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# THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE

Produced by special arrangement with DRAMATIC PUBLISHING, Woodstock, Illinois

FROM THE BOOK BY KATE DICAMILLO ADAPTED BY DWAYNE HARTFORD

DIRECTED BY COURTNEY SALE

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# THE MIRACULOUS IOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE

# FROM THE BOOK BY KATE DICAMILLO ADAPTED BY DWAYNE HARTFORD

DIRECTED BY COURTNEY SALE

### THE CAST

Kalia Estes Abilene Zoe Papadakis Abilene Lucas Oktay **Bryce** Esteban Ortiz-Villacorta Bryce Mika Kita Wellington Sarah Ruth Natalia Ortiz-Villacorta Sarah Ruth Lorenzo Roberts\* The Man Porscha Shaw\* The Woman Rafael Molina\* The Musician Rhonda J. Soikowski\* The Traveler Matthew Sythandone U/S - The Man Gloria Lee Alcalá U/S - The Woman Sara Glauser U/S - The Musician Casey Kitzman U/S - The Traveler

### THE CREATIVE TEAM

Courtney Sale Director Jessica C. Bomball Stage Manager Kiera Krieg Production Assistant Anna Vraney Intern Stage Manager Amy Jurkiewicz Youth Cast Supervisor Carey Wong Scenic Designer Trevor Bowen Costume Designer Connie Yun Lighting Designer

Robertson Witmer Composer & Music Director Angie Louise Musician/Conductor (Feb. 26-Mar. 10)

Chris Walker Sound Designer

Annett Mateo Puppet Designer & Coach

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane was originally commissioned developed and produced at Childsplay in Tempe, Ariz. David P. Sarr, artistic director; Steve Martin, Managing director.

**Show Sponsor: Donna Cochener and Family** 



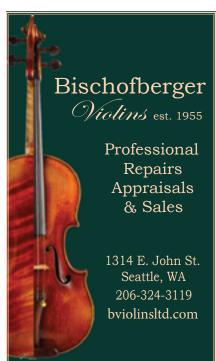














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January 2019 Volume 24, No. 4



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# A NOTE FROM COURTNEY SALE

Dear Friends

Welcome to the fourth show of our 44th season. The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, adapted by Dwayne Hartford and based on the book by Kate DiCamillo. This beautiful story launches us into the New Year as we celebrate ideas of love, empathy, and connection

For many years, I have been a super-fan of Kate DiCamillo's writing. Her stories hold qualities that I am on the hunt for as a theatre maker: invention, facility with language, supreme curiosity, and rich characters. Dwayne Hartford's adaptation ignites her spirited writing with bold theatricality and meaning. It has been an honor to spend weeks in rehearsal ruminating on these ideas with the cast. To share them with you, our audience, pleases me from hair-tip to toe follicle!

With this production, we welcome new collaborators on and behind the stage. Thank you to the tremendous cast and creative team for their generosity and artistry. Early in the process, I knew I wanted the creation of the play to be as expansive as the story's message. I love when we are able to lift up multiple layers in our storytelling and with Tulane, we are fortunate to incorporate live music composed by the wonderful Rob Witmer. Annett Mateo has enlivened playful and inspiring puppets for the story. The creativity of Trevor Bowen, Carey Wong, and Connie Yun round out this dream team. And we welcome six dynamic young actors to the SCT stage. Many of the young people you see today have been part of the SCT family for a long time through our Drama School and Education programs. We are overjoyed to collaborate with them on this production.

In the book DiCamillo writes, "Open your heart. Someone will come. Someone will come for you. But first you must open your heart." The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane asks us to stay open and ready for possibility. In this New Year, let us greet each other with that hope.

Happy 2019! Sincerely,

Sintrey Artistic Director







# SEASON SPONSOR MESSAGE



Seattle Children's Theatre and Microsoft share a passion for creativity, learning, and excellence. Year after year, Seattle Children's Theatre delivers high quality entertainment that captivates the imaginations of young people and their families, throughout the Pacific Northwest. That's why Microsoft Philanthropies is proud to sponsor the 2018-2019 Season.

