



P R E S E N T S

MatheMagic!

Transforming Education for the 21st Century!



**"THE GOLD STANDARD
for Arts in Education"**

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS
OF MATHEMATICS.

2019-2020

FIELD TRIP EDUCATOR GUIDE

Welcome to **MatheMagic!**[™]

MatheMagic![™] is a real theatrical magic show with music, costumes, comedy, and illusions. In this fun format, kids (unknowingly) practice classroom skills, i.e., math facts and problem-solving.

In the course of the show, we discover that the first “magicians” were really mathematicians! (By using math they were able to “do the impossible”). We then go on to learn about mathematical contributions from the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Indians, Chinese and other cultures. This approach enables us to engage and challenge students of different ages and abilities with facts and ideas they can all understand. There is audience participation throughout in which thinking skills are encouraged. By adjusting the content of the program, we are able to accommodate several grade levels at a time from K-8.

In preparing the students, you need only tell them that they are going to see a magic show about math. As with all programs and cultural arts events, it’s helpful to talk to class about good audience behavior.

The enclosed math tricks have different levels of difficulty for grades three and up. Even some second graders can do the Binary Trick Cards. We recommend that you save these for after the show when the kids are “psyched” about the possibilities of math. (We’ll be giving out an additional handout during the performance.) Kindergarteners, first graders and second graders are encouraged to write about or draw pictures of the show.

In short, we hope to provide you with an exciting program that will stimulate, fascinate, and motivate your students not only with regard to math, but also to science, history, vocabulary and ancient civilizations. (Also, don’t be surprised if there is a run on the magic books in the school library!)

Wishing you all the best for a good year,

Bradley Fields

Owner/Artistic Director
Bradley Fields Magic Productions



About Bradley Fields

Actor, director and one of the most acclaimed magicians in the world, Bradley Fields began professionally at the age of fourteen. Working as apprentice to actor-magician, Jack Adams, Bradley began performing in schools, nightclubs, theaters, and on television. Using comedy, mime and characterization, Fields developed a style so original, that he became the first magician to appear in rock concerts and at such legendary nightspots as New York's Gaslight, the Bitter End, Washington's Cellar Door and Chicago's Quiet Knight. Newspaper critics at the time compared him to Marcel Marceau, Charlie Chaplin, and Harpo Marx. Variety said, "What was once standard boite fare is now a real novelty. Fields impresses with his work and he walks off to much appreciation." The Rochester Democrat & Chronicle called him "New York's funniest magician."

**"A virtuoso
magician and
illusionist...
Exceptionally funny!"**
-This Week in
Las Vegas

After taking a BA in Philosophy with a minor in Theater (SUNY, Purchase), he went to Paris where he studied mime with the great master Etienne Decroux while introducing his highly unorthodox magic act into Parisian cabarets. He was featured in the French TV special, *Les Cercles Magique*, at the Festival de Vence, and at the Harrogate Theater in England. The Harrogate Herald said "The main attraction, magician Bradley Fields, had the entire audience spellbound."

Returning to New York, Bradley began touring college shows across the US, and throughout the late 70s, he was a featured act at Reno Sweeney's, Tramps, and other NY cabarets. After studying acting and directing for two years at the Stella Adler Conservatory, he created the role of the Barker for the hit Broadway musical, *Barnum!*, and designed magic for the show. Fields also continued both as opening act and headliner in top nightclubs from Chicago's Hyatt Regency to Bermuda's Princess garnering more enthusiastic notices from the press. In Chicago, *The Daily News* called him "a spellbinder", while the *Tribune* critic proclaimed he had "never seen magic with such grace and wit."

With the birth of his children, Fields took some time off to teach in the New York City Public Schools. It was there that he conceived the idea of *MatheMagic!*[™], a show which uses magic to teach math. It has since been seen in over one thousand schools, theaters, and performing arts centers becoming one of the most highly praised and best selling educational shows in the US. In 1997 the Fairfax County Public Schools asked Bradley to develop and host the *Magic in Math* satellite TV series, which has since been seen in hundreds of schools nationwide.

In addition to giving two hundred performances of *MatheMagic!*[®] each school year, Bradley Fields has appeared at the National Theater, the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC and became the first American magician to be presented in Beijing, China. Bradley Fields continues to present his show, *Out of Thin Air!* to rave reviews, standing ovations and sold-out houses worldwide.

