

BLUES CAMP

THE INTERACTIVE MUSICAL

Script & Music by Fernando Jones

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Blues Camp:

The Interactive Musical (Comedy)

Based on *Fernando Jones' Blues Camp International*

Written and directed by Fernando Jones December 23 – 26, 2016
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Red • = Songs and/lyrics

Green • = Type to be seen on the screen center stage.

Blues Camp The Interactive Musical: Synopsis

Friday, December 23, 2016 | 2:30AM | ©2016

Quintin “Bluesy Q” Morehouse is an 11 year-old, soon to be 12, 6th grade African-American Blues Kid from the Southside of Chicago who simply wishes for other *Blues Kids* to play with for Christmas in lieu of gifts because the only musicians he has access to and sees are his significantly older adult brothers and their band mates. Though he sometimes feels isolated, musically, he knows that there has to be others out there somewhere who have the same passion he does, but he doesn’t know how to find them. In his world, most of his peers aren’t musically inclined . . . they’re athletes and gamers, therefore, he feels out of place at school, out of place in his neighborhood, out of place at home. The only place he feels ‘normal’ is wherever he is with his guitar.

In the days leading up to his 12th birthday , his parents take him to see the Nut Cracker and a playoff elementary school basketball game. And as he watches with joy, deep down inside he wishes there was a Blues Kid community for him to be part of.

His birthday brings a Fender Telecaster guitar by way of his uncle Jackson; his parents, the Morehouses, present him with a Mac desktop computer, printer and iPhone. With the receipt of his new gadgets he convinced his parents, who have no musical ability whatsoever, to allow him to create a Facebook *fan page* in search of like-minded others.

It's not until his schoolmate, Arika Spelman, a natural leader and entrepreneur, idea that the "dream" comes together. Through Facebook she casts a global net welcoming other *Blues Kids* from around the world to unite and perform together in cyberspace in hopes of establishing a physical place for them to one day meet, get proper instruction and perform publicly in Chicago in the summer.

Through this process, Arika and Bluesy Q find that in some cases some of the Blues Kids responding online don’t even speak or type in English -- so some of the replies have to be translated through *Google Translate* in order to keep the dialogue going. Ultimately, common ground is found through music.

Antagonist

One of the 8th grade football stars launches an anti-music / pro jock campaign out of fear of being eclipsed on campus in popularity as the student body's attention shifts from supporting sporting events to writing blogs, chatting online and starting Blues Kid fan pages for the online Blues Kids community.

Rube, the football star is a self-taught, closet saxophonist and singer who is extremely capable of performing professionally. He never found the balance between music and sports so he chose sports. Through this experience he will ultimately find that he can do them both without compromising the integrity of either.

Protagonist

Upon the creation of a virtual Blues Kid online community by Arika Spelman -- within four days the concept goes viral; by the end of the school year the need for physical performance spaces in one central location are justified. They secure the City of Chicago's premier collegiate music school downtown to host Blues Camp.

Now with the host site identified and student musicians to serve, an online fundraising campaign and talent show are launched. As the campaign grows Arika and Bluesy Q secure strategic partnerships with airlines, hotels, fast food chains, athletic apparel companies, instructors and donors at - large to help keep the project self-sustaining. And from this Blues Camp is born.

By day two or five of Blues Camp, some of the parents and guardians, inspired by their own Blues Kids in the program, form their own band and surprise the Blues Kids with a performance of their own at the fundraiser.

Character Composition

Quentin “Bluesy Q” Morehouse

Ethnicity/Complexion: African American (Brown to Dark Brown).

Believable Age Look: 10 to 12.

Accent: Midwestern with good diction.

Build: Slim non-athletic build with a short non-trendy haircut and no earrings or tattoos.

Talent Proficiency: Sings without riffing (no malizmas), a guitar beast.

Arika Spelman

Ethnicity/Complexion: Asian (Light), Hispanic (Brown), African American (Brown).

Believable Age Look: 10 to 12.

Accent: Midwestern with good diction.

Build: Medium build, girly girl with a ponytail and hair out of her face and no tattoos or visible body piercings other than earrings.

Talent Proficiency: Sings without riffing (no malizmas), piano.

Morehouse Parents – Father (mustache) taller than the mother (non trendy hairstyle).