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 more than \$60 million 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!

### Mary Snapp

Corporate Vice President Microsoft Philanthropies

# **SYNOPSIS**

Be warned: this synopsis has spoilers.

Based on Newbery-winner Kate DiCamillo's beloved book, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* follows the story of a china rabbit, Edward, who finds friendship, himself, and his way home.

With his handmade silk suits, wide array of hats, and tiny gold pocket watch, Edward Tulane is the most exceptional toy in a young girl's room. An expensive gift from her grandmother, Abilene loves him, but Edward thinks only of himself and his finery. One night before a big family journey, Abilene's grandmother tells a story about a princess who, like Edward, shuns love. A witch transforms the princess into a warthog. The story ends badly for the princess, and after a private admonishment to Edward for his self-obsession, grandmother kisses Abilene good night.

The next day Abilene's family sets sail on an ocean liner. Two mischievous boys play catch with Edward and accidentally propel him over the rail and into the ocean. Edward, helpless and unable to move, sinks deeper and deeper to the ocean floor. He is trapped at the bottom of the ocean for many days. He wonders if this is how a china rabbit dies. During an intense storm, the ocean waters churn him up and he is captured in a fisherman's net. The fisherman takes him home to be a companion to his wife, Nellie. She takes great comfort in Edward and talks to him about her loneliness and loss. Her daughter, Lolly, appalled at how her mother's relationship to a toy rabbit looks to the townsfolk, grabs Edward and takes him to the town dump. He spends months there buried in garbage but is eventually discovered by a dog named Lucy and a traveler named Bull.

The three share many happy years together. They ride the rails and attempt to make a comfortable life with their limited means. Bull makes Edward simple clothes out of found objects. He tells Edward about the beloved family he had to leave behind to go in search of work, asking Edward to remember them in case he cannot get back home. Other travelers find relief by telling Edward their stories of family and longing. One night, a watchman finding Bull on the train berates and bullies him, telling him he will be thrown off at the next stop. But before Bull or Lucy can stop him, the watchman throws Edward off the moving train. He is alone again.

An old lady finds Edward, and deciding he would make a good scarecrow, ties him to a pole in her vegetable garden where the crows relentlessly

# SYNOPSIS CONTINUED

attack him. Bryce, a young boy working in the garden, rescues him. He brings Edward home and gives him to his sister Sarah Ruth who is in very ill health. That night their father returns home and wakes the children with guestions about Edward. Bryce stands up for the gift to Sarah Ruth, and their father strikes him on the face. Edward sees their home life is not safe. As Edward spends time with Sarah Ruth, he feels a profound change come over him. He no longer laughs at the thought of love but begins to understand its power. He can feel his heart breaking as Sarah Ruth grows frailer. Too fragile to recover, Sarah Ruth passes away. Edward is devastated. Bryce and Edward journey to Memphis where they search for food and shelter. Bryce strings Edward like a marionette to make him dance, and they perform on the street to earn money. The two enter a diner to grab a bite to eat. When Bryce is unable to fully pay for his meal, the angry restaurant owner shatters Edward's china head into many pieces. Bryce makes a difficult sacrifice and gives him away to a doll maker to be repaired.

Edward, restored but determined to never feel the pain of lost love again, meets an old doll in the toy shop. She has incredible wisdom, having lived through a long journey of her own. She shares with Edward that part of her adventure was becoming a new person all along the way, and that loving takes courage. After Edward has spent many years sitting alone on a shelf, an adult Abilene happens to enter the shop looking for a doll for her daughter. The two recognize one another. Abilene's love for Edward opens his heart and renews his hope as they are happily reunited.

