

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2019

NOVEMBER 21 – DECEMBER 29, 2019

CORDUROY

Adapted for stage by **BARRY KORNHAUSER**

Based on the books by **DON FREEMAN**

Directed by **KATHRYN VAN METER**

Produced in partnership with Children's Theatre Company, Minneapolis

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences

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Based on the *Corduroy* & *A Pocket for Corduroy* books by **DON FREEMAN**

Adapted for stage by **BARRY KORNHAUSER**

Directed by **KATHRYN VAN METER**

Scenery, properties, and costumes for this production were constructed by Children's Theatre Company, Minneapolis

Original production directed by Peter C. Brosius premiered at Children's Theatre Company on March 9, 2018

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences

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THE CREATIVE TEAM

KATHRYN VAN METER

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MICHAEL B. PAUL*

Stage Manager

ALEX WOMMACK

Production Assistant

CLAIRE STARK

Youth Cast Supervisor

TREVOR BOWEN

Costume Designer

TONY BEND

Scenic Designer

L.B. MORSE

Lighting Designer

TIM SYMONS

Composer

CHRIS R. WALKER

Sound Designer

KELLER O'MALLEY

Assistant Director

THE CAST

CHIP SHERMAN*

Corduroy

OLIVIA FRIESON

Lisa

EVANGELINE OPONGPARRY

Lisa

DEDRA D. WOODS*

Mother

ROB BURGESS*

Night Watchman

KALIA ESTES

Clown

JULIAN MUDGE-BURNS

Clown

ZOE PAPADAKIS

Clown

MICA RUTHFIELD

Clown

CLAUDINE MBOLIGIKPELANI NAKO*

U/S: Mother & Corduroy

EVAN WHITFIELD

U/S: Night Watchman

CHRIS JONES

Musician: Bass

TIM SYMONS

Musician: Piano

ALEC WILMART

Musician: Drums

CORDUROY



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A LETTER FROM COURTNEY SALE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the adventure!

Chances are your heart has already been captured by the *Corduroy* stories. Parents and children alike love Don Freeman's books and the loveable plush bear at the middle of the action. When Freeman wrote the book in 1968, he set out to construct a children's story that juxtaposed the luxurious wares of a department store against the modest lives of its patrons. At the center of the story, Corduroy quests for his missing button. His journey holds a splendid message of how our flaws are sometimes the details that make us remarkable.

This production features the glorious artistry of director Kathryn Van Meter who brings a deep sense of physical comedy and play to every project. We are thrilled this is her first time directing with us and excited to share her work with you. She is joined by the tremendous musical stylings of Tim Symons, the dazzling lighting expertise of L.B. Morse, the complex layering of sound designer Chris Walker, and the vibrancy of Trevor Bowen's costumes. Alongside an amazing company of both adult and youth actors, this team has put together a fantastic romp through Freeman's department store. We are grateful for their collaboration and belly laughs they will inspire.

In this holiday season, we hope you will enjoy this imaginative telling of *Corduroy*. May it inspire us to treasure our friendships, seek out laughter in each moment, and inspire joy in one another.

Enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Courtney Sale". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "C" and "S" being capitalized and prominent.

Courtney Sale, Artistic Director





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Community involvement is an integral part of our culture at Microsoft. We support the work of local nonprofits and encourage employee investment and volunteerism. Our employees respond in an incredible way, volunteering thousands of hours and contributing each year to local nonprofits, including Seattle Children's Theatre.

A thriving arts and cultural scene, a network of human services providers, and a world class education system are critical to the continued vitality and attractiveness of the Puget Sound region. Through partnerships with organizations such as Seattle Children's Theatre, we aim to create an environment where the arts will thrive for generations to come.

On behalf of Microsoft and our employees in the Puget Sound area, we thank Seattle Children's Theatre for enriching our community.

Enjoy the show!

Kate Behncken
Vice President
Microsoft Philanthropies

AUDIENCE MEMBER GUIDE

Experiencing the theatre is a group activity shared not only with the actors, but also with the people sitting around you. Your attention and participation help the actors perform better, and allows the rest of the audience to enjoy the show. *We invite you to laugh when it is funny, cry when it is sad, gasp when it is shocking, but refrain from talking during the show, as it disturbs audience members and performers alike.*



Leave cell phones, tablets, hand held games, and other distracting and noise-making electronic devices at home or turn them completely off.