Accent: Midwestern with good diction.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly – Male, who looks between 50 and 65 years old. No height, weight or particular origin of ethnicity.

Athletes – Males with athletic builds in lettermen jackets looking 12 to 14 years old from any ethnic group.

Ballerinas – Trained dancers with diverse ethnic backgrounds between the ages of 12 and 16 years old, male and female, who will double as fans in the audience and cheerleaders.

Songs by Fernando Jones in the script

1. *World Dance (For ballerinas)*
2. *Across the Street from Being a Man (Bluesy Q)*
3. *Just When I (Rube and the football players)*
4. *She's Got Everything But a Man (Blues Mamas and Daddies)*
5. *5'4" (Blues Kid TBA)*
6. *Amigo (Cuban online Blues Kid)*
7. *Oil and Water (Special Guest TBA)*
8. *Chicago (Has Got Everything You Need) (All Blues Kids for the finale)*

Alternative

1. *Mississippi Hippie (?)*
2. *Walked from the Westside (?)*
3. *Blues Camp (Blues Kids TBA)*
4. *Freddie and Bettie (Akira)*

Tag Lines

- Keep the Blues Red Hot! • Leave No Blues Kid Behind
- I Was Born Ready • Think Mathematically
- The apple ain't gonna eat itself

Merchandise

FJ Logo T-Shirts – Glow in the dark, red and white, and black and gold.

Slogan T-Shirts - Blues Mama, Blues Angel, The Blues Is, Blues College, etc.

Posters.

Scene Sets

Bedroom, basketball court with performance stage, classroom with school façade.

Scenes I (*Watching a performance*)

Routine Time: 3 minutes.

Main Characters: Ballerinas.

Audio Track: “World Dance”

(Insert lyrics to “World Dance”)

Lights come up slowly. Though BLUESY Q faces the live audience from a theatre seat, center stage in the middle of his parents, he gazes up as if he is in the audience ‘facing the actual performance of the ballet behind him.

Song lyrics to appear on the screen behind the dancers.

After 30 seconds, he and his parents rotate slowly to face the actual performance. As they turn, the lights on them fade to black and come up on the performers. At the end of the performance there are sophisticated and dignified cheer, while 2 dozen roses are individually projected strategically from stage right and left upon the dancers.

BLUESY Q (Frantic and amazed) – Daddy, daddy, daddy . . . did you see how high she jumped? Man! I wish I could jump like that. Did you see the dude catch ‘er? He’s about my size. Man-o-man!

Daddy (Claps for the routine while talking and not looking away from the stage) – You can, son. You can. You can do anything you put your mind, to.

Mama (Still paying attention the dancers) – I wish I were a ballerina.

Dad – You’re my little ballerina even if when you do the Wobble. Wobble, baby, Wobble, baby.

Mama – You know you haven’t got any sense.

The ballerinas exit the stage and the lights come up on a high school State Championship basketball game. You can see the Morehouses waiving the pennant flags of their favorite team TBD.

Nine players are lined up with one player at the free throw line. One team wears a green uniform, the other orange. Orange is at the line and down 1 point. Each night the teams can alternate who's at the free throw line. It can also alternate between girls and boys. It might even be ideal to have actual rival area teams (only 5 players from each team).

The score is tied 99 to 99 with .9 or a second on the clock. The ballerinas double as fans and cheerleaders underneath the basket. Referee blows his whistle. Players are in place. Then he tosses the basketball to the free throw shooter.

OPTION A: *If he/she hits the basket his/her team will celebrate for 10 seconds then it will fade to black.*

OPTION B: *If he/she misses the shot, the other team will celebrate and shout "Overtime! Overtime! Overtime! Overtime!" Scene fades to black.*

Mama – Now that's what I call a game.

Daddy – Yeah, a real nail biter. See what concentration and teamwork does when your focused . . . nothin' like a team. Nothin' like it.

Daddy's words " . . . nothin' like a team . . ." echoes into the darkness as the lights fade to black.

Scenes II (*Q's bedroom*)

A spotlight comes up and BLUESY Q is sitting on the edge of his bed. He reaches over to get his acoustic guitar that's comfortably placed on its stand to the left of the nightlight stand. His room looks like any other pre-teenager's room with neatly framed posters of guitar players with Stratocasters and Telecasters. He also has a Telecaster of his own hanging on a wall between two of his guitar heroes.

