

A Hit with Kids

The show *Frankly Ben* was great! Schools all over Connecticut came to the Palace Theater on May 14, 2008. The kids were excited before and after the show. Before the show, Shania, from Polk School, says "I've never been to the Palace Theater." She was excited to see *Frankly Ben* and hopes to act on the Palace Stage one day.

When the curtains went up, all you could hear was the screaming and roaring sound of applause. As the show went on, the kids enjoyed themselves, clapping and swaying side to side as the characters sang. In *Frankly Ben*, Benjamin Franklin was turned into a 15-years-old boy who was learning about independence. His new friends, Silence Do Good, Poor Richard, Alice, and Mary Stevens taught Ben about independence: you must do good things and stand up for what you believe, while not putting others down. Ben started a club called Junto, which means "together". He made the club for him and his new friends. With the help of Ben's friends he was on his way to gaining his independence.

Ben was having trouble learning about independence, so they made a games show and sang songs about what he needed to know to be independent. Ben grasped the concepts for independence except for standing up for himself. Ben's brother made him print and works on the newspaper. All of Ben's friends urged him to stand up for himself, and then they left him to do it. Ben finally learned what he had to do. Ben told his brother that he wanted to do science, not to print the newspaper. Then Ben wakes up and realizes that it was only a dream. Ben knew that if he could do it in his dream, then he could do it in real life.

After the curtains went down, it sounded like a thousand bees in the theater talking about the show *Frankly Ben*. Nick, from Polk School, says, "I enjoyed the show. My favorite character was Poor Richard, and I liked when Poor Richard rapped." Everyone enjoyed the games show and the part when Poor Richter rapped. *Frankly Ben* was a hit with all the kids. This show was great and had many lessons that kids like me could learn. Jared, from Cross St. School, learned that you shouldn't put others down to make yourself look better. The show was very entertaining and I do recommend the show, *Frankly Ben*, for children my age.

Samantha Giroux - 8th Grade