6th



grade and she is excited to be a part of *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and this is her third show with The OC

drama department. She was in *Charlotte’s Web* and *Schoolhouse Rock*. Some of her favorite things to do are play with her friends, write books, watch movies and eat food. She hopes you enjoy the show!!!



**Cam Denton** (Chorus) is in 6th



grade and has been in *Charlotte's Web* and *Schoolhouse Rock Live*. She would like to dedicate this

to Gaby and Sissy and thanks everyone who supported her during the making of *Charlie Brown*. "Hope you enjoy the show!!"

**Casey Horvat** (Pig Pen) is in

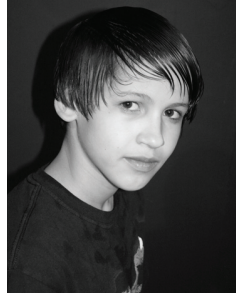


6th grade and he is very happy to be a part of The OC's production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* in his

7th year at the open classroom. Casey has been in two plays with the school before: *Charlotte's Web*, and *Schoolhouse Rock Live Junior*. He has also acted in 6 plays with the C Street Child Development center's theater camp: *Cinderella*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Charlie in the Chocolate Factory*, *Hairspray*, *Twilight Dome*, and *Robin Hood*. Casey enjoys sports, namely Soccer and Baseball and he'd like to give thanks to all our wonderful directors, techies, Angie, (who made this program!) the other

actors, and everybody else who helped make this show a great performance! We couldn't have done it without you! :) (:

**Corbin "C Low" Madrill**



(Chorus) is in 6th grade and this is his first production and he is enjoying the play. Corbin would like

Gaby to know he thinks she is the GREATEST teacher ever! And he wants to give a shout out to his Bro!

**Dimitri Kamas** (Chorus) is in



8th grade and although he was born in the USA, hespent his younger years in Chios, a small Island

in Greece. Though his heart still dreams back to the Blue Sea, fresh seafood and old Greek traditions, he spends his educational years in the US. He did Capoeira (Brazilian Marshal Art) for several years, and has moved on to his new sport of basketball. He enjoys rap music and is also known as "The Real Dim Shady". He spends time with his family - a household full of many colorful American,

Greek and Argentine cultures. He has a compassionate heart and hopes one day to become a veterinarian.

### Eliza “Lizzy” Danzig



(Marcie) is in 6th grade and this is the second play she has been in at the O.C. – the first one was

*Schoolhouse Rock*. She would like to thank Gaby, Sissy, her mom and Dad for their time and help.

### Emerson “Rocky” Call



(Schroeder) is in 8th grade. This is Emerson’s first musical, but he has been in many other O.C. productions.

He would like to thank Gaby for making this show awesome! He would also like to thank Tiger. BWABBIDYBWOW!

### Faoiltiarna Schlenker (Sally)



is in 7th grade and hails from Atlanta, Georgia. She began acting in the third grade and she is extremely excited to be

playing Sally in *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Faoiltiarna has appeared in numerous Open Classroom productions such as *Annie* (Molly), *The Shakespeare Project* (A Player), *In A Pickle* (Alien #1), and *A Grand Old Tree* (New Tree). If Faoiltiarna is not on the stage, she can be found out on the soccer pitch or reading a good book. She would like to thank her mom for supporting her and driving her everywhere even though she grumbles about it and her brother Hank for helping to run lines and teaching her some new dance moves. Finally, she would like to thank her friends (Y’all know I love you!).



**Gabrielle Grundvig** (Lucy Van



Pelt) is in 8th grade. Gabrielle has been in many OC plays, including *School House Rock Live Jr.* (lead),

*Charlotte's Web* (the Goose), and *Annie Jr.* (Pepper), to name a few. She is excited to play the role of Lucy Van Pelt in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!* Gabrielle would like to thank all the "Blockheads!" who have supported her in this show. Special thanks to her family, cast members, the amazing director, Gaby Saxton, and the fantastic choreographer/music director, Sissy Abercrombie. She would like to dedicate this play to her friends (Kiera, Shalom, Lucia, etc), family, the cast members (techies included), and all of her soon-to-be new relatives! As this will be Gabrielle's last play at the OC, she hopes it will be the best production yet! Enjoy!