Daddy (Yells from behind a closed door) – Son, did you shower?

BLUESY Q – Not yet.

Mama (Talking to Daddy) – Tell him stop all [of] that foolishness and focus on that Spanish test [on] Friday.

Daddy (Walks away from the door and his voice fades) – Alright you've got 10 minutes to get ready for bed. That was some game. Teamwork.

Daddy sings with a swing . . .

Ain't nothin' like a team to make true a dream.

BLUESY Q sets the guitar on his lap and sings.

Live Song Performance: "Standing Across The Street From Being A Man"

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

Standing Across the Street (From Being a Man) By Fernando Jones

Mama don't understand I'm a child not a man.

My ole man won't give me a chance.

I'm not being bad, I'm just being a kid.

What can I do when I'm the only one who understands?

What can I do when I'm standing across the street from being a man?

*To charity I've given my toys in hopes of wearing
Bigger boy clothes.*

*Now bigger shoes are in the plans
In the mirror a baby face of my ole man.*

What can I do when I'm the only one who understands?

What can I do when I'm standing across the street from being a man?

*There's a knock on the door snapping BLUESY Q back into the
here and now. He doesn't know which parent it is so he stops
immediately not knowing if he was too loud or if he should have
been absolutely quiet or in the shower so he freezes mid-chord.*

Daddy (Sings) - . . . *sounds good . . . sounds good. Just for that you get another 10
[minutes]. What you need is a band . . . good to hear that guitar Uncle Jackson got cha
for your bornin' day has warmed up to ya.*

BLUESY Q (Laughs hardy at his father's voice) – Hahahaha.

Daddy - *See you in the morning.*

*Dad's line "What you need is a band" echoes throughout BLUESY
Q's dream throughout the night as he tosses and turns. The final
turn comes at 3:30AM finding his yet unshowered self in the same
clothes he fell asleep in. He leisurely places his socked feet on the
floor, sits up and is shocked to find his guitar beside him.*

BLUESY Q (Thinks out loud) – The ballerinas had a team of ballerinas and the basketball players had a team. Hmmm. I wish I had someone to play music with. Daddy even said that I need a band. Where can a 12-year-old kid, on the Southside of Chicago, find a band to play with at three – thirty in the morning? Ah-ha!!! The Internet.

He takes two steps and sits at his desktop Mac computer and types these phrases into Google hoping to find a community in Chicago so he can start a band. He types “Kids that play Blues”, nothing comes up; then “Blues and kids”, nothing. Then “Blues players who are children,” nothing.

The clock now reads 4:15AM and he has fallen back to sleep at the desk. Morning finds him clothed as he was the day before. He awakens to the smell of coffee, turkey sausage, eggs and biscuits. He Bluesy Quickly changes his shirt and puts on his shoes and races down stairs only to find he overslept breakfast; his mother was about to walk to his room to tell him he has 5 minutes to walk his dog, Neeko, before school.

Q walks the dog and notices that his dog was very playful with each of the three dogs being walked that they encountered. be on their morning walk. It’s as if each dog’s morning was completed by each new howl, growl, sniff and bark.

BLUESY Q (Humorously talks to himself) – Self, you know me better than anybody. And you know I’ve got the sho-nuff lowdown dirty Blues when even my dog’s got somebody . . . or should I say, ‘Some doggies’ to play with and I don’t. I need a band.

He stops, yells to the sky, and holds up the leash with eyes closed and teeth gnashed.

BLUESY Q - Am I the only Blues Kid on earth? [I] can't be. I can't be.

Mama (Yells across the street) – Boy get a move on it. You've got some learnin' to get this mornin'.

BLUESY Q (He plays with his dog) – Yes, ma 'am. I'm bringing him back right now. C'mon, Neeko. Good boy. Good boy.

He walks the dog back to his mother and gives her a kiss on the cheek. Through the door, she hands him a brown paper bagged lunch with one hand, and his book bag with the other.

Oh, let me grab my guitar.

He sets the items down that his mama gave to him to put his guitar case on his back and walks to school.

Scene III (*Transitional walk to school*)

BLUESY Q arrives on campus. Though popular and beloved by the student body his popularity has made him a sitting target for one football player in particular, Gator, who just so happens to be a defensive lineman.