Gum and food must stay in the lobby. Drinks are only allowed if they have a lid.



The lights dimming and going out signal the audience to quiet down and settle in your seats: the play is about to begin.



Don't talk with your neighbors during the play. It distracts people around you and the actors on stage.



Remain in your seat during the play. Please use the restroom before or after the show, as well as during intermission.



During the curtain call remain in your seat and applaud because this is part of the performance too. The actors will come out on stage one more time to say thank you for your participation as an audience member.

SYNOPSIS [Contains spoilers]

In Freeman's Department Store a little girl, Lisa, and her Mother pass through the Toy Department. Lisa becomes enamored with a teddy bear she sees on the shelf. The bear, Corduroy, wears green overalls with a button missing. Lisa pleads with her mother to let her take the bear home. Her mother refuses, saying she's already spent too much money. The two leave without Corduroy.

The Department Store's Night Watchman begins his rounds. Upon his exit, Corduroy comes to life and decides to find his missing button.

At home, Lisa pleads to her mother to buy the toy bear. They discuss the possibility of Lisa having more household responsibilities in exchange for an advance on her allowance.

Meanwhile, Corduroy returns to the Toy Department searching for his lost button. After a couple of attempts to find it among other toys, he investigates the escalator. The escalator and Corduroy engage in a comedic tussle.

Lisa empties her piggy bank to count its contents in her bedroom. Her mother enters and they discuss what chores Lisa can do to earn the aforementioned advance on her allowance. Lisa shows her mother that she's made a bed for Corduroy, but her mother does not believe this qualifies as a "chore," so Lisa agrees to start doing her own laundry.

Corduroy discovers a button very similar to the one he's missing attached to a mattress. For several minutes he uses different tactics to remove the button from the mattress, eventually succeeding, but losing his grasp on the button, which is lost to the escalator. Before Corduroy can chase after the button, the Night Watchman enters and Corduroy hides. Seeing the mess Corduroy made, the Night Watchman suspects there is an intruder. While cleaning the mess, the Night Watchman finds Corduroy and vows to find the intruder right after he returns Corduroy to the Toy Department.

Lisa shows her mother that she's finished with the laundry. She pulls out her mother's favorite wool sweater, which has shrunk to the size of a doll's shirt. Lisa promises to make it up to her mother.

Corduroy enters the Appliance Department to search for his button. At first he mistakes a couple of objects as buttons, but after a messy to-do he realizes they are not buttons. He accidentally sets off another series of messy events, which includes

turning on a vacuum cleaner that chases him all over the department floor, a stove top burner, and a fan that blows continuously throughout the scene. Hearing the noise, the Night Watchman enters as Corduroy hides. The Night Watchman interacts with the different appliances looking for the intruder and attempting, mostly in vain, to turn them off. During his search, he once again finds Corduroy. The Night Watchman renews his vow to catch the intruder and return Corduroy to the Toy Department.

As Lisa scrubs the bathroom, her mother enters and is mildly impressed with what Lisa has achieved. She asks Lisa to draw her a bath. Lisa obliges, but drops the cap of the bubble bath soap into the drain. She tries to retrieve the cap with a bandage and dental floss. As Lisa is attempting the rescue, her mother enters wearing her bathrobe. She chides Lisa for wasting floss and the two discuss other chores Lisa can do. As Lisa makes one final attempt to recover the cap from the drain, she accidentally knocks her mother into the tub.

Corduroy continues his search, this time in the Toiletries Department. He unravels mounds of toilet paper in his search. The Night Watchman sees the mess and notices the toilet paper trail leading him in the right direction, directly to Corduroy.