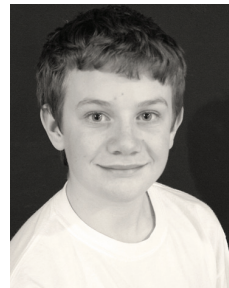
**Grace Wason** (Chorus) is in



5th grade and this is her debut with Sissy and Gaby. She has been in smaller productions like

*Enchanted* (Theodore) and *The Ginger Bread Girl* (Little Bo Peep). Grace would like to thank Gaby, Sissy, Genny, Paul, her Mom, her Dad, friends and family because, without them, this wouldn't be possible.

**James "JJ" Jette** (Chorus) is



in 7th grade. Thanks goes to Gabby and my Family for all their support.



**House, Light and Sound Crew**

**Front Row:** (L to R) Preston, Logan, Sienna, Kiera

**Back Row:** (L to R) Cierrah, Logan, Jake





**Jasmine Trevizo** (Violet) is in 7th grade and this is her fourth show at the OC! She loves acting and Gaby! Jasmine says, "I

would like to dedicate this show to my friend Amelia who just died of cancer." She would also like to thank Gaby and Sissy and to give a hug to Alexis for being the best brother ever!

**Jonah "Super Understudy" Deal** (Woodstock) is in 8th



grade and he ran sound for *Schoolhouse Rock* and he is happy to be on stage, but he misses the new sound equipment!

Jonah is happy to create the role of Woodstock since he loves Peanuts! He would like all of you to refer to him as Woodstock Ninja!

**Jordan "Skywalker" Allen**



(Little Red Haired Girl) is in 8th grade and offers her thanks: to Mom - thank you for letting me be in the plays; to Dad - thank you for helping with tech theater. She says, "Thank you, all."

**Josh "Jursh" Davies** (Chorus)



is in 7th grade and he would love to thank Gaby and Sissy for making this wonderful experience possible for

him and, of course, his parents for having me join the OC Drama Department when he wasn't sure. Josh has been in the Up With Kids performance of *The Little Mermaid's Adventure with the Pirates of the Carribean* in second grade and he was a Techie in the OC's *Schoolhouse Rock Live*. Josh says, "I would love to dedicate my performance to Kiera Brown, Logan Ostler, and Gabe Fulton for being truly AMAZING friends! Lastly, just a shout out: I Heard My Name (Inside Joke)."

## June “rose cinthya” Lee



(Chorus) is in 5th grade and really liked Sissy and Gaby, because they made the play fantastic!

## Leo “Fancy Feet” Stillinger



(Piano Player) is in 8th grade. Leo has been involved in many OC Productions, both as an actor and a

techie, but this is his first - and, sadly, last - time playing live music during the show. He’s been playing piano for 3 and a half years, and loves it. He is excited to provide the first ever live music for an OC show. He will graduate from the Open Classroom this year after 9 (NINE!) years at the school. In his free time, he plays soccer and writes music. He’d like to thank his parents, his piano teacher Amber, his teachers, his friends, his enemies, his acquaintances, and everyone he’s ever seen on the street, ever.

## Katie “Kate” Watterson



(Chorus) is in 6th grade and she has been in *Charlotte’s Web*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live Jr.* She hopes

you all enjoy this show.

## Kirby “Tiger” Saxton (Charlie



Brown) is in 8th grade and has been in many shows, including *Schoolhouse Rock Live Junior*,

*Seussical*, *Annie*, *Charlotte’s Web*, and most recently, *Schoolhouse Rock Live Junior* again. This will be Kirby’s eighth show at The OC, making him the person with the most shows in He would like to thank his parents, and Rocky. BWABBIDYBWOW!

## Lorynn Thompson (Chorus) is



in 5th grade and she has been in three plays, but the best one I’ve been in is Charlie Brown, especially

because Gaby and Sissy are directing it. She hopes to do more plays with Gaby and Sissy because they are really awesome directors. Lorynn says,

“When I’m older I hope I become an actress or a super hero because those two jobs are awesome to me. I love to spend time with my family and friends. My favorite subjects in school are math and science. One thing I like to do is go on vacations with my family.”

**Maisy Phelps** (Stage Manager)



is in 8th grade and she is lucky enough to say that this is her fifth (and hopefully not final)

time as manager. She’s very grateful that she’s part of this drama family and happy for the

friends that she might not have made otherwise. She would also like to thank the entire department and wish luck to the next stage manager!

