

# THE PRODUCER'S PERSPECTIVE

GETTING YOU TO THE NEXT STAGE.



Hello Pros!

How was everyone's Thanksgiving? Lots to be thankful for this year, yes? I know I've got a ton - a Tony, a "McKenna" (my 8 month old!) and getting Gettin' The Band Back Together to Broadway. Yep, even though that didn't work out the way I planned and dreamed, I'm still thankful for it, and I know I'll be better off because of it in the long run. Something good comes of everything we do in life. Keep that in mind if something doesn't go your way (from a plane delay to a poor review).

And of course, I'm thankful for all of you. Your dedication and passion and investment in yourself inspires me to keep finding ways to help you get to where you want to be even faster. So stay tuned.

First, a shout-out to the newest members of our Pro community: Jessica, George, Naomi, Adam, William, Paul, Amy, Lorne and Muso. Welcome, guys and dolls, and we're thankful you're here (make sure you join [The Facebook Group](#) because it's where the real action is!)

And now, this week's tip comes courtesy of one of the critic's of the NY Times. I know, I know, but even they get something right every once in a while. :-)

Opening numbers are one of the hardest things to write in a musical. Some folks suggest you even write them LAST when you're writing your musical. One of the best opening numbers in a musical ever written, "Comedy Tonight" from A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, was written during the out-of-town tryout!

So what is the function of an opening number?

Well, in the middle of the review of the recent [A Chorus Line](#) at City Center, Jesse Green said this about the opening number:

"Has one number ever so efficiently established, as "I Hope I Get It" does, what a show is about, setting up its theme (the desperate need to perform), suggesting its conflicts, introducing its many characters and establishing its style?

That's it in a nutshell, folks.

Does yours do that?

Take an opening number temperature check of your musical this week.

And let's continue this conversation in the [Facebook Group](#). Go there now and tell everyone what your favorite opening number is and why?

Ready, set, go get 'em

Best,

Ken

P.S. Ever see the A Chorus Line documentary? It's a good one. [Click here to check it out.](#) All musical theater students (aren't we all?) should see it.

P.P.S. Our PRO Black Friday deal is still available until midnight tonight ;-)  
[Click here](#) to save 30% on a yearly Associate PRO membership and get \$100 Bonus Bucks.

[This Week on the PRO Facebook Group](#)

Here are just a few of things that are being chatted about on the Facebook Group this week!

- Resource of the Week: Diving into Royalty Pools
- Weekly Challenge: If you don't already have your elevator pitch, finish it this week
- See what everyone is thankful for this year

[Come join the discussion!](#)