Illustrations by Bagram Ibatoulline

# THEATRE ETIQUETTE

In order to make each SCT experience remarkable, we politely request the following:

- Please completely turn off all electronic devices, or anything that makes noise, so as
  to not distract the patrons or actors from the amazing work taking place on stage.
- Photos with friends and family in the lobby areas are highly encouraged and we love it
  when you share photos on social media using #SCTseattle. However, taking photos or
  audio and video recording is strictly prohibited during a performance.
- If you have to use the restroom or exit the theatre during the performance, please exit the back of the theatre.
- If you have questions about your theatre experience, contact an SCT staff member located in the lobby.
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# THE CREATIVE TEAM

### COURTNEY SALE (Director/Artistic Director)

Courtney Sale currently serves as the Artistic Director of Seattle Children's Theatre where she directed last season's The Little Prince. Up next. she will direct the world premiere of Steven Dietz's The Ghost of Splinter Cove at Children's Theatre of Charlotte and Tiny Beautiful Things at Seattle Repertory Theatre. Prior to SCT, she spent three years as Associate Artistic Director at Indiana Repertory Theatre, where directing credits include the world premiere of April 4, 1968: Before We Forgot How to Dream by James Still, The Mountaintop, The Mousetrap, Jackie & Me. And Then They Came For Me, The Giver, and two iterations of A Christmas Carol. Other credits include The Cake. Wild Horses. Not Medea (Contemporary American Theatre Festival), Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play, On Clover Road (The Phoenix Theater), Twelfth Night and The Tempest (HART Theatre), and Zen Prayers & Songs (Fusebox), written and performed by Kirk Lynn. With the Duplicates, she has co-created The Fictional Life of Historical Oddities, September Play, The Man with the Dancing Eyes, and The Poison Squad (Austin Critics Award). She has developed new work at New Plays for Young Audiences at NYU/Provincetown Playhouse, Denver Center Theatre Company's Summit New Play Festival, The New Harmony Project, Write Now, and The Orchard Project. Other awards included Indianapolis Business Journal's Forty Under Forty Designation. She has taught at Summer at Cornish, Seattle Children's Museum, Temple College and the University of Texas at Austin. Ms. Sale holds a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts, and an MFA in Directing from the University of Texas at Austin.

### JESSICA C. BOMBALL (Stage Manager)

Jessica is thrilled to be returning to SCT having previously worked on Wizard of Oz. Regional credits include: Mac Beth, The Great Leap, Pride & Prejudice, King Charles III, A Raisin in the Sun, Buyer & Cellar, Of Mice and Men, God of Carnage (Seattle Repertory Theatre); The Secret Garden, Rent, Disney's Aladdin, and A Christmas Story: The Musical (The 5th Avenue Theatre); A Christmas Carol, The Education of Randy Newman (ACT Theatre); Angels in America: Millennium Approaches, and Perestroika (Intiman Theatre Festival); As You Like It, The Tempest, and Twelfth Night (Shakespeare Santa Cruz); Much Ado About Nothing, Henry V, and Comedy of Errors (Seattle Shakespeare Company).



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# THE CREATIVE TEAM CONT'D

### KIERA KRIEG (Production Assistant)

Kiera is returning to SCT after having previously worked on *The Journal of Ben Uchida: Citizen 13559* and *FireStation 7.* Other local credits include: In the Heights (Seattle Repertory Theatre); Aida (Seattle Opera); The Government Inspector (Seattle Shakespeare Company); Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery, and 2017's Road Company (Taproot Theatre Company). She has also worked in the Spokane/Coeur d'Alene area with Coeur d'Alene Summer Theatre and Opera Coeur d'Alene. Kiera is a graduate of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

### **CAREY WONG (Scenic Designer)**

Carey has designed 34 shows for SCT. He has also designed for the Seattle Rep, Berkeley Rep, Portland Center Stage, Arizona Theatre Company, Baltimore Center Stage, Syracuse Stage, ACT Theatre, Intiman, Village Theatre, Childsplay, Phoenix Theatre, Mixed Blood Theatre, Childsplay, Phoenix Theatre, Mixed Theatre, Carey has been Resident Designer for Portland Opera, Opera Memphis, and Wildwood Park for the Arts, and has designed for Seattle Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Vancouver Opera, the Spoleto Festival USA, the Macao and Beijing Music Festivals, and Nearco Producciones in Spain. He is the Artistic Advisor/Designer of the new Portland Chinatown Museum. Carey received his B.A. from Yale University, and thereafter attended Yale School of Drama.