Gator (Sarcastic greeting) – If it ain't the King of Fools. I mean, the King of Blues? What's your name again?

BLUESY Q (Quick witted, unafraid and 25 lbs lighter) – What's your mama's name? I'm sorry. I thought you were she for a moment. Y'all look just alike – with and without the helmet and shoulder pads.

Gator cowers as the onlookers laugh him away from their gathering.

Akira – What's going on Quintin?

BLUESY Q – Nothin' much? How about you? Did you finish your Spanish homework ?

Akira – Si. Si. Senor.

BLUESY Q – I guess that's a yes.

Arika – You?

BLUESY Q (SINGS) – Oye Como Va.

Akira – I'm also working on setting up a GoFundMe.com account for our rooftop vegetable garden at school called Future Food.

BLUESY Q – You are smart. How’s that gonna work?

Akira – What do you mean?

BLUESY Q (Puzzled) – What do you mean . . . what do ‘I mean?’

Akira (Laughs) – Boy you are confusing me. Cute but confusing.

She takes him by the hand, walks a few feet then braces herself against the school building as students walk by and exchange pleasantries.

BLUESY Q (Self-assured and braggadocios) – Well, well, well, what can I say? I am my father’s son.

Akira – You’re so silly. Listen. I can show you better than I can tell you.

She pulls out her laptop, logs onto an unpublished site for the funding page.

When you have a project that can change the world, in some cases others will support your cause financially . . . and most importantly people will support you emotionally. There are a lot of good people in the world and online.

BLUESY Q – That’s sweet! Yeah, but there are a lot of weirdoes on online, too.

Akira – Think positive. Stay focused.

BLUESY Q – Hey. Can that process be used to help me find kids that like the Blues?

Akira – Like the Blues? I like Blues. I love it!

*She plays a 15 second snippet of Jackie Scott singing, “**She’s Got everything but a Man**” from her smart watch. Then she plays 15 seconds of “**Leave Your Love At the Door**” performed by Leanne Faine.*

BLUESY Q – No. I mean musicians. Nice selection. Jackie Scott, Leanne Faine? Impressive, Akira.

Akira (Puzzled) – Well, I guess so.

BLUESY Q (Excited) – I tell you what. I’ll help you with your project and . . .

Akira - . . . I’ll help you with yours. What exactly am I helping you with exactly?

BLUESY Q – Let me walk you home after school and I’ll explain.

Akira – OK. Meet me out front at two-thirty.

They hug, the morning bell rings, they go opposite ways to their homerooms. Lights go down and come back up as they exit the main entrance moments apart. The walk home begins.

Akira – I’m all ears.

BLUESY Q – And smiles, and dimples and . . . (looks at her up and down).

Akira (Redirects his attention, smiling) - You are so mannish.

BLUESY Q – THE MOSTESS [Manish]. How tall are you?

Akira – Five-four.

BLUESY Q – And don't need no mo'!

Akira (Flirting) – Hmmm, clever. 4 minutes and 28 seconds to my door so you better start talking and stop rappin'. Focus.

BLUESY Q – Oh, yeah, it's hard when I'm near my muse.

Akira – T minus 4 minutes [and] two seconds.

BLUESY Q – OK. Gotcha. After I do whatever it is to help get your greenhouse thingy off the ground you help me find out if there are kids my age out there who like playing the Blues.

Akira – Continue.

BLUESY Q – A few weeks ago my folks took me to see a Bonneville Ballet Company. I liked it. A ballet can you imagine that? Me, a ballet. It must have been 200 of them . . .

Akira (Talks over him) – 28 . . .

BLUESY Q - . . . onstage, but they moved like one. Did you say 28?

Akira – Yes, 28?

BLUESY Q – How [do] you figure [28]?

Akira – I choreographed the show.

BLUESY Q – Dang!!! You've got skills . . . never knew. Dimples, a smile a whatchamacallit and skills. I like, I like.

Akira – 2 minutes . . .

BLUESY Q – Ok! Ok! Ok! Then last night we went to a basketball game. Two teams. This morning I walked my dog and even he had a team. Everybody seems to have a team or belong to something other than me. It's driving me nuts. My daddy, who's let me stay up an extra 10 minutes last night because he said I was jammin' on the guitar, even said that I need a band. You gotta help your boy. I haven't a clue of how to start a band. And I'm even more clueless as to how to start a band with Blues Kids when it seems like I'm the only one in the world that exists.

