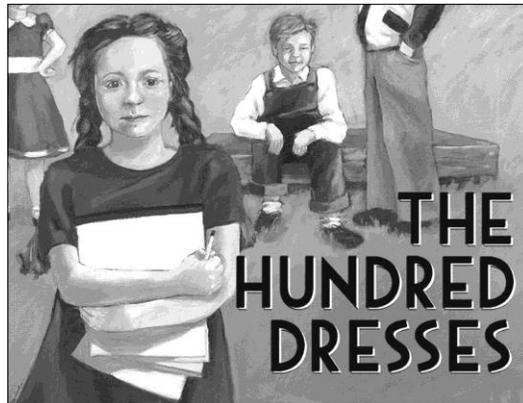


Seattle Children's Theatre

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It's never too late to make yourself a better person SCT opens *The Hundred Dresses*

(Seattle, WA) –Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) is excited to announce the opening of *The Hundred Dresses* on Friday February 22, 2008 at 7:00pm in SCT's Charlotte Martin Theatre. The play, directed by **Allison Narver** and adapted from Eleanor Estes' Newberry Honor Book, runs through April 6, 2008.

The Hundred Dresses is a story of bullying, courage and the meaning of friendship. Wanda Petronski just wants to join the fun of having friends, like everyone else. But in 1930s small town America, a Polish immigrant doesn't easily fit in. When Maddie's best friend, Peggy, starts to tease Wanda, Maddie knows this isn't right. When the teasing doesn't stop and the Petronskis move to get away from the town's prejudices, Maddie is wracked with guilt. She soon realizes that allowing her friend to be a bully can be just as bad as acting that way herself. Determined not to let her fear get the best of her again, Maddie braves the scorn of her classmates and stands up to them, making an unlikely friend in the bargain.

SCT Artistic Director **Linda Hartzell** says, “This is a truly charming and well-told story, important for our kids to see and hear, giving them an understanding that history can impact the present.” And she hopes to reach out to boys as well as girls. “Even though it is about a young girl and has the word ‘dresses’ in the title, I ask you to encourage the children in your life to keep their minds open to stories told from a different point of view—we all have so much to learn and enjoy from this tale.”

This is Director **Allison Narver’s** first production with SCT. Narver was previously Artistic Director at Empty Space Theatre and Annex Theatre in Seattle. Her recent local directing credits include *Clean House* at ACT, *Memory House* and *Bad Dates* at Seattle Repertory Theatre, and *Little Women* at Book-It Repertory Theatre.

The Hundred Dresses features an outstanding cast of local actors, including **Susanna Burney, Emily Cedergreen, Philip Davidson, Troy Fischnaller, Tim Gouran, Sarah Harlett** (who also appeared in *The Neverending Story* this season at SCT), **Marianne Owen, Sharia Pierce,** and **Betsy Schwartz,** with **Peter Dylan O’Connor** and **Tracy Repep** as understudies.

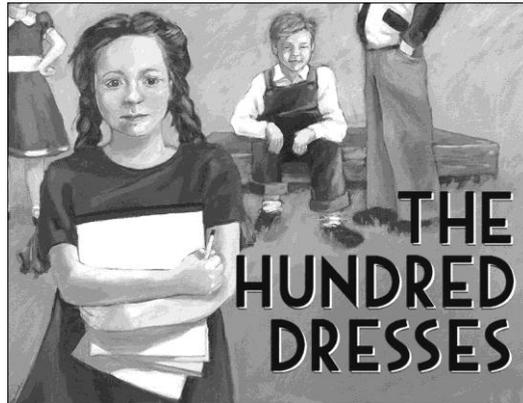
Other members of the production’s artistic staff include Costumer Designer **Melanie Taylor Burgess,** Lighting Designer **Rick Paulsen,** Dialect Coach **Judith Shahn,** Scenic Designer **Carey Wong,** and Sound Designer/Composer **Chris Walker.**

The Hundred Dresses will be presented in SCT’s Charlotte Martin Theatre. Seattle Children’s Theatre is located at 201 Thomas Street, under the Space Needle at Seattle Center. Tickets for *The Hundred Dresses* range in price from \$17 to \$33 and may be purchased by calling the SCT Ticket Office at (206) 441-3322 or by visiting www.sct.org. *The Hundred Dresses* is recommended for ages 8 and older.

Seattle Children’s Theatre would like to thank season sponsors **Microsoft** and **Boeing,** show sponsors **Dorsey & Whitney** and **PONCHO,** and season affiliate **Target** for their generous support.

Seattle Children’s Theatre celebrates its 33rd season in 2007-2008 and performs September through June in the Charlotte Martin and Eve Alvord Theatres at Seattle Center. Since its inception, SCT has gained acclaim as a leading producer of theatre, educational programs and new scripts for young people. SCT has presented over 180 plays, 98 of which were world premieres, and entertained over 4 million children.

Seattle Children's Theatre



By Mary Hall Surface – Based on the book by Eleanor Estes
Directed by Allison Narver

- WHAT:** A story of friendship and growth set in 1930's small-town America.
- WHERE:** Seattle Children's Theatre's Charlotte Martin Theatre
201 Thomas Street, Seattle (Seattle Center)
- WHEN:** Opening Night – February 22, 2008 at 7pm
Public Performances – February 23, 2008 through April 6, 2008
(weekdays at 7pm, weekends at 5:30pm, matinees at 2pm)
Target Family Matinee – March 1, 2008 at 2pm
ASL-interpreted Performance – March 15, 2008 at 2pm
Family Date Night Dinner – March 7, 2008
(dinner at 5:30pm, performance at 7pm)
- TICKETS:** Tickets range in price from \$17 to \$33 and may be purchased by calling SCT's Ticket Office at (206) 441-3322 or by visiting www.sct.org.
The Hundred Dresses is recommended for ages 8 and older.
- INFO:** Wanda Petronski just wants to join the fun of having friends, like everyone else. But in 1930s small town America, a Polish immigrant doesn't easily fit in. When Maddie's best friend, Peggy, starts to tease Wanda, Maddie knows this isn't right. When the teasing doesn't stop and the Petronskis move to get away from the town's prejudices, Maddie is wracked with guilt. She soon realizes that allowing her friend to be a bully can be just as bad as acting that way herself. Determined not to let her fear get the best of her again, Maddie braves the scorn of her classmates and stands up to them, making an unlikely friend in the bargain.