**Mandy “Mandifer” Ellison**



(Chorus) is in 7th grade and this is her second show with Gaby. She plans to do more next year and she

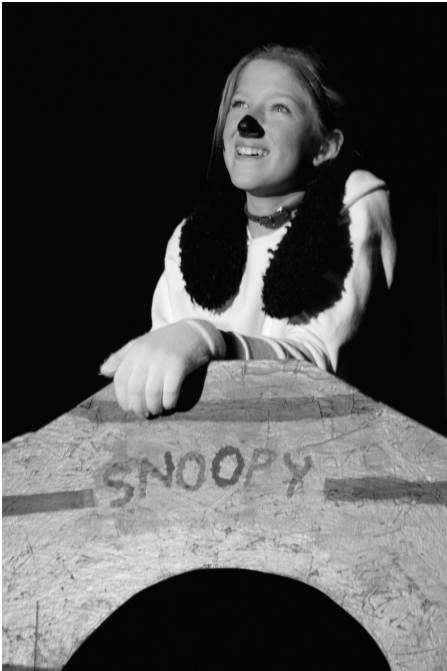
would like to say, “Thank You Gaby and Sissy for your time to do these plays and musicals! Thanks for coming! Hope you enjoy all enjoy the show!”

**Michael “Mic-Ale/ Honeybear” Davies** (Chorus)



is in 6th grade and he would like to thank his family for dedicating their time to taking

him to and from the rehearsals. He would also like to thank Sissy and Gaby for being such great directors. He was a techie in last year’s production of *Schoolhouse Rock Live Junior* and he would like to dedicate this to his family.



## Morgan “Mo” Melville



(Chorus) is in 5th grade and has been involved in theatre for the last 5 years at the University of Utah Youth

Theatre Program. She credits her love of theatre to the great support of the youth theatre staff. Morgan loves to sing and share her gift with others and she gives special thanks to those who have helped make this play possible.

## Olivia “Liv” Davis (Chorus) is



in 6th grade and she began singing, dancing, and acting when she was three years old.

Some may call her a “triple threat”! :) She has been involved in many different productions and performances. Some of the abridged play productions she has been in include: *The Shoemaker*, *Oliver*, *Annie*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *Seussical*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and the OC’s *Schoolhouse Rock*. The ballet productions she has performed in include: *Alice and Wonderland*, *The Secret Garden*, *Swan Lake*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Molly*

*Mouse*. She has had a marvelous time working with everyone in *Charlie Brown*! “I would like to dedicate my performance to my Mimi, Grandma & Grandpa Davis, and my mom and dad for helping me through all that I do... Oh, AND of course, my very own little *Charlie Brown* brother, Gavin!”

## Paige Sandoval (Chorus) is in



6th grade and *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown* is her first play production at The OC. She also played a small part in

*Hansel and Gretel* in a theater in Midvale at age 7. She was so excited when she got the part of chorus in *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown* and she considers it to be one of her greatest achievements because she has never been so close to her hopes and dreams. She loves to dance, sing, act, read, draw, paint, and write. She also enjoys soccer, basketball, cooking, and is interested in playing the violin. She would like to thank Gaby for this opportunity and her parents for giving her so much love and support. She would very much like to dedicate her performance to her father who is currently deployed to Afghanistan. She wishes he could be here to see it. “I love you, Dad!”

## StageCrew

**Front Row:** Sam

**Back Row:** Maisy,  
Siobhan, Andrew,  
Josh, Ivy



**Ryan Grundvig** (Chorus) is in



4th grade and he is happy - no, wait... **ECSTATIC!**... to be in his first play at the OC. He is especially excited to

share the stage with his older sister, Gabrielle. Ryan has been in several Up With Kids productions, including *Shrek 2 3/4* (playing himself, a.k.a. an ogre child) and a *High School Musical/Cars mash-up* (Mater). Ryan would like to thank Gaby for her exceptional direction and patience (pivot steps are hard, man!). He would also like to dedicate his performance to Gabrielle, his sister, best friend, and mentor.