Oh, we're at your door.

Akira – It's cool. Would you like some [orange] juice?

BLUESY Q – What kinda juice?

He stops and wipes his upper lip as if he has a mustache to shape

Akira (Seriously playful) – Boys? That's all y'all think about. Orange. Orange Juice with your mannish self. Wait here I'll be right back. You are "The Manish Boy" alright. Hahaha.

She opens the door and walks into the house. He sits on the stoop. Hidden by bushes of anyone who passes by or stops, the athlete walks up and stops at the brownstone house feet away from Akira's. Then 3 other athletes join him within moments.

Gator – Hey, what took y'all so long? Did you bring it?

Athlete 2 – Yeah, I got it.

Athlete 3 – Don't drop it.

Gator – Coach would kick us off the team if he ever found out.

Athlete 2 – My ole man would not be amused.

He pulls up a tattered brown paper bag from underneath the back of his varsity jacket. It appears to be holding a bottle, but when it is unwrapped it's a song with copies for each of the three players.

Gator – Let's go into the gangway and take advantage of the echo.

Athlete 2 – I'm with you.

He passes out the sheets and sings the first verse solo just to give them the feel. He has a surprisingly beautiful voice.

Gator (Sings) - *Just when I learned your number by heart. (Repeat)*
That's when you said we had to part.

Now, you sing the second part and you sing the last part. I'll sing mine from the top and y'all add some Lah, Lah, Lah - Lah – Lahs.

Athlete 2 – Got it!

Gator - *Just when I learned your number by heart. (Repeat)*
That's when you said we had to part.

Athlete 2 – *Just when I fell in love with you. (Repeat)*
That's when, that's when you said we were thru.

Athlete 3 – *Just when I introduced you to my mother. (Repeat)*
That's when you said we couldn't go no further.

Akira opens her door slowly because her hands are full with two cups of juice, a note pad and a bag of pastries and BLUESY Q jumps up to help as he tries to them both from being noticed by the athletes in the gangway singing. She ducks down and sits still on the stoop hidden by the rows of bushes that divides the property line.

A cell phone rings and it's an alarm alerting the playing that it's time to head to football practice. The stuff the songs back in the bag and run as fast as they can past BLUESY Q and Akira not noticing them. The bag drops in front of the steps. She picks it up. BLUESY Q looks on.

BLUESY Q – I never knew he could sing. Ah hah, just think he's making fun of me when he really wants to be doing what I'm doing.

Akira – That confirms it.

BLUESY Q – What confirms what? I'm lost.

Akira – What did you just say?

BLUESY Q – That he was making fun of me for singing.

Akira – No, silly. He wants to be doing what you're doing. Even more, perhaps than playing on the football team. Boys can be so intellectually challenged sometimes. You can do both.

BLUESY Q – OK Miss Cutie Pants, name me one pro football player who played in a professional band and made records.

Akira – Wayman Tisdale. Shall I go on?

BLUESY Q – Nope. Who’s he?

Akira – Google ‘em.

BLUESY Q – How do . . . do you think I should . . . ?

Akira – Ask him to join your band? Why not.

BLUESY Q – I gotta be heading home. You’re trippin’.

Akira – Wait. Take out your guitar for a second. You just heard what they were singing. Figure out the melody and read and sing the words.

BLUESY Q – Why?

Akira – Just do it. Trust me.

BLUESY Q – As Eve said to Adam. “Trust me, Adam. This apple won’t eat itself.”
Lord pray for me. Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?

Akira (Firm) – Luke 6:39. Stay focused Quintin.

BLUESY Q – What do you not know?

*He takes out his guitar and sits back down on the stoop and strums
and sings.*

BLUESY Q – *Just when I . . .*

Akira – *Just when I.*

BLUESY Q - *Learned your number by heart.*

Akira - *Learned your number by heart.*

BLUESY Q - *Just when I . . .*

Akira – *Just when I.*

BLUESY Q - *Learned your number by heart.*

Akira - *Learned your number by heart.*

BLUESY Q - *That's when, that's when*

Akira - *You said we had to part.*

BLUESY Q – [You are] amazing.

She leans over and gives him a peck on the cheek.

BLUESY Q – You've got a nice voice.