Lisa enters with four trash cans, careful not to spill any garbage. She empties each can into a larger bin, but in doing so, throws away her mother's flowers. Noticing her mistake, she attempts to replace the flowers into the flower pot. Lisa smashes down the garbage in the large bin, but unbeknownst to her, this action breaks the bin and when she lifts the bin to take it out, the trash falls out of the bottom of the bin. She tries to fix the it with glue, but the glue makes some trash stick to her hands. Just then, Lisa's mother enters and sees the mess, the broken bin, and the flowers. She notices the trash stuck to Lisa's hands. Upset, she tells Lisa to forget about Corduroy and sends her to bed, dejected.

The Night Watchman carries Corduroy to the Toy Department and leaves him there, continuing his search for the supposed intruder. Undeterred, Corduroy resumes his own pursuit. Throughout the scene, Corduroy revisits departments he's already been to and searches new departments, making messes and staying one step ahead of the Night Watchman. Eventually the Night Watchman catches up to Corduroy, but still has no idea that Corduroy is the perpetrator. At his wits end, the Night Watchman exits with Corduroy in tow.

Lisa says her prayers before going to bed, her mother listens at the door. Lisa prays for God to bless her and all those who love her, and to help Corduroy find a loving home.

The Night Watchman believes hiding Corduroy in a crate will keep the intruder from continuing his reign of terror. He leaves Corduroy in the crate and exits to find a hammer and nails with which to seal the crate shut. Once he's gone, Corduroy gets out of the crate and looks for his button. The Night Watchman returns, but sees Corduroy missing. As the two pursue their respective objectives, they constantly pass each other in a series of near misses.

Lisa and her mother have breakfast together. Lisa's mother tells her they are going downtown to Freeman's to get Corduroy. When Lisa asks about her mother's change of heart, her mother tells her that Corduroy needs a good home and no one else will love him the way Lisa will.

Corduroy and the Night Watchman are still at it, this time back in the Toy Department. Through a series of events, Corduroy finds his button, but the

lights get switched off, which creates confusion as Corduroy loses the button while trying to hide from the Night Watchman. The vacuum has been making its rounds and appears now just in time to suck up the button. The vacuum, however, has been running so long that it is about to burst. Despite both Corduroy's and the Night Watchman's best efforts, the vacuum explodes sending debris everywhere. The button is destroyed in the melee. Just then, the store opens for the day, and the Night Watchman's shift has ended. Without a button, Corduroy believes himself to be undesirable, and he puts himself into a trashcan. Moments later, Lisa enters looking for Corduroy, finding him nowhere. The Night Watchman returns with a janitor's cart. Once the Night Watchman exits, Lisa finds Corduroy in the trashcan and, ecstatic, goes to pay for him.

Lisa tells her mother that she'd like to invite some classmates over to meet Corduroy. Lisa's mother thinks that's a fine idea. Lisa fixes Corduroy's button and exits to do some chores.



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THE CAST



CHIP SHERMAN*

CORDUROY – Chip Sherman is a Core Company member at ACT Theatre and is in the Acting Ensemble of The Seagull Project. They are also known around town as Isis of the Drag Duo LüChi. Recent roles include, Benvolio in *Romeo + Juliet*, Dorian Gray in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Bailey Jr. in *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*, Alexander the Great in *Alex and Aris*. You could of also seen them last year at SCT in *And In This Corner: Cassius Clay* as Rudy Clay. Thanks for supporting diverse theatre, the world needs it now more than ever!



OLIVIA FRIESON

LISA – Olivia Frieson is excited to be making her Seattle Children's Theater debut as Lisa in *Corduroy*! She is nine years old and has studied dance and performing arts at Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center (TUPAC) for three years. You may have seen her in *Harriet Tubman: The Black Swan*, which premiered in February 2019 and last year's production of *The Urban Nutcracker*. She's also the youngest active member of the Seattle Kiki Ballroom community, with whom she enjoys slaying the runway and voguing the house down. Olivia wants to thank Klair Ethridge and her dance teachers at TUPAC for supporting and training her as a performer. She also thanks the cast and crew of *Corduroy* for lovingly taking her under their wing.



