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**Seattle Children's Theatre statement on withdrawing from the Kennedy Center**

Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) has made the difficult decision to withdraw from the planned two week- presentation of *Young Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story* at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This decision comes after deep listening and extensive dialogue with the artists, community partners, and the Bruce Lee family and foundation.

For more than two years, SCT has worked in partnership and community to bring *Young Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story*, to the stage. The production will have its world premiere and opening night at SCT on Feb. 20 (preview on Feb. 19).

"As this production took shape, we were thrilled with the opportunity of celebrating a bicoastal world premiere. However, the landscape in which the *Young Dragon* was originally created has changed to an extent that after careful consideration, we have come to the decision that this is not the right time to transfer a SCT production to the Kennedy Center," said Kevin Malgesini, Managing Director. "Our priority is to honor Bruce Lee's story with integrity and to uphold the trust our community places in us."

"My father's story has always been about developing who you are while meeting the world with courage and compassion," said Shannon Lee, chair of the Bruce Lee Foundation and the daughter of Bruce Lee. "*Young Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story* reflects and directly spreads this message to today's young people. While it's unfortunate that the production won't find a home in Washington, D.C. this spring, I fully support SCT's commitment to the spirit of my father's legacy of courageous action. I'm sincerely grateful to the artists, families, and community members who have poured their hearts into *Young Dragon*. We shall Walk On!"

SCT is working directly with all contracted artists to support them through this transition and to mitigate financial impact wherever possible.

"Our hope is Seattle as a community comes out to support the artists who have put so much into this story of one of our hometown legends." Said Malgesini. "We have the ability to extend the run of the show past March 15. Demand for *Young Dragon* would be a testament to how we support and value our artists, their work and stories that help youth see their own strength and potential."

For more information, visit [www.sct.org](http://www.sct.org)

**About *Young Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story***

**Dates: February 19 – March 15**



Before he was a legend, Bruce Lee was just a young man trying to figure it all out—right here in Seattle. This action-packed, soul-searching story follows the Young Dragon as he navigates a new country and finds his voice. Through movement, magic, and heart, we meet the human behind the icon—flawed, fierce, and full of possibility. Watch as Lee learns to clear his brain by mimicking the white noise of water and begins fusing martial arts with philosophy. From street fights in Hong Kong to teaching self-defense and chasing big dreams, Bruce's journey reminds us that finding your way means first figuring out who you are. Come see how Seattle shaped him into a flexible, fluid, and flowing master—and how he reshaped the world.

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