



# Avenue Q headed to Salem

Enlightened Theatrics' 2019 Season opens with the multi-Tony award winning musical, *Avenue Q* at Salem's Historic Grand Theatre on Friday, March 22.

The bold and upbeat musical tackles tough subjects like racism, unemployment, homosexuality, homelessness, and love through catchy tunes and larger than life characters. The production also has adult situations, and may be inappropriate for children under 17.

The production runs through April 14. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Preview performances occur Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting [enlightenedtheatrics.org](http://enlightenedtheatrics.org) or by calling 503-585-3427.

## 'No Drama Llama' is spirit guide for WMS kindness

By **ERIC A. HOWALD** and **HUNTER BOMAR**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Whiteaker Middle School students spent recent weeks focused on acts of kindness and they found the perfect spirit guide showed up in the Wolverine's gymnasium as part of an all-school assembly.

Caesar the No Drama Llama and his handlers dropped in to offer encouraging words and sparked a furor among the more than 700 students at the school.

Caesar, a recent staple of the local charity and parade scenes, made headlines in Portland when he and owner Larry McCool took a trip on the Rose City's light rail.

Caesar and McCool visited Whiteaker and Kennedy Elementary School on Friday, March 1, before stopping in at Keizer Mart on River Road for pictures with adoring fans.

If you spot Caesar in the community, his social media director – yeah, he has one – Ariel Knox has one request.

"Stick to petting him on the white fur around his neck," Knox said.

Predators will typically attack the body of a llama and there is no better way

raise the defenses of a no-drama-llama than for it to mistake you for an enemy.

Caesar is also a charity-driven llama. He'll make appearances at private events, like birthday parties, but the hosts are asked only to donate to one of his favorite charities in his name, either Marion-Polk Food Share or the Salem-based Arches Project, which fights to end local homelessness. Selfies and hugs are always free.

A small number of paid business events allow him to continue the charitable work.

For more information on booking Caesar, contact Knox at 503-569-7542 or email [caesarnodramallama@gmail.com](mailto:caesarnodramallama@gmail.com).



Photos by Eric A. Howald

A: Members of Whiteaker's Leadership team surround Caesar the No Drama Llama for hugs.

B: Kelsey Jaragin and Reesa Ramirez report on a recent personal hygiene drive at the school.

C: Bella Moore, Anna Sponable, Sydney Alfano, Savana Amnpreet Sandhu, Alauna Trautman, Maya Privratsky and Will Green crowd in for petting.

D: Audrey Thomson, Bella Moore and Anna Sponable.



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