

THEATER-MAKING AT HOME

**GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE**  
EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



**SUPERHERO  
MONOLOGUE**

**NAME :**

**SCHOOL / ORGANIZATION :**



**BE FEATURED!**

**Are you interested in sharing your Superhero Monologue  
with the Geffen community—and beyond?**

**If so, submit a 1-minute video of you speaking your monologue  
or submit a written copy of your monologue,  
which may be recorded on video by a Geffen artist.**

**If selected, your monologue will be featured on the  
Geffen Playhouse website.**

All submissions must be accompanied by  
a completed consent form.

To download a consent form go to  
**<https://tinyurl.com/theatermaking>**

If you have any questions, contact  
Brian Allman, Manager of Theater Education at  
[BrianA@geffenplayhouse.org](mailto:BrianA@geffenplayhouse.org)

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# SUPERHERO MONOLOGUE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

We all know a superhero! Whether they have superhuman powers or extensive access to resources, we have seen many stories of individuals using their powers and resources for the greater good.

The superhero archetype was created in 1938, when Superman first appeared and comic books became popular. Many iconic characters have been introduced since, including Batman, Wonder Woman, Captain America, Black Panther, Captain Marvel, the Falcon, and Spider-Man (Miles Morales).

If you could create a superhero, who would they be and what would they stand for?

The next few pages will guide you to create your very own superhero and write a monologue for them. Your creation can be inspired by you, someone you know, or any of the current world events. It can also be completely made up from your imagination or a fun mix of your real and imagined worlds.

While there is no right or wrong way to complete this creative project, writing does take time and revision. Give yourself space to come up with ideas, look them over, adjust, and keep going. As you continue to write in the future, feel free to explore other techniques. What's most important is using your voice and telling your story!

**HAVE FUN!**



For more projects and theater warm-ups, please visit:  
<https://tinyurl.com/theatermaking>

**ACTIVITY**

# **BRAINSTORM, NOTES, & SKETCHES**

**Your superhero has just successfully used their superpowers and/or resources for the greater good. They have been asked to address the public on the evening news!**

Brainstorm the questions below to get started. Write or sketch to get all your ideas down on paper.

**WHAT KIND OF SUPERHERO FIRST COMES TO MIND?**

**WHAT ARE SOME ISSUES/CHALLENGES YOUR SUPERHERO MIGHT WANT TO SOLVE?  
(THIS CAN BE IN THEIR COMMUNITY OR CITY, OR WORLD WIDE)**

**HOW CAN YOUR SUPERHERO SOLVE ONE OR TWO OF THESE ISSUES/CHALLENGES?  
WHAT SUPERPOWERS AND/OR RESOURCES MIGHT THEY USE?**

## ACTIVITY

# DEVELOP YOUR SUPERHERO

When creating characters, it is good practice to take a deep dive into the different aspects that make them unique. When playwrights or actors take on new characters, they often answer a list of questions and fill in details that help provide insight into who these characters are. Just like you, characters have backstories, likes and dislikes, and values, which inspire the choices they make and what they do and say.

With your superhero in mind, and using what you brainstormed on the previous page, fill in the page below. Getting to know your character will help you write your monologue and tell your superhero's story. Remember, these are just starter questions, feel free to think of and answer your own.

SUPERHERO NAME:

REAL NAME:

WHAT ARE THEIR SUPERPOWERS & HOW DID THEY GET THESE POWERS?

WHAT ISSUES MATTER MOST TO THEM?

WHAT IS YOUR SUPERHERO'S BACKSTORY?

SLOGAN OR QUOTE TO LIVE BY:

WHERE DO THEY LIVE & WHAT DOES THEIR HOME LOOK LIKE?

TOP 3 LIKES:

TOP 3 DISLIKES:

FAVORITE PERSON & WHY:

## ACTIVITY

# DESIGN YOUR SUPERHERO

In the same way that you created your superhero's backstory, personality, likes, and dislikes, imagine what your superhero looks like from head to toe. Decide what they look like physically and what they wear. Superheroes can take on any form! Representation is important and so be sure to choose everything your superhero represents.

Below, envision, sketch, and note what your superhero looks like.

Some things to consider:

How old is your superhero? Is your superhero human?

Out of this world? In the form of an animal?

Does your superhero wear a special outfit? Do they have their very own logo?

Special colors? Do they have any distinguishing physical marks or traits?

### DESIGN & SKETCH YOUR SUPERHERO

## ACTIVITY

# MONOLOGUE BREAKDOWN

Remember, your superhero has just succeeded in using their superpowers and/or resources for the greater good and has been asked to address the public. Keeping their characteristics and appearance in mind, you will now create a breakdown of **what your superhero will say**.

Make sure your monologue includes the following:

- what the big issue/challenge was
- how your superhero solved it
- why your superhero chose to step in
- what positive message your superhero wants to share.

Write 2-3 sentences summarizing each of the points below. Having an idea of what you want the monologue to say will help structure the words you choose for your superhero.

