FIRST IN LINE

A MUSICAL REVUE

Book and lyrics by Rob Frankel
Music and additional lyrics by Scott Keys

Performance Rights

It is an infringement of the federal copyright law to copy or reproduce this script in any manner or to perform this play without royalty payment. All rights are controlled by Eldridge Publishing Co., Inc. Call the publisher for additional scripts and further licensing information.

The author's name must appear on all programs and advertising with the notice: "Produced by special arrangement with Eldridge Publishing Co."

PUBLISHED BY

ELDRIDGE PUBLISHING COMPANY
www.histage.com
© 1999 by Rob Frankel and Eldridge Publishing Company

Download your complete script from Eldridge Publishing
https://histage.com/first-in-line-musical

DEDICATION

To Brad, a gentle giant of a fighter, and his loving wife Jill, and beautiful family,
Chelsea, Colin, and Carolyn...we'll never forget you.
The Playwright, Rob Frankel

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACT I

Prologue : "*Break New Ground"*
Scene 1: First Base (Poet)
Scene 2: First in Line
Scene 3: First Day of School
Scene 4: First Scrimmage - *"The First Scrimmage Blues"*
Scene 5: First Blemish
Scene 6: Crushed (Poet)
Scene 7: First Crush - *"Having a Crush"*
Scene 8: First Time Driving
Scene 9: First Plane Ride - *"Friendly Skies"*

ACT II

Scene 1: First House - *"Real Estate Rag"*
Scene 2: First Computer
Scene 3: First Snowfall (Poet)
Scene 4: First Day of Winter
Scene 5: First Bout With Death - *"How Do I Go On?"*
Scene 6: First Day of Spring (Poet)
Scene 7: First Child - *"Oh, Baby, What Ya Do to Me!"*
Scene 8: First Time You've Seen This Play (Poet)
Finale : *"Break New Ground - Reprise"*

ACCOMPANIMENT CD: In addition to piano and vocal scores, Eldridge Publishing offers a special accompaniment CD for this musical. The CD has both rehearsal tracks (with professional singers singing every verse of every song), and performance tracks (music only). To order, call Eldridge Publishing at 1-800-HI-STAGE.

PRODUCTION NOTES

This revue is a compilation of songs, scenes, and poems written on the general theme, "Firsts," from the warm and fuzzy, to the downright embarrassing, to the poignant and touching. Scenes may be removed or shuffled as warranted by the production.

This play was written as a traveling show with simple scenery and props. Because of that, the actors will need to ensure they use some basic miming fundamentals to establish the important doors, glasses, etc.

With so many scene changes, the trick is to sacrifice formality for expedience. Characters may bring out their own furnishings as they begin their dialogue. Or you may choose to have some set-up going on in the dark part of the stage as the current scene is concluding.

The curtain call can be lots of fun if each of the characters will create a small sign that they hold up as they take their individual bow. Each sign would indicate some sort of first for them personally. Examples would be - "First Time Taking a Bow" or "First Time Uncle Albert Has Seen Me in a Play."

Flexible Casting

This play can run with as few as 5 females and 5 males, if double casting is used, or as many as twenty or more. Additionally, many roles (e.g. the Poet) can be cast either as male or female. The Poet is an important character. This character is the only "running gag" in the show, and gives the audience something on which to anchor. The person should be suitably snooty, and stick to the poem despite the distractions. Though a traditional "he" pronoun has been used for stage instructions, please consider it generic and use either gender.

Costumes

Simple costumes work best for this production with accessories such as hats, glasses, pipes added to suggest each of the characters. Because each actor will play several parts and because you never know what your offstage area will look like if you are taking this on tour, keeping the costume changes simple will prevent any gray hair to which the director might be prone.

Setting

Like the costumes, the setting should be kept as simple as possible. Four large wooden blocks can serve as tables, beds, podiums, etc. In addition, four short stools work well in doubling as chairs, TV stands, steps, etc. If you are not touring you certainly can make your set more elaborate. A movable door on a frame, for example, is a helpful addition in several scenes.

Sound

Music between scenes helps smooth the many scene changes. If you are using the CD of FIRST IN LINE, you can use the instrumental tracks as transition music. This play uses some offstage voices, so an offstage standing microphone is very helpful.

Props

Act I

PROLOGUE: There are several different characters, occupations and activities suggested in the opening number which can be distinguished with props and/or costume accessories, or simply suggested by mime, gesture or movement.

FIRST BASE: (Poet) Poetry book, baseball, baseball mitt.

FIRST IN LINE: Two large sets of keys, wrist watch.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: trays, empty brown paper lunch sacks, watch, full lunch bag

FIRST BLEMISH: Five pairs of sunglasses, hand-held makeup mirror, large band-aid, large paper bag, tube of acne cream, beekeeper (or other unusual) helmet.

CRUSHED: (Poet) Poetry book, large stuffed animal.

FIRST CRUSH: Bag of popcorn, purse, pipe, coat.

FIRST TIME DRIVING: Clipboard, driver's education book, Walkman headphones, handkerchief.

FIRST PLANE RIDE: Carry on bags, tickets

ACT II

FIRST HOUSE: Mop, telephone, newspaper, box of Girl Scout Cookies, champagne, glasses.

FIRST COMPUTER: *National Enquirer* newspaper, hand-held video game, three telephones, computer keyboard.

FIRST SNOWFALL: (Poet) Poetry book, marshmallows, box of Ivory Snowflakes.

FIRST DAY OF SPRING: (Poet) Several long-range ("Super Soaker") squirt guns, umbrella.

FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS PLAY: (Poet) Poetry book, long rope.

No special properties required for the following scenes:
FIRST SCRIMMAGE
FIRST DAY OF WINTER
FIRST BOUT WITH DEATH
FIRST CHILD

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

End of Freeview

Download your complete script from Eldridge Publishing
https://histage.com/first-in-line-musical

Eldridge Publishing, a leading drama play publisher since 1906, offers more than a thousand full-length plays, one-act plays, melodramas, holiday plays, religious plays, children's theatre plays and musicals of all kinds.

For more than a hundred years, our family-owned business has had the privilege of publishing some of the finest playwrights, allowing their work to come alive on stages worldwide.

We look forward to being a part of your next theatrical production.

Eldridge Publishing... for the start of your theatre experience!