EVANGELINE OPONGPARRY

LISA – Evangeline, age nine, is making her Seattle Children's Theatre debut. Previous work includes: Young Rosalind in *As You Like It* (Seattle Rep, 2019); Youth Chorus in *Carmen* (Seattle Opera, 2019); Little Ti Moune in *Once On This Island* (Twelfth Night Productions, 2019); Amanda & Alice in *Matilda* (Village Theatre, 2018); Serena's daughter in *Porgy & Bess* (Seattle Opera, 2018); Little Ti Moune in *Once On This Island* (Studio East, 2018); Jessa in *A Civil War Christmas* (Taproot Theatre, 2017). Eva studies with Village Theatre's KIDSTAGE, and she enjoys reading, art, aerial acrobatics, gymnastics, swimming, dance, and singing with Bellevue Youth Choirs.



DEdra D. WOODS*

MOTHER – Dedra last appeared on SCT stages as The Rose in *The Little Prince*, and is thrilled to be back. She is as an actor, teaching artist, and facilitator. Dedra has had the opportunity to work with several theaters around town including Seattle Public Theater (*Fire Season*), Arts West (*Violet, An Octoroon*), Intiman (*Wild Horses, Wedding Band*), Seattle Shakespeare Company (*Medea, Bring Down the House, Richard III*) and Book-It Repertory Theater (*I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*) among others. She is grateful to have worked with such an amazing cast and crew to bring this magical story to life. Special thanks to Michael and August who give her lots of love, laughter, and support.



ROB BURGESS*

NIGHT WATCHMAN – Rob is happy to be back at SCT where he appeared in his first professional performance (*Ransom of Redeye* 1980). Other productions for SCT include: *Charlotte's Web* (Wilbur x2); *Puss In Boots* (Puss); *Bunnicula* (Harold); *I Was a Rat* (Bob); *Fire Station 7* (Raiford). Rob co-created *Harold and the Purple Crayon* and *Adventures With Spot* for SCT. Recent credits include several seasons of *A Christmas Carol* (ACT), *The Government Inspector* (Seattle Shakes), *Camping With Henry and Tom* (Taproot), *Uncle Vanya* (The Seagull Project) *The Curious Incident...* (Village Theatre), and *The Pavilion* (StrawShop). His life is enhanced by three beautiful and talented women: his partner Melanie and their daughters, Madison and Lily. Rob is funny but, looks aren't everything.

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KALIA ESTES

CLOWN – Kalia, 14 years old, is so thrilled to be back at Seattle Children's Theatre's Mainstage. She recently played Abilene in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. Kalia was also in their summer shows *Lion King Jr.* 2016 (Lioness) and *Madagascar*, 2017 (Marty). Kalia played Elizabeth Cratchit in ACT's *A Christmas Carol* in 2017 with her brother, Keagan (Tiny Tim). She was Ngana (double with her sister Kiana and Keagan played Jerome) in *South Pacific* at Seattle Musical Theatre in 2016. Her favorite Village Theatre Kidstage show was when she played Oliver in 2017. She also played Amaryllys in *Music Man*, Ado Annie in *Oklahoma* and Scar in *Lion King* at NCA. Commercials she's been featured in include: Amazon Fresh, Microsoft, Fruity Pebbles, Pacific Science Center, and Best Tire. Kalia thanks Kathryn Van Meter and Courtney Sale for believing in her. She is thankful to God, family and friends.



JULIAN MUDGE-BURNS

CLOWN – Julian is elated to return to Seattle Children's Theatre this holiday season! He was previously seen in the youth ensemble of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. A longtime SCT student, Julian also performed in five SCT summer productions. Julian's professional theatre credits include the 2016, 2017, and 2018 casts of *A Christmas Carol* at ACT Theatre (Young Scrooge, Peter and Charles Cratchit, and Master Fezziwig); *Shakespeare in Love* (John Webster), Seattle Shakespeare Company; *The Big Meal* (Boy), New Century Theatre Company; and *The Brothers K* (Young Peter), Book-It Repertory Theatre. Additional theatre highlights include *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Peter), Bainbridge Performing Arts, and *Funny Girl* (Eddie Ryan), Village Theatre KIDSTAGE. Julian would like to thank his school and his family for their support.

