

Field Trip in Spring to a play at ACT in SF Shoshanna Tenn, Chabot College

We had a wonderful time at the play this past Sunday!

Julie Sanchez, Puente Counseling Assistant, and I took 30 students to see the play *Two Trains Running* at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco on Sun May 4. It was a wonderful show. For some of our students, taking BART was a new experience, and for many of them, seeing a play was a new experience. (One student commented that the only other play she had ever seen was "Seussical the Musical" done by her middle school). The theater is beautiful, and the play itself was very, very well done. It is a play written by August Wilson and set in the 1960's in Pittsburg, and its themes include the struggle for employment and financial success, trust, structural racism affecting the black community, and justice. Students commented on what has changed and what has not since the time of the play, and enjoyed seeing how the scenes changed with the use of light and music, the way the actors used their body language, and how a long pause could be so effective. We also looked at symbolism with the ham and sugar, the undertaker's always gloved hands, and more.

Much of our conversation took place after the play, at the diner around the corner (which amazingly was able to accommodate 32 of us!)

Thank you for supporting this trip.

Sincerely,

Shoshanna Tenn
English Instructor and Co-coordinator for the Puente Project

