



Disney *Aladdin*

THE HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL

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FAMILY NIGHT ACTIVITY PACK



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Welcome to the digital activity pack for *Aladdin*. Throughout this document, you'll find information and activities for your family to use before and after seeing the show.

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# STORY SYNOPSIS: ACT ONE

**MARKETPLACE OF AGRABAH** A mysterious storyteller welcomes the audience to the ancient city of Agrabah (“Arabian Nights”). A poor but street-wise young man named Aladdin is caught stealing a loaf of bread in the marketplace. He narrowly escapes the guards with the help of his friends and fellow thieves: Babkak, Omar, and Kassim (“One Jump Ahead”). A royal entourage appears with Prince Abdullah on his way to woo Princess Jasmine. Aladdin gets in the way and the Prince mocks him bitterly. Aladdin realizes he must try to change his life for the better and makes a promise to his deceased mother (“Proud of Your Boy”).

**THE PALACE** The villainous royal vizier, Jafar, and his lackey, Iago, lament the arrival of Prince Abdullah. If Jasmine chooses the Prince, the vizier will no longer be next in line for the throne. Luckily for Jafar, Princess Jasmine refuses the Prince and swears to marry only for love. The Sultan decrees she must obey the law and marry a prince, so Jasmine decides to run away (“These Palace Walls”). Desperate to gain control of the kingdom, Jafar sends a spell to lead him to a lamp holding an all-powerful genie. To get the lamp, they will need the help of the “Diamond in the Rough,” who is revealed to be Aladdin.

**MARKETPLACE OF AGRABAH** Aladdin and his friends busk for money, attempting to make a living without stealing (“Babkak, Omar, Aladdin, Kassim”). Amid the commotion, Jasmine, who has adopted a disguise and appears in the crowd, meets Aladdin. Aladdin shows her around, and Jasmine takes an apple from a vendor’s cart as a gift for Aladdin. The vendor apprehends Jasmine for stealing, but Aladdin helps her escape and brings her to his hovel.

**ALADDIN’S HOVEL** The two runaways share their experience of feeling trapped (“A Million Miles Away”). When the guards find them, Jasmine removes her disguise and demands Aladdin’s release, but the guards will only obey the Sultan. Jasmine leaves for the palace at once. Jafar and Iago, having observed Aladdin’s capture, don disguises and bribe the guards to release Aladdin to them. They then convince Aladdin to fetch the magic lamp (“Diamond in the Rough”) from the Cave of Wonders.

**CAVE OF WONDERS** Aladdin finds the lamp, but touches a necklace that reminds him of Jasmine, causing the cave to collapse. Trapped inside, Aladdin rubs the lamp and releases the Genie (“Friend Like Me”), who helps his new master escape the cave. Meanwhile at the palace, Jafar tells Jasmine that Aladdin has been executed for attempting to kidnap the Princess. Jasmine is distraught and promises to fire Jafar when she becomes Queen.

**THE DESERT** Aladdin asks Genie for advice and discovers that a genie can only be freed of their servitude if his master wishes it so. Aladdin promises he will do it, and Genie grants the first of Aladdin’s three wishes by turning him into a prince, thus making him eligible for Princess Jasmine’s hand in marriage. Aladdin senses that his luck will finally change for the better (“Act One Finale”).



# STORY SYNOPSIS: ACT TWO

**THE PALACE** Disguised as Prince Ali of Ababwa, Aladdin arrives at the palace with fanfare and impresses the Sultan (“Prince Ali”), but Jasmine resists following anyone’s orders. Now part of Ali’s entourage, Kassim advises Aladdin to be honest with the Princess. Aladdin refuses and Kassim, Omar, and Babkak return to the marketplace. Genie appears and encourages Aladdin to be himself now that he’s in the palace, but Aladdin, afraid that Jasmine won’t think highly of a street-rat, doubles down on his “Ali” act. Jafar and Iago plot to get rid of this latest suitor and question Ali’s heritage. They send him to Jasmine’s chambers, which will cause him to break the law by trespassing

“Prince Ali” gains Jasmine’s trust and invites her to ride on a magic carpet (“A Whole New World”). Returning to the palace, they agree to marry in the morning and bid farewell. As Aladdin revels in his success, the guards seize him on Jafar’s orders. Omar overhears Aladdin’s capture and runs to the marketplace for help. Babkak, Omar, and Kassim decide to storm the palace (“High Adventure”), but are ultimately apprehended and thrown into the dungeon. Aladdin summons Genie to use his second wish to free him and his friends (“Somebody’s Got Your Back”). Aladdin agrees to free Genie as soon as he comes clean to Jasmine. While Genie retreats to the lamp to pack, the guards recapture Babkak, Omar, and Kassim.

Jasmine tells the Sultan she has fallen in love. Thrilled, the Sultan prepares for the wedding and Ali’s ultimate ascension to the throne. Overwhelmed by the sudden pressures of ruling a kingdom, Aladdin tells Genie that he must save his final wish for himself, just in case. Jafar and

Iago overhear Aladdin and, realizing he is the “Diamond in the Rough,” steal the lamp at the first opportunity.