### ANGIE LOUISE (Musician/Conductor)

Angie last appeared at SCT as Hattie the pink poodle in 2017's Go, Dog. Go! More at SCT: 2011's Go, Dog. Go! (again as Hattie); Pero. A singer, actress, writer and musician, Angie's appeared at The 5th Avenue Theatre (Kost, Cabaret; Vi, Buddy; Electra, Gypsy); Village Theatre (Molly, Unsinkable Molly Brown; Sally, Cabaret; Rosalie, Carnival; Billie, Babes In Arms), and regionally at Theatre Under The Stars (Houston); Ordway (St. Paul); and American Musical Theatre of San Jose. She's penned the songs and screenplays for two award-winning feature films and is a winner of the Academy of American Poets Prize. Angle is the longtime frontwoman and songwriter for The Love Markets, whose record releases include Beauty Factory and World Of Your Dreams. www.angielouise.com

### TREVOR BOWEN (Costume Designer)

Trevor is proud and excited for his first production at SCT. Credits include: I Come From Arizona, Last Stop on Market Street, Corduroy (Children's Theatre Company); Fellow Travelers (Minnesota Opera); Five Points, All is Calm, (Theatre Latte Da); Good Person of Szechuan, Electra, Pericles, Henry IV Part 1, (Ten Thousand Things); In The Heights (Ordway Center for the Performing Arts); Choir Boy, We Are Proud to Present... (Guthrie); Girl Shakes Loose (Penumbra Theatre); The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin (History Theatre); An Octoroon, Pussy Valley (Mixed Blood Theater Company); The Gospel of Lovingkindness, (Pillsbury House); Ragtime (5th Ave Theatre); Sweat (Asolo Rep); BLKS (Steppenwolf); Thirst, Welcome to Fear City, pen/man/ship, (Contemporary American Theatre Festival).

### **CONNIE YUN (Lighting Designer)**

Connie is a freelance lighting designer for the stage and is based in Seattle, WA. She is pleased to be making her SCT design debut with Edward Tulane. Most recently, local designs include The Turn of the Screw, Beatrice and Benedict, and An American Dream for Seattle Opera, and Skylight for ACT. Other recent designs include Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci for Madison Opera; The Magic Flute for Kentucky Opera, and Orfeo ed Euridice and La Cenerentola for Portland Opera. She has also designed for Seattle Repertory Theatre, On the Boards, Tacoma Opera. Pacific Musicworks. The Cabiri, Cornish College. Bellevue College, University of Puget Sound, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Arizona Opera, Minnesota Opera, and Canadian Opera Company. Upcoming projects include As One and La Finta Giardiniera for Portland Opera.

### ANNETT MATEO (Puppet Designer & Coach)

Anything can be a puppet! Annett has made puppets out of all kinds of materials for people, projects, and theatres both locally and nationally. In her career as a professional puppet designer and builder she has built marionettes, Muppet type puppets, rod puppets, large body/costume style, modified Banraku, shadow, and pretty much every other kind of puppet. She has attended the O'Neill Theatre conference for Puppetry a number of years. She is thrilled to be working with Seattle Children's Theatre for her sixteenth season. She has done custom puppets, puppets for parades, corporate events, theatre performances for adults, and is a regular participant of regional puppet slams. You can view her work at Puppetlandia.com.

