



Between the Canals

The Evolution of a Mill Town

The **Enchanted Circle Theater** (<http://www.EnchantedCircleTheater.com>) will perform a dramatic stage reading of **Between the Canals**, a play that spans 160 years of American History as it explores the evolution of the City of Holyoke as a mill town.

About the Production

Between the Canals transports the audience from present day Holyoke to the mid 1800's with a slide show of historic images and dramatic vignettes that travel from Canada to New England.

The audience witnesses the building of the 1000 foot dam across the Connecticut River, French-Canadian children leaving the family farm to work in the mills, Irish and Canadian children working 14 hours a day in a textile mill, a Labor Union meeting where they draft a resolution to improve working conditions, and Susan B. Anthony speaking from the steps of the new Holyoke City Hall.

Educational Benefit

This stage reading addresses many standards within the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, including Immigration, the Industrial Revolution, Unions, Child Labor, Health Epidemics, and the Suffragist Movement. **This event is open to the public and appropriate for students grades 3 and up** (including high school, college, and adults).



Event Details

- Event:** Dramatic Stage Reading of **Between the Canals**
Date: February 2, 2012 (snow date 2/9/12)
Time: 10:30 - 11:30 am
Where: Dever Stage, Parenzo Hall, Westfield State University
Cost: FREE & open to the public

For Schools

Groups arriving by bus should contact Kathy Wicks at (413) 572-8150 or kwicks@westfield.ma.edu for parking information. For schools with limited field trip budgets, teachers can apply for a grant from **Big Yellow School Bus** (<http://tinyurl.com/big-yellow-bus>), a charitable organization that provides \$200 grants to help schools meet field trip transportation costs.