Dog Man: The Musical

For Grades 1-5
DAV PILKEY
Famous for his unique cartoons and illustrations, Dav Pilkey authored the incredibly popular children’s book series Captain Underpants and children’s graphic novel series Dog Man. Before his distinguished career as an author and illustrator, however, Pilkey first drew Captain Underpants at his elementary school in Ohio. Often considered disruptive in class by his teachers, Pilkey would be forced to sit in the hallway, where he created what would be one of his most famous characters. ¹

Pilkey’s first book, World War Won, was published as an award for winning a national competition for student authors aged 14-19 years old. Since graduating Kent State University, he has published numerous books, graphic novels, and comics. ¹

Fun fact: David “Dav” Murray Pilkey, Jr. received his nickname “Dav” from a period of employment at a Pizza Hut. ¹

WATCH

Interview With Dav Pilkey

Art with Dav Pilkey

Dav Pilkey Reading Book 1 Chapter 1

“Dog Man: Chapter 1 HD by Dav Pilkey,” YouTube (ReadingAllowed, August 5, 2021), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AocDy5gGRqc

“Dav Pilkey | Teach Graphix Week,” YouTube (Scholastic, December 10, 2019), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5MgYqkvuwM

“Talk with an Author: Dav Pilkey,” YouTube (Scholastic, September 14, 2014), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EETiWRhSUK
ABOUT THE SHOW

Our musical is based on Dav Pilkey’s *Dog Man: A Tale of Two Kitties*, which is inspired by the Charles Dickens classic, *A Tale of Two Cities*. Best buds George and Harold have been creating comics for years, but now that they’re in 5th grade, they figure it’s time to level up and write a musical based on their favorite character, Dog Man, the crime-biting sensation who is part dog, part man, and ALL HERO!! How hard could it be? With the head of a dog and the body of a policeman, Dog Man loves to fight crime and chew on the furniture. But while trying his best to be a good boy, can he save the city from Flippy the Cyborg Fish and his army of Beasty Buildings? Can he catch Petey, the world’s most evil cat, who has cloned himself to exact revenge on the doggy do-gooder? And will George and Harold finish their show before lunchtime??

Directed & Choreographed by: Jen Wineman
Book & Lyrics by: Kevin Del Aguila
Music by: Brad Alexander
Music Direction: Noah Teplin
Orchestrations: Lloyd Kikoler
Scenic Design: Tim Mackabee
Costume Design: Heidi Leigh Hanson
Lighting Design: David Lander
Sound Design: Emma Wilk

About TheaterWorks
Mission: To create exceptional, transformative theatrical experiences that are accessible to young and family audiences in diverse communities throughout New York City and North America.

*Mission statement and synopsis provided by Theater Works USA

EXPLORE // Classroom Workshops

**Readers Theater**
In this activity, students will listen and analyze the author’s use of type and language in a *Dog Man* comic. Students will divide into groups and select a *Dog Man* themed script and will rehearse reading with feeling. [Click Here for Workshop]

![Image of Dog Man and Petey]

**Sound Effects and Technology**
In this activity, students will listen to the first few pages of *Dog Man* and will discuss how sound effects can be added to each frame in the comic strip. With a partner, students will select a comic excerpt and together will read and create sound effects. Students will be able to use their iPads/Chromebooks and the ChatterPix app to take a picture of the comic and record themselves reading and acting. [Click Here for Workshop]

**Comic Book Art**
In this activity, students will listen to the first chapter of *Dog Man* and will analyze Dav Pilkey’s style of art. Students will describe the colors and discuss the actions of good vs evil characters. Students will be able to create the next comic book in the series by using comic styles (i.e. motion lines, bold print, etc). [Click Here for Workshop]

Click Here for Fun Examples of Dav Pilkey’s Comic Book Effects and Art!

Click Here for the Dog Man Assessment Link
CONNECT // Dav Pilkey Author Study

The Dumb Bunnies
“Meet the Dumb Bunnies. They eat lunch in a carwash. They go bowling in a library. And they ice-skate on the bottom of a lake. Everything the dumb bunnies do is REALLY dumb – but lots of fun. When an intruder sneaks into the bunnies’ house, this spectacularly stupid family is stumped. See what happens to their unwelcome guest and laugh yourself silly!”

Dragon’s Fat Cat
“When Dragon finds a stray cat in his yard, he brings it inside to escape the cold. He likes living with his new feline friend, but Dragon soon realizes that he doesn’t know how to take care of it. He doesn’t know how to train the cat, what to feed the cat, and what to do about all the yellow puddles the cat leaves behind! Using his trademark humor and heart, Dav Pilkey illustrates the highs and lows of having a new pet in this tender story about care and responsibility.”

**The Hallo-Wiener**

“When is a hot dog not a hot dog? When he becomes a hero sandwich! Pilkey delivers a hilarious Halloween treat in this story about Oscar, a dachshund doomed to wear a hot dog costume on Halloween. When he saves the day—and night—Oscar proves that while he might be short on height, he’s long on heart!”


---

**Dog Breath**

“Hally Tosis is a great family dog, but there is one rotten thing about her: her breath! It is so smelly, Hally’s pet parents want to find a new home for her. The children, desperate to keep their beloved pet, try everything to rid Hally of her stinky stench. They take her for a breathtaking view, a movie that will leave her breathless, and a ride on a roller coaster that would make her lose her breath, but Hally’s putrid panting persists!”

“Comic strips often express messages or provide brief glances of events or stories. Key elements of a comic strip include character, setting, and plot — all conveyed in a few frames through a combination of pictures, captions, and dialogue. Due to its condensed format, a comic strip highlights only the most important elements of its targeted topic.”

History of Comic Books
https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-comic-books-1991480

Comic Strip Lesson Plan


“Dav Pilkey | Teach Graphix Week,” YouTube (Scholastic, December 10, 2019), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5MgYqkvuwM


“Dog Man: Chapter 1 HD by Dav Pilkey,” YouTube (ReadingAllowed, August 5, 2021), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AocDy5gGRqc


“Talk with an Author: Dav Pilkey ,” YouTube (Scholastic, September 14, 2014), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EETIWRh5Uk