### AMY JURKIEWICZ (Youth Cast Supervisor)

Amy is thrilled to be joining the team at one of her favorite places in Seattle! Previously, Amy has worked as a Child Supervisor on Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and Brooklyn Bridge at SCT, as well as productions at the 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Village Theatre, Seattle Opera, and ACT Theatre. She holds a Masters degree in Theatre Education from the University of Northern Colorado and also works as a Teaching Artist specializing in Creative Drama.

# SPECIAL THANKS





Seattle Children's Theatre is a member of TTA/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 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.



The designers at this theatre are represented by United Scenic Artists (Local USA 829) of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.





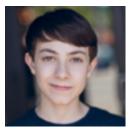
### KALIA ESTES - Abilene

13-year-old Kalia was excited to be in SCT's Summer Shows: Lion King Jr. (Lioness), and Madagascar, (Marty) but being in SCT's Mainstage, Edward Tulane is beyond rewarding. Kalia played Elizabeth Cratchit in ACT's A Christmas Carol in 2017 with her brother, Keagan, who played Tiny Tim, and was Ngana in South Pacific at SMT in 2016. She has been in several shows at Village Theatre Kidstage, but her ultimate favorite role was playing Oliver in 2017. Kalia is thankful to God for her abilities and to her family and friends for supporting her in all avenues of her life. "Someone will come for you but first you must open your heart." – EDWARD TULANE



### **ZOE PAPADAKIS - Abilene**

Zoe is ecstatic to be playing Abilene in her first SCT Mainstage production! SCT Summer Season credits include: 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) and Disney's "It's a Small World" 50th anniversary video. A 12-year-old from Magnolia, Zoe has studied piano, performed with Seattle Girls Choir since age six, and recently joined Vocalpoint. Zoe thanks her many SCT educators, Tulane cast, and her family for bringing music and theater into her life!



### LUCAS OKTAY - Bryce

Lucas is thrilled to be back at SCT, after appearing in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in 2015. Other regional favorites include: The Music Man at CDA Summer Theatre, A Christmas Carol at ACT, and Shenandoah at Showtunes. Film and television credits include: The Librarians, Language Arts, The Parish, BizKid\$, The Son, the Father, and Haskell. When not on stage or in front of the camera, Lucas can be found playing ultimate frisbee, hip hop dancing, or singing and playing guitar for the indie-pop band Nightloops. Love and high fives to the amazing cast & crew, Angela DiMarco & David Hogan, Jeannette d'Armand, Sam Picart, and Mom, Baba, Owen and Leo.



### ESTEBAN ORTIZ-VILLACORTA - Brvce

Esteban Ortiz is a high school sophomore who loves theatre as much as he loves writing, singing, and playing guitar with his rock band *Not Alone*. He has been acting since he was 10 years old and has participated in various SCT Summer Season productions: as Paul in *Rent*, Male in *Humor Games*, *A Parody*, and as Rapunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods Jr*. He has also appeared in professional productions such as Latino Theater Projects' *Mariela in the Desert* and Seattle Opera's *Katya Kabanova*. Esteban is excited to debut in his first SCT Mainstage play and would like to thank his family and friends for being so supportive throughout this process.



### MIKA KITA WELLINGTON - Sarah Ruth

Mika is 11 years old and thrilled to be appearing in her first professional production. She has enjoyed performing in SCT Summer Season the last three years, appearing in Seussical Jr., Madagascar Jr. and Lion King Jr. She has also appeared in productions with Youth Theater Northwest and Broadway Bound. She is a member of the International Thespiran Society and regularly sings The National Anthem at sporting events around the greater Seattle area. Mika also plays the cello, has taken up the ukulele, and loves to play volleyball. She has been inspired by this story to open wide our hearts and appreciate those people in our lives whom we love, and whom we miss. She sends a huge thanks to this incredible cast and crew.