Akira – Thanks.

BLUESY Q – How can we use the Internet to help get me a band together.

Akira – I can show you better than I can tell you.

Akira sits at her desktop surrounded by 3 other female classmates working on the computer developing content for her fund me project.

Akira – How [are] we looking?

I think I've got it. Listen to this. When thinking of the future think of what will keep the future healthy. Healthy food grown with love and a conscious right here in the heart of Chicago at **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts.**

Show on the screen **“The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts.**

Akira – Perfect! Let's run with that.

BLUESY Q - When do you want to launch?

Akira – Let's get it in the school paper first for documentation purposes. In the mean time let's come up with and secure a domain name. Then we can hit Facebook.

BLUESY Q – We've got a name remember? And we secured the domain name last week. How much do you think we need to raise?

Akira - \$5,000.00 will get us all of the soil, seeds, and wood needed to build our plots.

On the screen behind them the page is displayed. The goal of \$5K is reached within two weeks of the thirty-day campaign. There is a celebratory rally in the school's gym for their achievement.

Scene IV (*School fundraiser in gym*)

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly – Greeting faculty, staff, students and parents, I’m Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly. That was a selection by the high schoolers in the Guide Right program. They volunteer as mentors for the young boys at Dulles School of Excellence on 63rd and King Drive. Give ‘em a hand.

We are gathered here today at **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts** to pay tribute to Akira Spelman for starting and completing a campaign that has raised awareness, funding and results that will impact our community for generations to come. Ms. Spelman, please come to the podium.

Akira walks to the podium to deliver her speech.

Akira – Good day all. My name is Akira Spelman. I’m a reflection of you . . . no different. Thanks for helping make **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts** “the” model of excellence in the fields of academics, athletics, the arts and now agricultural within Chicago Public Schools. We exceeded the \$5,000.00 mark to help build a permanent greenhouse on the rooftop of our school thanks to supporters just like you and businesses in our community. Thank you from your girl, Akira.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly – Thank you. Instead of going to your homeroom go to Study Hall. You are dismissed.

Scene V (*Study Hall*)

BLUESY Q – That was the bomb! I see what you mean. I’m still clueless as to how the internet can work for what I’m trying to do.

Akira – Ok. Think mathematically for a moment.

Applause. Lights out.

Live Song Performance: “Think Mathematically”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

Think Mathematically by Fernando Jones

December 26, 2016

Think mathematically

You can’t be the only one.

Think mathematically

The Blues is de-fi-natly . . . for the young.

BLUESY Q – I think . . . now I see. It makes sense math-a-matic-ally.

If I’m in Chicago playing guitar

Then there has to be a bass player not too far.

And if there’s a kid somewhere playing the bass

Mathematically, there has to be a drummer, near, some place.

Akira - *Think mathematically.*

You can’t be the only one.

Think mathematically. The Blues is de-fi-natly . . . for the young.

Now sit down and think. Let's make an ad.

BLUESY Q (Puzzled) - For what?

Akira – An advertisement to attract other Blues Kids like you.

BLUESY Q – Cool. I like that term Blues Kids. ‘never heard that term before. [I] guess that's what I am and we are Blues Kids.

They work silently on the computer together for thirty minutes elapse creating the ad. The image of the ad is projected on the screen behind them for the audience to see.

Akira – We will put it up on Facebook and see if we get a bite. They're out there. Trust me.

As they type and publish responses from Blues Kids from around the globe send messages to their inbox. New York, Los Angeles. Halifax, Des Moines, Russia, Japan, etc . . . BLUESY Q and Akira respond.

YOSHI (POSTS) - HI. I'M YOSHI AND I PLAY GUITAR. I'M 13 AND WOULD ENJOY BEING IN A BLUES BAND.

Akira (POSTS) – THIS IS GREAT!!! OMG. WHERE ARE YOU?

BLUESY Q looks over her shoulder as she types.

BLUESY Q – ASK HIM WHERE HE'S FROM.

Akira (POSTS) – WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

YOSHI (POSTS) – TOKYO, JAPAN.

AKIRA (POSTS) – WHAT TIME IS IT THERE? IT'S 4:08PM HERE.

YOSHI (POSTS) – 7:08AM.

BLUESY Q – Tokyo? How can I start a band in Tokyo?

