

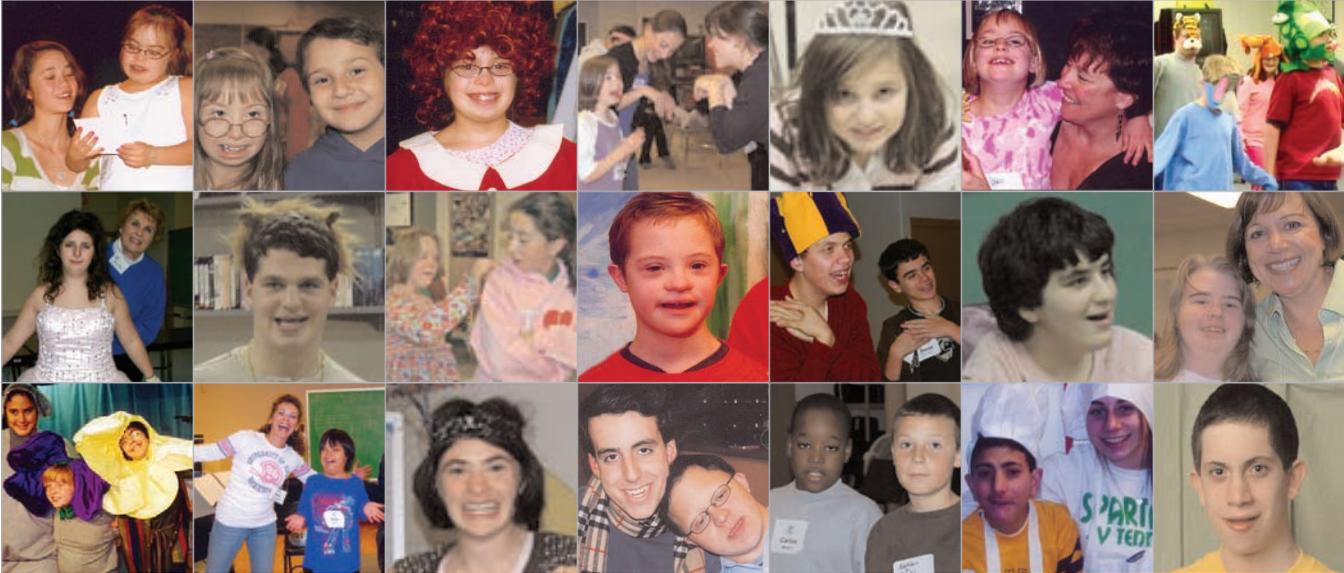
Special Gifts Theatre

10 Celebrating
years
of magical moments

Three yellow stars with black outlines are positioned above the number '10' in the '10 years' text. One star is at the top left of the '10', another is slightly to the right and higher, and the third is further to the right and higher still, following the curve of the '0'.



We're all in this together.



Opening Doors to New Possibilities
For 10 Years

We're all in this together.



2009-10 marks a decade of remarkable service to the children and youth of our community by Special Gifts Theatre (SGT). In those ten years, SGT has provided a unique theatrical performing experience for over 1,000 children and young people with and without disabilities that has changed their lives and the lives of their families. SGT has not only "opened doors" for its actors and actresses but led the effort to fight stereotypes about people with disabilities and include them more meaningfully in the fabric of our schools and communities.

The hard work of staff, students, mentors and Board of Directors cannot complete our mission without your help. Your support is needed more than ever to ensure that Special Gifts Theatre can continue the "magic" that it brings to each and every participant. Due to our country's economic woes, contributions to all not for profit organizations are at an all time low and SGT has already had to trim its programs. As a result, we need your help more than ever.

SGT's 10th anniversary performance will be Disney's highly acclaimed High School Musical, a production that we are sure you will enjoy. Aptly enough, High School Musical closes with a scene in which the entire student body gathers to celebrate singing "We're All In This Together". We hope you will agree that "we're all in this together" and dig deeply in your pockets this year to ensure that SGT's inspirational work can continue for another decade. Thank you for your generosity.

Dave Peterson
Chairman of the Board of Directors



TAKE 10:

A decade of magical moments

Through the years, SGT has touched the lives of students, staff, mentors and families alike. Here are just a few from a long list of "magical moments"...

magical moment 1

My son has developed healthy self-esteem, substantially improved articulation, made lasting friendships, and learned to cooperate with his peers, mentors and teachers, all while having the time of his life. There is no other experience in his lifetime that has given him so much opportunity. That includes all of his countless therapies, schools and summer camps. I thank my lucky stars that I happened upon an article in the Chicago Tribune about SGT 10 years ago! That has given my son a chance to develop his life's passion.

magical moment 3

Our son has been part of the SGT program since its infancy. Due to the sense of belonging and unconditional love shown year after year our child has experienced remarkable change. The world desperately needs lessons on how to treat individuals with differences. Special Gifts Theatre should teach the course! For our son and family this organization has been a life changer.

magical moment 5

It was towards the last day of school and my child was chosen to sing a song at her graduation in front of the entire 5th grade class and parents. My daughter got up to sing her song and had a huge smile on her face. She sang the song without being shy or embarrassed and didn't skip a beat or word! She received such a huge ovation and there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Thank you Special Gifts Theatre for these special moments!

magical moment 2

SGT has been a constant source of support and encouragement to our daughter and family. We have experienced other organizations that have decided they have "no place for my child because she has special needs." You have never said "no, she needs too much help." You have always looked for ways to support her strengths and you have found mentors to work with her in areas that needed help. I cannot thank you enough for putting your dream into action and allowing our family to become part of the SGT family.

magical moment 4

SGT growth not only happens within the program, but beyond the organizational walls. I was stopped at my son's school by his literature group facilitator to tell me what an improvement my child has made in his speaking out in a group and his self presentation. When my child was told that the session was going to be videotaped and he would need to read "loud and proud" he centered himself...sat straight up...made eye contact...and read loud and proud! This was all made possible through the wonderful staff and possibilities that exist at Special Gifts Theatre.

Contact us at: www.specialgiftstheatre.com • 847.564.7704 • P.O. Box 2231, Northbrook, IL 60065

SGT is a not-for-profit organization that provides children and teens with special needs a unique, creative drama experience enabling personal growth and breaking down stereotypes related to disabilities within the community at large.