**WHAT SPECIFIC ISSUE/CHALLENGE DOES YOUR SUPERHERO SOLVE AND HOW?**

**WHY DID YOUR SUPERHERO CHOOSE TO GET INVOLVED WITH THIS ISSUE?**

**WHAT POSITIVE MESSAGE DOES YOUR SUPERHERO WANT TO SHARE WITH PEOPLE REGARDING THIS ISSUE AND MOVING FORWARD?**



ACTIVITY

# WRITING THE MONOLOGUE

A monologue is a speech that is presented by one person—in this case your superhero. With the character you have created in mind, you will choose the specific words that your superhero will say.

When writing a monologue, dialogue, or full script, writers make sure each word matters as they decide what is being said. You already know who your superhero is and what they want to say, now you get to decide **how** they say it.

Remember to keep your audience in mind: What will be meaningful for them to hear? How can your superhero be most genuine and mindful of what has just happened?

Write down 1-2 sentences in your superhero's voice (from the point of view of your superhero) for each section of the monologue below.

**MY SUPERHERO GREETING/INTRODUCTION**

Blank writing area for the superhero greeting/introduction.

**THE ISSUE/CHALLENGE WE FACED**

Blank writing area for the issue/challenge faced.

**HOW I WAS ABLE TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE/CHALLENGE**

Blank writing area for how the issue/challenge was solved.

ACTIVITY

# WRITING THE MONOLOGUE

WHY THIS ISSUE MATTERS TO ME AND WHY I CHOSE TO STEP IN

WHAT POSITIVE MESSAGE I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH PEOPLE IN  
REGARDING THIS ISSUE AND MOVING FORWARD

ANYTHING ELSE YOUR SUPERHERO MIGHT WANT TO SAY

ACTIVITY

# THE MONOLOGUE

Now that you have created the first lines for your superhero's monologue, it is time to put them together. As you write, feel free to elaborate by adding, changing, or removing lines, and to structure the speech as you see fit. Don't forget to give the monologue a title and yourself the writing credit you deserve!

TITLE:

WRITTEN BY:

CHARACTER NAME:

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## ACTIVITY

# BRINGING YOUR MONOLOGUE TO LIFE

You have just succeeded in creating your own superhero and in writing a monologue for them! Here are some ways to continue working on your creation and bring it to life:

For each line, note what sort of emotion your superhero is feeling. How might they say each line? Are they whispering? Screaming? Speaking really quickly or slowly?

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Create a tableau to represent the monologue scene. A tableau is “a silent and motionless depiction of a scene created by actors.” (CA Department of Education Glossary of Theatre)

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Imagine and write down what happened before the monologue.  
Imagine and write down what happens after.

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Read your monologue aloud to someone (either at home or to someone virtually).

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Give the monologue to someone else to read aloud to you.

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Follow the directions found on pages 6 – 10, which you used to develop your superhero, to create your superhero’s *arch-nemesis* or enemy who strongly opposes your superhero’s goals and actions. Once you have determined this figure’s appearance, personality traits, powers, and intentions, write a scene in which the two characters engage in a climatic showdown. (See the *Creating Characters & Dialogue* project for guidelines: [tinyurl.com/theatermaking](http://tinyurl.com/theatermaking))

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**MAKE A SKETCH OR TAKE A PHOTOGRAPH TO REPRESENT THE MONOLOGUE SCENE.**

# REFLECTION

We hope that creating your own superhero inspired you to think of the ways we can be superheroes for one another in our real world today. It really does not take superhero strength, just a kind heart!

Take a moment to reflect on your writing process and how it felt to create your monologue and bring it to life.

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT CREATING A SUPERHERO AND WRITING A MONOLOGUE?**

**WHAT PART OF THE CREATIVE PROCESS DID YOU ENJOY MOST?**

**HOW MIGHT YOU APPLY THIS SPECIFIC WRITING TECHNIQUE (OR PARTS OF IT) TO A FUTURE WRITING PROJECT?**

**HOW MIGHT YOUR MONOLOGUE INSPIRE YOU OR OTHERS TO TAKE ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR IN THE WORLD?**

# SUPERHERO RESOURCES

Here are some resources about heroes.

See how real-world heroes are changing our world today!

## **SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE TRANSFORMING BUSES INTO WIFI HOTSPOTS FOR STUDENTS WITHOUT INTERNET**

<https://tinyurl.com/hotspotbus>

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## **TYLER PERRY PAID FOR EVERY SENIOR'S GROCERIES AT STORES IN ATLANTA AND NEW ORLEANS**

<https://tinyurl.com/paidgroceries>

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## **MOM LAUNCHES 'MASKS FOR HEROES' WEBSITE THAT MATCHES REQUESTS WITH DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS**

<https://tinyurl.com/masksforheroesmatch>

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## **A DOG IN COLORADO IS DELIVERING GROCERIES TO HIS ELDERLY NEIGHBOR WITH RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS**

<https://tinyurl.com/deliverydog>

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## **8 SUPERHERO MONOLOGUES THAT YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE FROM THE BIG SCREEN**

<https://tinyurl.com/super-monologues>

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