Akira – Here's another (post).

DEBBIE (FROM CANADA TYPES) – . . . JUST SAW YOUR POST. I'LL JOIN YOUR BAND. I PLAY KEYBOARDS AND BASS GUITAR. I STUDY AT THE ROYAL CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC IN TORONTO, CANADA ON SATURDAYS.

ROBERTA (FROM SINGAPORE TYOES) – HELLO, I'M AILEEN FOR SINGAPORE.

LINDA (FROM CUBA TYPES) – I'LL PLAY WITH YOU. I'M YOUR DRUMMER. HERE IS A LINK TO MY BAND.

*Akira clicks the link and the band plays the instrumental "Amigo."
The following messages appear on screen as the band plays.*

JAMES (FROM LONDON TYPES) – I'M YOUR SINGER . . . I.M 11.

IVONNE (FROM SPAIN TYPES) – I'M YOUR 14 YEAR OLD HARMONICA PLAYER FROM MADRID, SPAIN.

RITA (FROM COLOMBIA TYPES) – I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING JUST TODAY. WHO COULD I GET TO PLAY IN MY BLUES BAND.

YURI (FROM RUSSIA TYPES) – GUITAR, BASS, PIANO, AND CHOREOGRAPHY.

Akira replies with a “thumbs up” and pastes “We will write you back in a few minutes” to each of the pop ups as she watches the video (performed live) of Linda from Cuba.

AKIRA – See what the universe brings when you have positive vibrations?

BLUESY Q – How do we get everybody together?

Akira – A talent show fundraiser. And a GoFundMe.com account to raise funds to host some sort of a central gathering place.

Akira and Bluesy Q – Blues Camp!

Then they break out into song.

Live Song Performance: “Think Mathematically”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

Think Mathematically by Fernando Jones

December 26, 2016

Bluesy Q, think mathematically

You can't be the only one.

Think mathematically. The Blues is de-fi-natly . . . for the young.

BLUESY Q – Yes, yes now I see. It makes sense math-a-matic-ally.

I'm here in Chicago playing guitar

Then there's Debbie who plays keys and bass

. . . not too far.

Akira - *James is in London, Yvonne's in Spain, Yoshi is in Japan . . .*

BLUESY Q sits in the reality and immediate disappointment that everybody lives in different places. Therefore, his dream may be just that, a dream

BLUESY Q – Now all I need is a plane.

(Lights out!)

Intermission

Scene VI (Gymnasium)

When the lights come up students, faculty, staff and students are purchasing tickets to the talent show. Those seated in the gym watch the a capella performance.

Live Song Performance: “Guide Right”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly– Welcome to **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts “Talent Show”** presented by the Go Green Club. Your host is Deana Jones. The purpose for this fundraiser has two parts:

1. Raise funds and awareness for this global cause . . . music education.

And 2. Global friendship through the arts with a focus on Blues music through the courage to believe in dreams by our own 6th grader, BLUESY Q. This event was organized by our very own Go Green Club.

Cheers from audience.

The Blues is an indigenous African American art for of which many of the popular American music forms have come from but not limited to Rock & Roll (cheers from audience). Jazz (cheers from audience). Gospel (cheers from audience). Rhythm and Blues (cheers from audience). Hip Hop (cheers from audience) and even Rap music (cheers from audience).

Someone hands Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly a note. She reads it and looks up.

The Song Birds have been added to the bill ladies and gentlemen. Here’s you MC, our very own Deana Jones. Ladies and gentlemen, Dean Jones. (cheers from audience).

She walks to center of the stage.

DJ – Are you ready to keep the Blues Red hot? Are y'all ready to party?!!! (cheers from audience). Are you ready to get rocked?!!! Are you ready?!!!

Audience – I was born ready!!

DJ – Are you ready?!!!

Audience – I was born ready!!

DJ – Ladies, gentlemen, dudes and dudettes coming to the stage is . . . surprise . . . some of the parents here at Langford were inspired by this cause and secretly put a Blues band together. And they call themselves The Blues Mamas and Daddies.

Live Song Performance: “She’s Got Everything (But A Man)”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

DJ – Now everybody settle down and hold on to your seats (she gets hyped up) for The Footballs!!!