### NATALIA ORTIZ-VILLACORTA - Sarah Ruth

Natalia is a 12-year old girl who loves theatre and music. She has appeared in the following Summer Season productions at SCT: *Through the Lookingglass* (Alice); *Mario and the Comet* (Mario); and *The Lion King* (Shenzi). She has also participated in the Village Theatre KIDSTAGE production of *Seussical* (Jojo). Currently in 7th grade, Natalia has studied at SCT's Drama School, plays piano, keeps working on her singing technique, and studies ballet at Pacific Northwest Ballet. She is delighted to be making her debut in a Mainstage production at SCT.



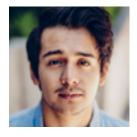
### LORENZO ROBERTS\* - The Man

Lorenzo holds a BFA in Acting from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Regional Credits: Romeo and Juliet, Love's Labour's Lost (Santa Cruz Shakespeare); As You Like It (Folger Shakespeare Theatre); Julius Caesar, Pericles, Henry IV Part 1, Othello (Seattle Shakespeare Company); Dangerous Liaisons, The Royale, The Mystery of Love and Sex (ACT Theatre); Blues for Mr. Charlie (The Williams Project). Lorenzo is a Core Company Member at ACT Theatre in Seattle.



### PORSCHA SHAW\* - The Woman

Porscha recently completed her 3rd year in the Professional Actor Training Program at the University of Washington. She is a native of Richmond, Texas, and a graduate of Santa Fe University of Art and Design where she majored in Drama under the training of Jon Jory. Her recent credits include: And in this Corner: Cassius Clay, Richard III, By The Way, Meet Vera Stark; Sound Theatre's Hoodoo Love, As You Like It; Anne Washburn's The Octavia, Iphigenia and Other Daughters; Wooden O's Love's Labour's Lost, and Force Continuum. Porscha is excited to start her next project with Seattle Children's Theatre!



### **RAFAEL MOLINA\* - The Musician**

Rafael is a performer, composer, and director. He is thrilled to be making his SCT debut! Recent stage credits include: *ZM* and *Into the Woods* (Village Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Seattle Shakespeare Company); and *Lydia* (Strawberry Theatre Workshop). As a composer and director, he has collaborated with Seattle Shakespeare Company, 18th and Union, Cornish College of the Arts, YPTMTC, and University of Washington, among others. Rafael received his BFA from Cornish College of the Arts.



### RHONDA J. SOIKOWSKI\* - The Traveler

Rhonda is an actor, director, and generative theater artist with an MFA in Contemporary Performance from Naropa University. As a teaching artist, she has worked locally with SCT's Young Actor Institute, Seattle Film Institute, Red Eagle Soaring, and is currently on faculty at Cornish College of the Arts. Soikowski is honored to be making her SCT performance debut in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. Local acting credits include work with Seattle Public Theater (Christmastown: A Holiday Noir); NCTC (Bright Half Life); Strawberry Theatre Workshop (FROST/NIXON, Accidental Death of an Anarchist); Book-It Repertory Theatre (Little Women, Peter Pan, Pride & Prejudice); Village Theatre (Crimes of the Heart); upstart crow collective (Titus Andronicus); Cherry Manhattan Presents (The Beebo Brinker Chronicles), and many others.



### **ROBERTSON WITMER - Composer & Music Director**

Rob was seen last year onstage at SCT playing the accordion in *Go, Dog. Go!* Regionally, he has performed with Yale Rep, Berkeley Rep, Arizona Theatre Company, Childsplay, and Tantrum Theater. His recent sound design credits include *The Wolves, Skylight* (ACT Theatre); *Richard III, Bring Down the House*, (Seattle Shakespeare Company); *Matilda* (Village Theatre); *Ironbound, Hand to God* (Seattle Public Theater). His sound designs have also been heard at Seattle Rep, Spectrum Dance Theater, West of Lenin, and Teatro ZinZanni. Rob plays with several bands, including The Love Markets and the Toucans steel drum band.