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ZOE PAPADAKIS

CLOWN – Zoe is thrilled to be returning to SCT! Mainstage: *Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Abilene). SCT summer season: *101 Dalmatians* (Roger), *Seussical Jr.* (Jojo), and *Mario and The Comet* (Pink Duck). Regional: *Annie* (Duffy/5th Avenue Theatre), *Jane Eyre* (Adele/Book-it Repertory Theatre), *It's a Wonderful Life* (Zuzu Bailey/Theater Anonymous), *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Gladys/Seattle Public Theater), *Wait Until Dark* (Gloria/Edmonds Driftwood Players), and *The Brothers K* (Freddy/Book-it Repertory Theatre). Music credits: vocalist for *Echoes of the First Dreamer* (Highwire Games), Seattle Girls Choir, Vocalpoint, and piano since age six. 13-year-old Zoe thanks her immediate family for bringing music into her life, and her theater family (directors/educators/cast/crew) for mentoring, supporting and inspiring her!



MICA RUTHFIELD

CLOWN – Mica is thrilled to return to Seattle Children's Theatre's Mainstage and be part of this delightful story that was read to her over and over. Previous regional productions include *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Seattle Children's Theatre), *Annie* (Seattle Musical Theatre), and *Music Man* (Kirkland Performance Center). Selected youth productions include *Big Fish*, *A... My Name is Alice*, *Barnum* (Stagedoor Manor), *Lion King Jr.*, *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, *Wizard of Oz* (Village Theatre KIDSTAGE). Film: *Ultra Low* and *Sons Rising*. Commercial: Papa Murphy's and Microsoft. Thanks to Kathryn, Michael, Claire, and the entire *Corduroy* team, and to Angela, Josh, Kate, Chris, and Jenny. Love to my family and especially my sister Nava, who you can see now in *A Christmas Carol* at ACT Theatre. Enjoy the show!



**CLAUDINE
MBOLIGIKPELANI NAKO***

U/S: CORDUROY & MOTHER – Claudine Mboligikpelani Nako is an actor, writer, director, teaching artist, and choreographer in the Seattle area. Claudine is a member of ACT Theatre's Core Company, most recently playing Lucy in a new adaptation of *Dracula*. She also recently played Rosalind in Seattle Rep's production of *As You Like It*. Nako received Gregory Awards for Outstanding Lead for her work in *Little Bee* (Book-It Rep) and *My Heart is the Drum* (Village Theatre). Claudine also works in film and television, starring most notably as Sherry O'Neil in the Netflix original series *Everything Sucks!* Nako is committed to supporting art that centers marginalized voices through dynamic storytelling. She looks forward to playing the title character in SCT's upcoming production of *Snow White*.



EVAN WHITFIELD

U/S: NIGHT WATCHMAN – Evan has performed on Seattle stages for over 20 years. He was seen in SCT's production of *The Boy at the Edge of Everything*. Evan has also performed with ACT, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company, 14/48: The World's Quickest Theater Festival, Strawberry Theatre Workshop, and many others. Favorite roles include Matt Prior in *The Financial Lives of the Poets* with Book-It, and Jeff in *Lobby Hero* and Walker/Ned in *Three Days of Rain*, both at Seattle Public Theater.



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THE CREATIVE TEAM

KATHRYN VAN METER

DIRECTOR – Kathryn Van Meter is an award winning multi-disciplinary theatre artist based in Seattle whose 20 year career encompasses work as a director, choreographer, actor, and educator. Kathryn has choreographed many beloved SCT favorites over the years including *Bunnicula*, *Elephant and Piggie's We are in a Play*, *High School Musical*, and *Night of the Living Dead* in which she also performed. Kathryn recently choreographed *As You Like It* for the Seattle Rep's Public Works Program and was recognized for Directing and Choreographing *Matilda* at Village Theatre. In addition to her work in the theatre, Kathryn is the resident choreographer for the Netflix Original Series *13 Reasons Why*, and in 2016 she worked with the US Dept. of Labor to develop the national definition for the occupation of "Choreographer." Kathryn's choreography can be seen this holiday season in ACT's production of *A Christmas Carol*. She is a proud member of SDC, AEA and AGMA.