Live Song Performance: “Just When I”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

When The Footballs come out the audience is shocked to see it's three members of the football team. Cat calls start and even a few boos until they start to sing a capella. The lights turn into a spotlight. The three gather around one single microphone.

Gator - **Just when I learned your number by heart. (Repeat)**

That's when you said we had to part.

Athlete 2 – Just when I fell in love with you. (Repeat)

That's when, that's when you said we were thru.

Athlete 3 – Just when I introduced you to my mother. (Repeat)

DJ – That was hot! Take out our smart phones. Log onto BluesKids.com/Give and click the donate button and help us reach our goal to help establish a free Blues Camp here for Blues Kids ages 12 to 18 from all over the city, country and world.

You can also go to the concession stand and buy t-shirts, like the one I have on to support the cause. We take cash and credit cards, my friends.

The extras on stage go to the merch stand and buy then put on the t-shirt over what they are wearing.

While y'all are doing that let me bring out the young man who is the reason for this new wave of thinkin' season here at Langford. Put your hands together for BLUESY Q.

Live Song Performance: "She's Five Four"

Word to the song are projected on the back screen.

BLUESY Q – Before I do this next song I'd like to bring out the prez of the "Gee Gee" Club Arika Spelman.

He sits her center stage and sings to her. She blushes through the performance.

Akira – Now I want to sing one. Is it alright? Band, “Oil and Water” in G.

She sits Q down and sings to him.

Live Song Performance: “Oil and Water”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen along with an active fundraising thermometer.

Song ends and the principal comes back to the podium.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly - We have exceeded our target goal of \$25,000 to host a Blues Camp here at **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts.**

The crowd onstage goes crazy and celebrate.

With those funds we can hire instructors . . . buy t-shirts . . . certificates and awards; we can fly in and provide lodging for several Blues Kids from across the country and world for Blues Camp here in July. *Do you want one more [song]?*

The crowd cheers in support.

BLUESY Q - Now here is a little song I wrote. It’s a sing-a-long [and] a call-and-response. When I say, ‘Chicago’ you say, “Chicago” so on and so forth.

Live Song Performance: “Chicago (Has Got Everything You Need)”

Word to the song are projected on the back screen along with an active fundraising thermometer heading to \$28,000.00.

(He yells) Chicago!!!

Audience – Chicago!!!

BLUESY Q – Has Got Everything You Need.

Audience – Has Got Everything You Need.

BLUESY Q goes into the song and is joined by the other participants of the talent show.

DJ – Hands up.

She raises her hand to get the attention of the audience and stage members.

We have exceeded our target goal of \$25,000 to host a Blues Camp here at **The Sam Langford Middle School for Athletics and the Arts**. With those funds we can hire instructors . . . buy t-shirts . . . certificates and awards; we can fly in and provide lodging for several Blues Kids from across the country and world for Blues Camp here in July.

The crowd onstage goes crazy and celebrate. The band goes back into the song Chicago (Has Got Everything You Need) interacting with the live audience.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly reads as the band plays instrumentally underneath.

Principal Dr. Tracey Shelly- Akira and Quintin started a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable called Blues Kids Foundation to preserve, perform and promote the Blues among America's youth, parents and educators under the tutelage of highly qualified instructors.

Their focus includes Social & Emotional Learning, music literacy, pedagogy & andragogy, and *Music as a Second Language*.

Arika – Since the inception we present Fernando Jones' Blues Camp in different parts of the United States, Asia and Europe. Though Blues Camp is free, each Blues Kid attendee receives a tuition waiver scholarship valued between \$1,500.00 and \$2,500.00.

Gator - This “priceless,” fun-filled, experience is designed to impact the *life of the "Blues Kid"* who simply wants to experience this cultural enrichment opportunity in an organic and nurturing environment with like-minded others. Thank you for making Blues Kids Foundation your charity of choice.

Keep the Blues Red Hot and visit us on the web at . . .

Cast (Shouts) – BluesKids.com

Music comes back up louder and the cast comes out to take bows.

When done, the cast faces the audience and recites the Musician's Slogan.

I am, (Repeat)

Somebody. (Repeat)

I am, (Repeat)

A musician. (Repeat)

A musician is a person who makes music. (Repeat)

A good musician listens. (Repeat)

And a musician that listens learns. (Repeat)

And a musician that learns earns . . . (Say all together)

THE END

[illegible]

[illegible]