

AUDIENCE RESPONSE
“Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle”
Prepared by Paulette C. LeBlanc, Board Member
Gila Valley Arts Council, Safford, Arizona
March 5-6, 2013

Two in-school residencies were held in Safford Schools; one for a class of Mt. Graham High School U.S. History students and the other for two classes of Safford Middle School Social Studies students. The following was reported.

“It was an extremely cool opportunity for our students to experience. They were intrigued by the guest speaker and his knowledge and passion of the life of Charles Lindbergh. So much so that a number of the students attended his live performance the following night, of which they all commented that it was far more detailed and loved it.” — **E.J Romero, MGHS Teacher**

“My students really enjoyed the visit. He had a very easy, conversational style, and he kept them entertained without all the "glitz & glamour" that they are accustomed to. I was glad that we were able to participate.” — **D’Anna O’Mera, SMS Teacher**

A bus-in performance was held at Eastern Arizona College’s Lee Little Theatre for an audience of 283 students, representing Dan Hinton School, Bonita Elementary School, Solomon Elementary, Ft. Thomas High School, Home School and Ruth Powell School. It should be noted that the program was so captivating that NO students left the theater to go to the restroom. Sixty students were randomly selected for feedback upon exit of the performance. They were asked to indicate their satisfaction with the performance with a thumbs up (great), thumbs side (neutral) and thumbs down (no). Results show 95 percent satisfaction (thumbs up!). Some student comments were noted: “This was wonderful. Great! Amazing! It was really good.” Teacher and student comments were solicited a day after the performance. The following is submitted.

Ft. Thomas Student Feedback:

1. The play itself was a great piece of work and it must have been challenging to perform.
2. It was nice to see his point of view because most people don't look at Lindbergh’s life in that kind of light. They only see the glory and fame, not the fact that their life was never theirs to live.
3. Normally, I get bored with any type of plays, but the Charles Lindbergh play kept me entertained the whole way through.
4. I thought it was pretty good. I learned a lot of things ... Sometime in the future we should go to another play because you learn a lot about what we are studying.
5. Steve Carroll was a good actor to remember the whole story.
6. I had never seen a one man play. He was an awesome actor and I would recommend to everybody.

“My students and staff thought it was outstanding. They absolutely loved it. He did an amazing job and kept their interest for the entire performance. Several students told me it was their favorite for the year. I would love to have more like this.” — **Shelley Michaels, Bonita Teacher**

Solomon Students:

1. I really liked the play. It got very interesting when the person broke into the Lindbergh home and stole the baby.
2. He was an excellent storyteller and painted vivid pictures in our minds!
3. He wasn't what we expected. It was great.
4. We enjoyed the performance as always (**Melissa Lines, Teacher.**)

A master class was held at Eastern Arizona College for interested drama students and two instructors. **Instructor Bill Nidiffer**, reports the following:

Mr. Carroll was a delight to talk to and shared valuable insight on acting for a living. The students were receptive and had many questions for Mr. Carroll. Most of all his comments reinforced what we teach here at EAC. Like the scriptures say, “A prophet (teacher) is not appreciated in his home town.” My class got a good dose of reality and encouragement from Mr. Carroll. Student **Javonta Light** commented, “Mr. Carroll pointed out that being truthful to the character is most important to being believed by the audience.” Thank you GVAC for providing this educational opportunity to the Gila Valley and EAC.

An evening performance was held for an audience of community members. Feedback solicited from GVAC board members indicates overwhelming satisfaction with the performance.

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette C. LeBlanc
Board Member
Gila Valley Arts Council
(928) 965-0952 (cell)
(928) 428-9330 (home)