MICHAEL B. PAUL*

STAGE MANAGER – Mr. Paul has stage managed locally at the Seattle Repertory Theatre (most recently *In the Heights*), ACT, Intiman and the 5th Avenue Theatre. National credits include The Guthrie; Shakespeare Theatre in DC; Oregon Shakespeare Theatre; Milwaukee Repertory Theatre; Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park; Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Humana Festival; La Jolla Playhouse; Baltimore's Center Stage; Manhattan Theatre Club, and the late Alaska Repertory Theatre. For Seattle Children's Theatre: *Addy*, *An American Girl Story*, *Night of the Living Dead*, *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Cat in the Hat*, *Pippi Longstocking*, *Dick Whittington and his Cat*, *Elephant and Piggy – We Are In a Play!*, *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience*, and, most recently, *Balloonacy*.

ALEX WOMMACK

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT – Alex first worked with SCT in 2015 and is thrilled to continue her relationship with the company. Recent Seattle credits include *The Little Prince* (Seattle Children's Theatre), *The Turn of the Screw*, *Porgy and Bess* (Seattle Opera), Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* (Pacific Northwest Ballet) and four productions as the Backstage Manager at Teatro ZinZanni.

TIM SYMONS

COMPOSER – Tim is happy to return to SCT after rocking out last season in *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed*. Symons is the resident music director at Village Theatre, where he has served as music supervisor on over 50 productions, including *The 25th Annual...*, *Hart Island*, *Matilda*, *Into the Woods*, *Billy Elliot*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *The Who's Tommy*. Other credits: *Rock of Ages*, *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (5th Avenue), *Assassins* (ACT), *Man of La Mancha*, *Xanadu* (Arizona Theatre Company), and *As You Like It* (SSC). Symons composes and performs with Seattle jazz trio Fawcett, Symons & Fogg. Special thanks to Ron Weinstein for the musical inspiration. Love to Taylor!

L.B. MORSE

LIGHTING DESIGNER – L.B. is a lighting, scenic, and multimedia designer for the performing and cultural arts. His previous credits at SCT include *The Little Prince* (projections), *Harold and the Purple Crayon* (lighting and projections), *Jackie and Me* (lighting and projections), *In the Northern Lands* (lighting and projections), and *The Wizard of Oz* (projections). He has designed for Seattle Repertory Theatre, 5th Avenue Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Intiman, ACT, Woodland Park Zoo, Tantrum Theater, Strawberry Theatre Workshop, Seattle Shakespeare Company, On the Boards, Lingo dancetheater, Maureen Whiting Dance Co., and Empty Space, among others. L.B. holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts and a Graduate Certificate in Scenic Design from University of California, Santa Cruz, and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829.

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THE CREATIVE TEAM CONTINUED

CHRIS R. WALKER

SOUND DESIGNER – Mr. Walker is very happy to be in his 18th year designing sound for SCT. He designed for SCT's previous show *Black Beauty*. In Seattle he has designed at The Seattle Repertory Theatre, ACT, Intiman, and The 5th Avenue. In California he's designed at The Old Globe Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, the Mark Taper Forum, the Geffen Playhouse, and ACT (San Francisco). He spent seven seasons as the resident designer at the American Repertory Theatre in Boston, designing over forty productions while there. He has also designed in New York, Houston, Philadelphia, Princeton, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Phoenix, as well as internationally in Singapore, Taiwan, and Moscow. Commercially he has designed for Intel, Harvard University, Starbucks, and Popcap Games. He holds a degree in Classical Piano performance from Cornish College of the Arts.

CLAIRE STARK

YOUTH CAST SUPERVISOR – *Corduroy* is Claire's first show at SCT. Other Seattle credits include *Annie* at the 5th Avenue Theatre. Previously, Claire worked as an assistant stage manager at the Indiana Repertory Theatre for three seasons, and an assistant stage manager at Santa Cruz Shakespeare for three seasons.

