

Seattle Children's Theatre

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Seattle Children's Theatre Announces 2011-2012 Mainstage Season

(Seattle, WA) – **Seattle Children's Theatre** is very excited to announce its 2011-2012 Mainstage season, which includes world premieres and time-tested works, journeys into imagination and pulse-pounding adventures, and musicals with two different takes on “ getting by with a little help from my friends.”

SCT Artistic Director **Linda Hartzell** says, “This is a season about big dreams, conceived by dreamers as diverse as a noble outlaw, a humble caterpillar and a little boy with a crayon. From kite-flying success to wildly popular music, characters in each play persist in pursuing their own goals and dreams. Every year, we create theatre experiences that help audiences connect with literature, family, one another and the world at large.”

Following is the full line-up for SCT's 2011-2012 season:

World Premiere - *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

Lyrics by Robert Burgess, Music by Auston James and Book by Don Darryl Rivera

Based on the books by Crockett Johnson

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Stewart I. Edelstein, Executor

Charlotte Martin Theatre

September 22 – October 30, 2011

All Ages - visual storytelling with accessible language

Anything is possible with a crayon and a big imagination. With a burst of inspiration, Harold launches a magical exploration and simply draws where he wants to go. After sketching himself into harrowing situations, Harold quickly problem-solves; he draws an apple tree when he's hungry, a rocket ship when he finds himself falling through the sky. Non-stop music and innovative animation accompany Harold as he travels from under the sea to outer space, making many friends along the way.

Robin Hood

By Greg Banks

Produced by permission of Children's Theatre Company Minneapolis

Produced by special arrangement with Plays For Young Audiences

Eve Alvord Theatre

October 20 – November 27, 2011

For Ages 8 and up - fast-moving acting and multilayered plot

Medieval folklore comes alive with sword fights, archery and jousting as the Prince of Thieves and his merry men do all the wrong things for the right reasons. Robin Hood inspires us in his fight for justice and attempts to equalize the paupers with the pampered. Word play and physical comedy make light of the Sheriff of Nottingham and his soldiers' desperate attempts to capture the elusive Robin. With relentless quick wit and narrow escapes, this is the legendary tale of good versus evil.

A Year with Frog and Toad

Music by Robert Reale

Book and Lyrics by Willie Reale

Based on the books by Arnold Lobel

Originally presented on Broadway by Bob Boyett, Adrienne Lobel, Michael Gardner, Lawrence Horowitz, Roy Furman

World Premiere at The Children's Theatre Company Minneapolis

Charlotte Martin Theatre

Nov. 17, 2011 – Jan. 15, 2012

All Ages - playful, musical adventure

Eternally optimistic Frog and perpetually conservative Toad adventure through the seasons in this Broadway musical. The friends plant flowers, swim, enjoy Christmas Eve and simply celebrate the little things in life. Ordinary events become delightfully humorous escapades as a sled ride instills the range of emotions from trepidation to comic terror and a snail trudges through snow in the most ironic mail delivery. This friendship triumphs through challenges and sends a heart-warming holiday message to your whole family.

World Premiere - *A Single Shard*

Based upon the book by Linda Sue Park

Adapted by Robert Schenkkan

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Charlotte Martin Theatre

February 23 – March 18, 2012

For Ages 8 and up - thought-provoking drama

Newbery Award-winning author Linda Sue Park brings us a story of perseverance set in 12th-century Korea. Living under a bridge with his only friend, the crippled Crane Man, 12-year-old orphan Tree Ear seeks a better life for them both. After Tree Ear breaks a piece of master potter Min's work, Min grudgingly allows the boy to help with menial tasks in repayment, but never permits Tree Ear to try his hand at pottery. When the Emperor requests a sample of Min's exquisite pottery, Tree Ear volunteers to embark on the dangerous journey in hope of earning the master potter's respect.

HELP

Presented by Theatergroep Max.

Conceived by Moniek Merckx

Music by John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Vincent Van Warmerdam, and others

Charlotte Martin Theatre

April 12 - May 13, 2012

For Ages 11 and up - adolescent themes

Who were they before they became The Beatles? The setting is Liverpool, in the late 1950s. All you have is a guitar, a dream, and a new sound. With songs performed live on stage, we witness the early collaboration of teens that became the most popular band in the world. This dynamic story delves into struggles of friendship, jealousy, and the insatiable, burning passion for music. *HELP* is about pursuing your dream, discovering the road to success, and choosing which path to follow.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favorites

Produced by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Adapted, Directed and Designed by Jim Morrow

Music by Steven Naylor

Narrated by Gordon Pinsent

Eve Alvord Theatre

May 3 – June 3, 2012

For Ages 2 to 8 - colorful puppetry and minimal dialogue

Eric Carle's stories become puppet sensations exploring counting and colors. The very hungry and very tiny caterpillar munches through a smorgasbord of things, emerging as a big, beautiful butterfly. Whimsical music and imaginative puppetry engage the senses and enchant all ages. Mermaid Theatre's magical interpretation comes to us from their wildly popular international tour.

SCT's ticket office will begin processing new and renewing subscriptions on April 4, 2011. Subscription prices have been lowered for the 2011-2012 season to offer greater opportunity for access, with packages now starting as low as \$10/ticket. Single tickets for all Mainstage productions go on sale August 9, 2011. For more information about subscriptions or single tickets, visit www.sct.org or call the SCT ticket office at (206) 441-3322.

Seattle Children's Theatre, which will celebrate its 37th season in 2011-2012, 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 professional theatre, educational programs and new scripts for young people. By the end of its 2010-2011 season, SCT will have presented over 200 plays, 103 of which were world premieres, and entertained over 4 million children.

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