The next morning at the wedding, Jafar, having taken possession of Genie and captured Jasmine, reveals Aladdin’s true identity (“Prince Ali – Reprise”). Jafar uses his second wish to become Sultan and seizes the royal throne. Aladdin tricks Jafar into wishing to become a genie... forever trapping him inside a lamp of his own! With Genie’s lamp back in hand, Aladdin uses his final wish to free his friend. He then promises to be true to Jasmine, if she’ll have him. The initially reluctant Sultan now grants his consent, gives Jasmine equal ruling power, and everyone lives happily, and freely, ever after (“Finale Ultimo”).





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# CHARACTER GUIDE: WHO'S WHO



**ALADDIN**

A resourceful but reluctant thief, Aladdin seeks a life beyond the confines of poverty. His best friends are Babkak, Omar, and Kassim.



**BABKAK**

Aladdin's friend and fellow thief, Babkak thinks only of food.



**OMAR**

Aladdin's friend and fellow thief, Omar is more timid than his companions.



**KASSIM**

Aladdin's friend and fellow thief, Kassim is tough as nails.



**JAFAR**

The Sultan's advisor schemes to take possession of the throne through any means necessary.



**GENIE**

The Genie of the Lamp is quick-witted, fast-talking, and all-powerful. He yearns for his freedom, and befriends his new master of the lamp, Aladdin.



**JASMINE**

An intelligent young princess who seeks a life beyond the confines of privilege.



**SULTAN**

The kind-hearted, widowed ruler of Agrabah, the Sultan values tradition and the law.



**IAGO**

Jafar's lackey is always ready to assist his boss in an evil plan.



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# JOURNEY TO THE STAGE

While lyricist Howard Ashman and composer Alan Menken were achieving great success with their work on Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (1989), they enthusiastically drafted an outline for a new animated movie. This one would be based on the famous legend "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" from *One Thousand and One Nights*, a collection of ancient Arabian folk tales that were compiled and translated by Antoine Galland in the 18th century. The songwriters' outline was also inspired by the adventure-filled early film adaptations of the tale, such as *The Thief of Baghdad* (1940), which used cutting-edge technology to create magical special effects. The outline drew inspiration from *Road to Morocco* (1942) and *Arabian Nights* (1942).

After Ashman passed away in 1991 and the movie evolved under the direction of Ron Clements and John Musker, many of Ashman and Menken's original ideas and songs were set aside. However, Disney's *Aladdin* became a box-office hit when it premiered in 1992, and included three Ashman/Menken songs and two by Menken and lyricist Tim Rice. One of those songs, "A Whole New World" topped the Billboard® charts and won an Academy Award®.

In 2009, Disney Theatrical Group decided to bring *Aladdin* to the stage as a full-length musical. President Thomas Schumacher enlisted book writer and Tony®-nominated lyricist Chad Beguelin to help weave some of the original Ashman/Menken elements into the version of the story people had come to know and love from the film. Onstage, Aladdin and Jasmine would be somewhat older; the Menken/Ashman ballad "Proud of Your Boy" would show another side of the hero's character; the Genie would return to a classic jazz showman in the tradition of Fats Waller and Cab Calloway, who originally inspired this iconic character in the Ashman outline; the parrot Iago would become a human lackey to Jafar; the monkey Abu would be replaced by Aladdin's three street-rat pals, who sing "Babkak, Omar, Aladdin, Kassim" and "High Adventure"; and Beguelin would adapt lyrics where necessary and ultimately write four brand new songs with Menken to complete the musical's score.



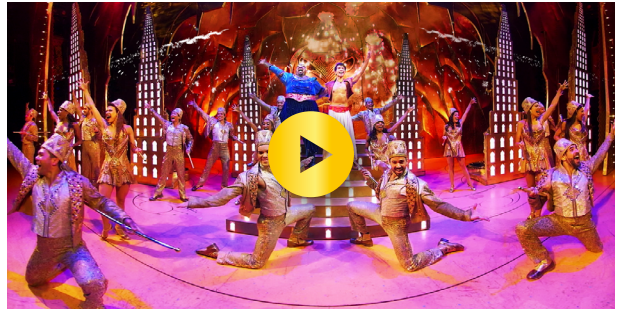
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# SCREEN TO STAGE: BRINGING *ALADDIN* TO LIFE

## "PRINCE ALI" LYRIC VIDEO



## "FRIEND LIKE ME" IN 360°



## STAGE PROPS: LAMP



## STAGE PROPS: JASMINE'S CROWN





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# INSPIRATION FOR THE BROADWAY GENIE

In adapting the character Genie for the stage, the creative team turned to the original inspiration for the Disney animated film character: classic jazz showmen Fats Waller and Cab Calloway.



Photograph by Carl Van Vechten

Fats Waller (1904-1943) was a popular comedic entertainer, jazz pianist, and singer. One of the few jazz musicians to win wide commercial fame, Fats Waller made hundreds of recordings with his band and in Broadway revues. His best-known songs “Ain’t Misbehavin’” and “Honeysuckle Rose” were inducted into the GRAMMY® Hall of Fame in 1984 and 1999. He was known not only for his songwriting, but also for his flamboyant and witty performance style.