### MATTHEW SYTHANDONE - The Man Understudy

Matthew us a native Seattleite, and a senior graduating from Cornish College of the Arts this spring with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Matthew is a performer, arts administrator, and teaching artist. He is thrilled to be back at SCT after previously working in their Development and Patron Services departments. Instagram: @msythandone #mattyactor. Recent credits include: 7 Homeless Mammoths Wander New England (Fantastic Z); What She Means (Matcha Theatre Works): and Suessical (Cornish College).



### GLORIA ALCALÁ - The Woman Understudy

Gloria Alcalá is a Latinx actor/singer/instrumentalist currently training in the Theatre department at Cornish College of the Arts and is delighted to be making their Seattle Children's Theatre debut working on *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. Last seen at Cornish in *Lift: A Musical* (French Teacher), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick), and *The Sins of Sor Juana* (The Novice). Other credits include *Native Gardens* (Landscape Technician, Intiman Theatre); *Disenchanted!* (Belle/Little Mermaid/Rapunzel, Mamches Productions), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Kate, The Core Ensemble). Next, catch Gloria in *Bright Star* at Taproot Theatre Company as Lucy! Thank you to Carol, mom, Vicki, and Bill.



### SARA GLAUSER - The Musician Understudy

Sara hails from Saint George, a small town in southern Utah, and is so excited to be making her debut at Seattle Children's Theatre! Her recent credits include A Winter's Tale (Perdita/Gaoler) with Freehold Engaged Theater Tour; Pirates of Penzance (Kate '16, Ruth '17) with The Core Ensemble; and Vinegar Tom (Alice), The Clown Show (Gretchus Gatchi), O-fest (Actor/Director/ Playwright), Spring Awakening (Wendla), O Beautiful (Gwen), and The Myth Projects 2016 with Cornish College of the Arts. There she will receive her BFA with a concentration in Original Works in the Spring of 2019.



### CASEY KITZMAN - The Traveler Understudy

Casey is currently finishing up their final semester in the Musical theater program at Cornish College of the Arts. Born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Casey had the opportunity to work with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater in their annual production of *A Christmas Carol* for eight years. They also worked with First Stage Children's Theater on *Shrek: The Musical* (Pinocchio), *Big Fish, Anatole, BIG: The Musical*, and *Baker Street Irregulars* (Tiny) as well as spending several years as a student and intern for First Stage's summer theater academy. Most recently they have appeared in *Seussical* (Mayzie), *Spring Awakening* (Georg), and *Urinetown* (Tiny Tom) at Cornish. Casey would like to thank all of their mentors and loved ones who have always supported them.



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## **WEBSITE**

Kate DiCamillo's official website www.katedicamillo.com

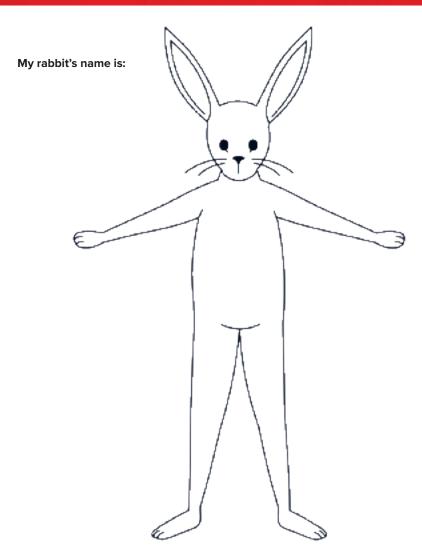
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In *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, everyone who meets Edward makes him into what they need him to be. By helping them through different challenges, he is rewarded with new experiences and learns to love others.

Here is a china rabbit of your very own, waiting to go on a journey. Dress it however you want and give it a name. Then give it to a friend or mail it to someone you know far away and ask them to take your rabbit on an adventure to meet new people. Maybe your rabbit can join them to help the community or do a good deed. Ask them to tell you what your rabbit is doing and take pictures to send you.

