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To all arts presenters,

I recently had the pleasure of presenting two performances of Thaddeus Rex : "Read Like a Rock Star". These shows were part of the Fantastic Free Friday series at Miami University Middletown held in our 749 seat auditorium. Both of our near-capacity audiences were primarily elementary age students, grades K-5, but we had some younger and older students there as well. I sometimes hesitate to book a single performer for our venue, but in this case there was no need to be concerned. From the very opening of the show when Thaddeus strolled around our auditorium making eye contact, singing and getting to know his audience, to the very end of the show where the entire group was yelling "Encore!" there was a rapport in the room which is seldom achieved. I got the impression that the show was always about the audience members and that there was a purpose for the event. The purpose is reading. The theme of reading books in order to spur one's imagination was present in every song. The added incentive to enter a song writing contest on his web site is one that I hope the teachers will embrace. The possibilities for follow up to these shows are abundant and important.

Take a look at www.thaddeusrex.com and see if the purpose of all the excitement is what your students need. I can tell you that the enthusiasm and professionalism of the performer are guaranteed.

Sincerely,

Susan Joyce

Coordinator, Fantastic Free Fridays

Miami University Middletown