

Movement allowed



Photo submitted

"Hi-5" cast members include, from left, Jenn, Kimee, Curtis, Karla and Shaun. The quintet's "Move Your Body" live-action theatrical show comes to War Memorial Auditorium at 7 p.m. Jan. 7. Tickets range from \$22.50 to \$27.50 and are available at all tickets.com outlets or by calling (888) 397-3100.

'Hi-5' brings its 'Move Your Body' tour to Greensboro

By Brian Rose
Times-News

GREENSBORO — Another children's television show has made it big in the United States, and now it's about to ride that wave on a theatrical live show across the nation.

The "Hi-5 Live! Move Your Body Tour" makes a stop at War Memorial Auditorium in Greensboro on Jan. 7. Show time is 7 p.m., and tickets range in price from \$22.50 to \$27.50 and are available through all tickets.com outlets.

"We are thrilled to bring the exhilarating sights and sounds of the 'Hi-5' TV show directly to young audiences across the country," Helena Harris, show creator, said in a statement. "Young children's boundless enthusiasm for learning new songs, dances and concepts is a constant inspiration to our team."

"Hi-5" debuted in the U.S. in February 2003 on The Learning Channel (TLC) and Discovery Kids as part of the "Ready, Set, Learn" block, which is geared toward children aged 2 to 8. Since then, the "Hi-5" audience has grown by more than 142 percent, and the show is seen in more than 85 million homes across the country.

It's all been a whirlwind experience, said cast member Karla Cheatham-Mosley, and though the television show has been a huge success, the crew is ready to take this act on the road.

"When we're filming the TV show, we're in the studio about two to three weeks at a time, so there's not a lot of interaction with kids," Cheatham-Mosley said in a phone interview. "But we'll be really close to the kids for this theatrical version, so it should be a lot of fun."

As the name might suggest, the "Hi-5" show includes five individuals who present lively, pop-style songs and segments to preschool-age children in an educational format. Cheatham-Mosley is joined by Jennifer Peterson-Hind, Shaun Taylor-Corbett, Kimee Balmilero and Curtis Cregan. All trained actors, the cast members go by their first names on television and on stage.

Both the TV show and stage version are divided into various segments, with each cast member presenting a certain "learning style."

Karla specializes in body movement and coordination skills; Curtis focuses on musical concepts such as beat, rhythm, pitch and melody; Shaun explores shapes and colors within the world around him; Kimee specializes in numbers, puzzles, patterns and categorizing things; and Jenn explores the world of language and vocabulary.

Music and dance is integrated into all of the segments, and toward the end, all five cast members come together for a segment on self-awareness and social skills.

Cheatham-Mosley said the "Move Your Body Tour" is just that — a 75-minute, high-energy and engaging show. "We want the kids and parents to get up and move," she said.

"Learning is fun, and it's such a big part of our everyday lives," Cheatham-Mosley added. "Hopefully, we can get across to both kids and parents that learning isn't just confined to the classroom. It's incorporated all around us, in everything we do."

For those who cannot attend the show in Greensboro, the tour also will make a stop at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium on Jan. 13. Show times are 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets for this event range in price from \$12 to \$22 and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets.

For more information on Hi-5, visit www.hi-5us.com on the internet.