We'd love to hear the stories and see the pictures of your rabbit's journey, too!

Post your photo with #shareyourjourney



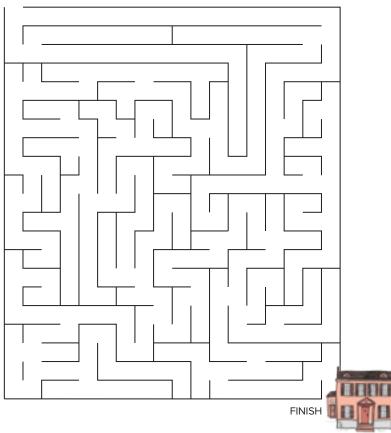
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# **ALL ABOUT LOVE**

Love in our lives makes us better people. In *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, Edward comes to understand the many active forms love takes. Fred Rogers described love this way, "Love isn't a state of perfect caring. It is an active noun like struggle. To love someone is to strive to accept that person exactly the way they are, right here and now." Throughout Edward's journey he sees who has that ability and in turn, learns how to reciprocate.

There are many ways love shows up in our lives. Parents and caregivers demonstrate love through caring for our well-being, talking through challenges, teaching us, and offering direct expressions of love. In pre-school and early elementary years, loving friendships help us develop social and emotional skills that increase our sense of belonging. Friendships can also allow us to grow in self-esteem, leading to better performance in school. One profound way to show love to our friends is to inspire confidence in them. Genuine

affirmations and positive feedback are meaningful ways to show love.

There are times when love feels challenging. Sometimes love gets buried under feelings of overwhelmingness, exhaustion, and worry. In those moments it is important to know that even when stress surfaces, love remains. As we grow, thinking about the ways we offer self-compassion or self-love will bolster our ability to share love with other people, reminding ourselves even in moments of difficulty that we have choices. We can choose to treat ourselves with kindness. We can choose to interact with others wholeheartedly.

Love creates a physiological response in the body. We are literally wired to give and receive love. Doing something nice or an act of caring releases endorphins, which are hormones that help relieve pain. Even simply watching someone extend kindness to another can produce this effect. Studies have shown those who have more love in their lives through friends and family live longer!

Love and kindness are truly healthful. Though there are many benefits to practicing love beyond health. People who express and accept love every day in their lives are on the whole happier humans. The need for love in our lives lies at the very foundation of our species. Love promotes our connectedness and interdependence with one another. It makes us safer and more generous. Those qualities can extend to larger communities helping to make our world better

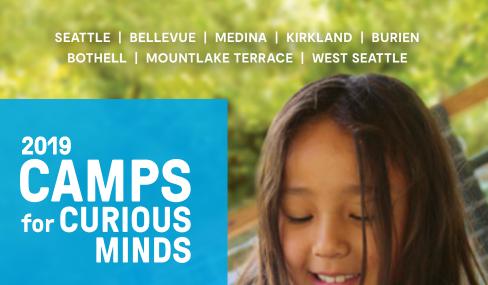
Edward's journey teaches him not only about what love is, but what it means to him when he accepts and receives the love of others. Early on, Abilene's grandmother tells him a story about a vain princess who cares nothing about those who love her in hopes that it would help him to understand. Later, while he is on his journey, the fisherman's wife, Nellie, also tries to explain what love means. But when Edward sees the effects of true love during his time with Bull and Lucy, and then with the children Bryce and Sarah Ruth, it brings it all together and he finally accepts what love is and what it means to him. It can be joyful, comforting, and, yes, sometimes even heartbreaking.

As Fred Rogers said, "Deep within us — no matter who we are — there lives a feeling of wanting to be loved, of wanting to be the kind of person that others like to be with. And the greatest thing we can do is to let people know that they are loved and capable of loving."

Content from SCT's Active Audience Guide

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