KELLER O'MALLEY

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – Happy to have this joyous first experience with Seattle Children's, Keller O'Malley is a Seattle-based theatre artist, clown, and educator from Texas. Keller will soon graduate from Cornish College of the Arts with a BFA in Theatre – Original Works. Recent credits include *Love and Information* and *It Can't Happen Here* at the Cornish Playhouse. He has also been involved in multiple Clown and eccentric performance shows as a performer, director, and teaching artist. Keller has spent the last seven summers as a camp counselor in Burnet, Texas, working with children ages 8 to 17. Keller hopes to utilize his eclectic experiences to help build new work with the wonderful people in this community.



Seattle Children's Theatre is a member of TYA/USA, the national center of the International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People.



SCT is a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for the nonprofit professional theatre.



SCT is a proud member of International Performing Arts for Youth (IPAY).



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The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers society, a national theatrical labor union.



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FIND A FRIEND IN A GOOD BOOK!

Where's My Teddy?

Jez Alborough

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Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?

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DON FREEMAN & CORDUROY

Born in California in 1908, the first thing Don Freeman knew as a child was that he wanted to be an artist. Freeman's grandmother recognized his talent and funded him going to San Diego School of Fine Arts, after which he moved to New York City for further artistic studies at the Art Students League. He did not initially go into book illustration, but rather worked illustrating theatre scenes and backstage for newspapers. To make ends meet, he played the trumpet at nightclubs and weddings. This all changed one evening when he lost his trumpet on the subway and decided to then make illustration his living for good.

Corduroy was not initially about a toy bear. The first concept was about a boy named Corduroy who painted and drew all over the walls of his family's home. The book was called *Corduroy the Inferior Decorator*. This was inspired by Freeman's own pet name as a boy, which happened to be "Corduroy." This idea was ultimately scrapped because Freeman was inspired by the luxury of the department store and the simple lives many people lived. The book took multiple submissions to a publisher (Viking Press) to get printed, but it eventually did, and now it's considered one of the top 100 picture books of all time!

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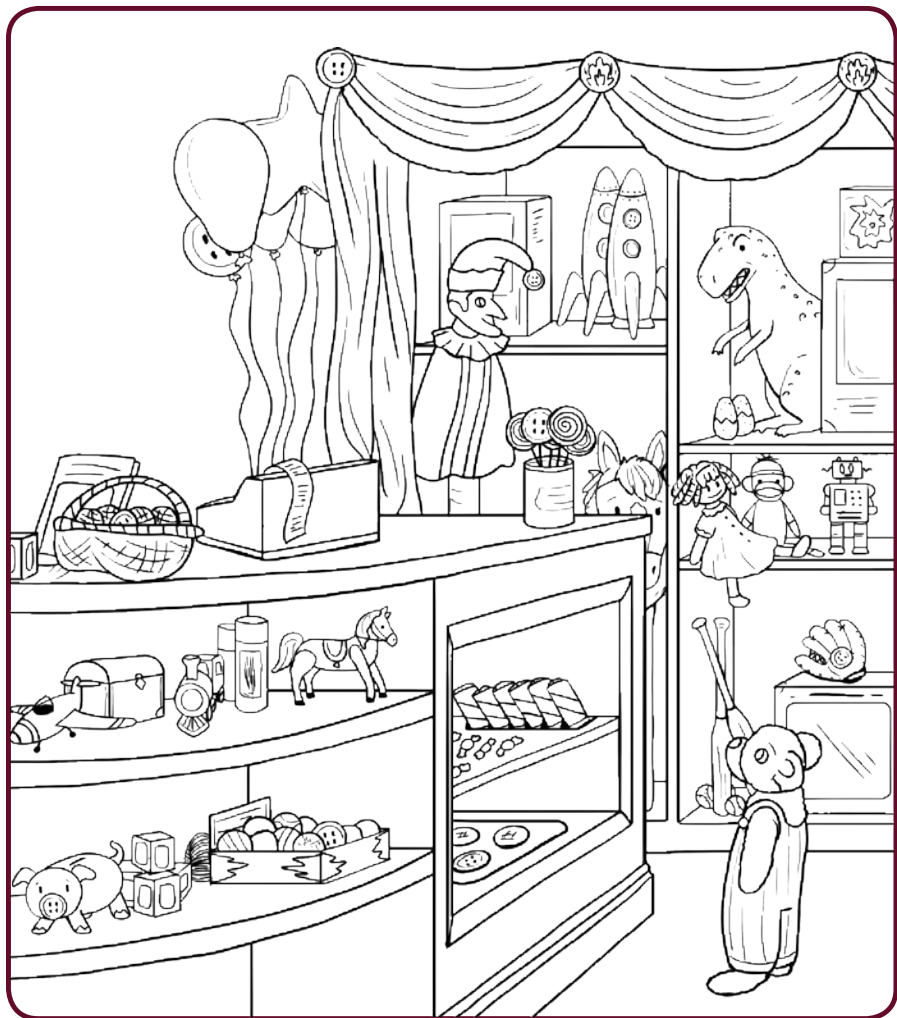