**Sadiki “Shishkabob”**



**McWhinnie** (Snoopy) is in 7th grade and has been a part of all of the shows over the last three years at The OC. She’s

very excited to be a part of *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown*. This will be her fifth production with Gaby, and my 3rd production with Sissy and Gaby both - they are such amazing directors. Sadiki says, “We have such an awesome cast in this show, and I have had a great time working with everybody. I would like to dedicate this production to all of my fantastic friends who have already graduated from our school, and gone off to face the world of high school. Thank you also to all my family and friends who have been so supportive, I love you all, and hope you thoroughly enjoy the show!” <3



**Sam Kennard** (Shhh guy) is in 8th grade. Sam techied for Annie and Schoolhouse Rock Live! Maisy said he was the best techie ever! This is his first time on stage. Sam would like to thank his Mom and the rest of the folks who carpoled for him.



**Sean “Joe Doe” Deegan** (Linus) is in 7th grade and he would like to give thanks to everybody who sees the show and he hopes you like it as much as he has enjoyed doing it. Sean has been in two other plays including *Charlotte’s Web* and *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*



**Sarah Watterson** (Peppermint Patty) is in 8th grade and she says, “I would like to thank all the people who convinced me to be in a play... again.”



**Sienna Hill Miller** (House Manager) is in 7th grade and this is her second time as House Manager and she loves it, although she hopes to be an actress next time around, if she can get up the guts. Sienna has been at The OC since kindergarten and plans on



staying until eighth grade. She loves to sing (alone) and always has a song in her head and her favorite foods are Chinese food and Chocolate. She enjoys playing with her dog, Sissy, and Tarantula, Sweetheart, watching Anime and doing random crafts. She says, "I love this school and friends and especially Gaby."

**Skye Simmonds** (Chloe) is in 5th grade and this is her second production at the Open Classroom. Last year she played the part of the



Lamb in *Charlotte's Web*. Skye says, "Thank you to all of my

family for picking me up, working with my swimming schedule, and being amazing! I dedicate this show to Tia who inspired me to act!"

**Zoe Colquitt** (Chorus) is in 6th grade and this is her first play and she is so excited! She likes to dance and sing and wants to thank her



family for supporting her and all the folks who made rides happen! Mostly, she wants to give a big hug to her Mom who always supports her in anything she wants to do!



# A Lil' History on "Peanuts" and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown...the Musical*

(source: [www.peanuts.com](http://www.peanuts.com) and [www.tams-witmark.com](http://www.tams-witmark.com))

In 1947 Charles Schulz started a cartoon feature called *L'il Folks* for the St. Paul Pioneer Press. It was a flop, never achieving a permanent spot in the paper. In 1950 he compiled his strips and sold the series to the United Features Syndicate, which changed its name to Peanuts. Schulz originally resisted the name change. "I wanted to keep *Li'I Folks*," he told *TIME* in 1965. "I wanted a strip with dignity and significance. Peanuts made it sound too insignificant".

Schulz introduced to the funny papers a group of children who told one another the truth:

"I have deep feelings of depression," a round-faced kid named Charlie Brown said to an imperious girl named Lucy in an early strip. "What can I do about it?"

"Snap out of it," advised Lucy.

This was something new in the newspaper comic strip. At mid-century the comics were dominated by action and adventure, vaudeville and melodrama, slapstick and gags. Schulz dared to use his own quirks — a lifelong sense of alienation, insecurity and inferiority — to draw the real feelings of his life and time. He brought a spare pen line, Jack Benny timing and a subtle sense of humor to taboo themes such as faith, intolerance, depression, loneliness, cruelty and despair. His characters were contemplative. They spoke with simplicity and force. They made smart observations about literature, art, classical music, theology, medicine, psychiatry, sports and the law.

Charlie Brown was something new in comics: a real person, with a real psyche and real problems. The reader knew him, knew his fears, and sympathized with his sense of inferiority and alienation. When Charlie Brown first confessed, "I don't feel the way I'm supposed to feel," he was speaking for people everywhere in America.

Schulz's Peanuts exploded during the 1960s, leaving its fingerprints on everything it touched. Charlie Brown and the gang even graced the cover of *TIME* in 1965.

In 1967, *YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN* opened on March 7th and played for 1,597 performances in New York at the theatre 80 St. Marks. A new revival version (the version seen here on our stage) was presented on Broadway in 1999 and played for 149 performances at the Ambassador Theatre with award-winning performances by Roger Bart and Kristin Chenoweth as Snoopy and Sally.

We hope you enjoy the Open Classroom Drama Department's interpretation of these characters and their stories.