Photograph by Alan Fisher

Cab Calloway (1907-1994) was a jazz singer and bandleader known for his combination of energetic scat singing, improvisation, and more traditional vaudeville-style vocals. Calloway performed in films throughout the 1930s and 1940s, and later went on to perform in musical theater, including the revival of *Porgy and Bess* in 1952. His trademark song, “Minnie the Moocher,” is considered by some to be the first recording to feature scat singing.

## WHERE DO THE BROADWAY GENIES FIND INSPIRATION FOR THE ROLE?



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# IN-THEATER ACTIVITY

## PRE-SHOW TURN & TALK

What do you think? Check out the questions below and share your answers with the people around you while you wait for the show to begin!

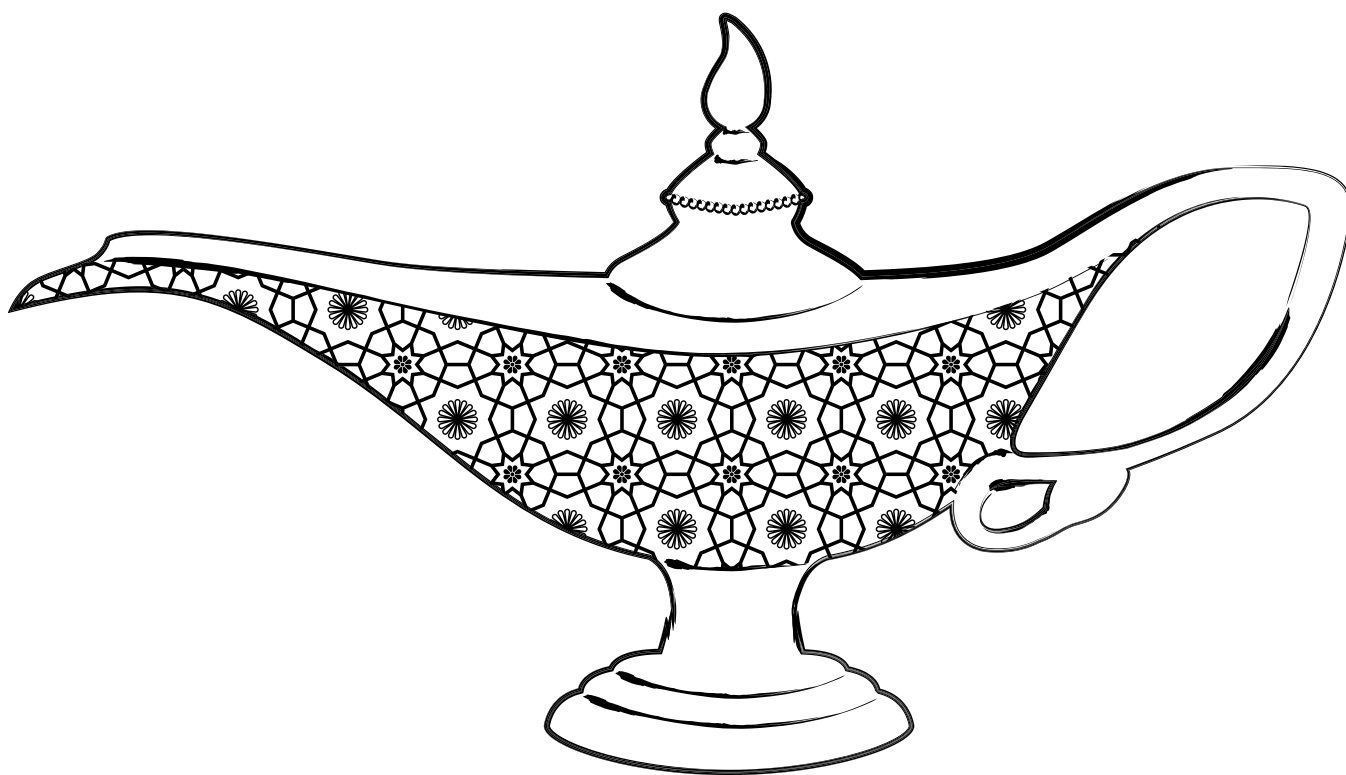
- In the Broadway show *Aladdin* the magic carpet flies. How would you make a magic carpet fly onstage?
- *Aladdin* is a musical about action, adventure, and breaking free from expectation. Is there a moment in your life that you think would make a good musical? What are some possible song titles? What characters would be in your musical? What would the plot be?
- In the theater, the sound board operator sits in a booth at the back of the orchestra level of the theater. Do you see where the sound booth is? Can you find any speakers in the house?
- The New Amsterdam Theatre was built in 1902 and is a historical landmark of New York City. Is there a place you love in New York City that you think should be a historical landmark? Why?



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# LAMP ACTIVITY

Bring the magic of *Aladdin* on Broadway home with you by decorating your own magic lamp!



**IF YOU HAD THREE WISHES,  
WHAT WOULD YOU WISH FOR?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_