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WHERE ARE THE BUTTONS?

There are 10 buttons hidden in the Toy Department, can you help Corduroy find them all? Circle all the buttons then color the picture however you want!



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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS! Seattle Children's Theatre acknowledges the following individual donors who have generously supported us in the last year. These contributions reflect gifts of \$250 and above made July 1, 2018–July 5, 2019. Limitations prevent us from listing every donor, but to all who have made a gift, we thank you! It's because of you that SCT is able to continue leading the nation in Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) and theatre education.

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LOST & FOUND!



We all lose things sometimes. Sometimes these losses are small — we lose a pack of Goldfish from our lunch box or a hair tie from our wrist — and sometimes they are big — we leave a treasured blanket behind on an airplane or a wallet behind on a bus. The small losses are easily forgotten, if we even notice them in the first place. The big losses, the ones that prompt us to retrace our steps, forage through the lost and found, or doggedly put up posters in our neighborhood, become big events. When we're lucky, through our own persistence and strangers' generosity, our lost things become found.

Corduroy's lost button begins as a small loss. He doesn't even notice that it's missing from his overalls. When Lisa's mother refuses to spend money on a bear missing a button, it becomes the big loss that launches a big adventure.

With hundreds of young people attending classes and seeing shows every day, it is no

surprise that Seattle Children's Theatre has been the site of many such lost and found adventures.

When an item is found by SCT staff in one of our theaters — we sweep for lost items after every performance — it makes its way to our building-wide lost and found, organized and maintained by our house management staff. In this lost and found, we've seen everything from Pokémon figurines, tiaras, and cell phones to a cup of dry Lima beans and a single lost sock (how do you lose just one in a theater?). If an item contains identifying information such as a phone number or an email address, a front of house staff member reaches out to try and connect it with its owner. If not, it lives in our lost and found, hoping its owner comes looking for it in the box office before the end of the season. At the end of the season, unclaimed items are donated to a good cause.

When an item is found in one of our classrooms, we have a better hope of reuniting it with its owner. Often, students

return the following day or week for class and easily claim their lost items. When an item is left for longer, there's still hope. Usually, our Education Registrar can determine what class it was lost from, which narrows down potential owners to between four and sixteen students. If we're unable to locate an item's owner, it will stay in our education lost and found until it is claimed, or the season is over, and we donate all remaining items. Occasionally, we keep clothing that might fit another student in case of an accident or emergency. Strangest items found in our classrooms include a #blessed necklace, a lone jazz shoe, and once, an unopened laptop in a shopping bag!

Sometimes, people go above and beyond to reunite lost items with their owners. This past August, Savannah Hart, an Australian preschooler on vacation, left Harriet, one of

her classroom's toy monkeys, in Buckingham Palace. When she returned to preschool, she and her classmates wrote a letter to the Queen informing her of the lost toy's whereabouts. A week later, palace staff reached out to let Savannah know the monkey had been found and was soon to be en route to Australia with a new friend, Rex the plush toy Corgi. This miraculous lost and found adventure even made the news on CNN!

What are some of your favorite lost and found tales? These might be stories you've heard from friends or family, stories you've read, or adventures you've experienced yourself. Draw a picture, write a story, or talk to an adult about your response.

Content from our Active Audience Guide

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Directed by DESDEMONA CHIANG
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