

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences Presents Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*

CHICAGO — The Theatre School at DePaul University presents Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*, directed by Jeff Mills. *The Cat in the Hat* is a part of The Theatre School's Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences Series.

Sally and her brother are bored on a rainy day, when the Cat in the Hat appears with tricks and things and games to play. Their day is filled with mischief and imagination despite protests from their fish. That is, until their mom returns home. Join us for Dr. Seuss's classic children's story that illustrates boredom is truly just a state of mind. Recommended for ages 4 and up.

Complimentary teacher guides for *The Cat in the Hat* are available online for educators and interested audience members. Guides include activities and discussions for before and after the performance, which highlight core learning goals. Themes from this production include fun/boredom, home, rebellion, responsibility, social expectations, and trust.

The Cat in the Hat opens April 19, 2018, and runs through May 26, 2018, at DePaul's historic Merle Reskin Theatre. Performances are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 AM, and Saturdays 2 PM. Special Friday performances (10 AM) will occur on April 27 and May 11. A Sunday performance will be held on May 6 (2 PM). There is no Saturday performance on May 5.

The performance of *The Cat in the Hat* on May 10 will be audio described. The performances on May 11 and 12 will be interpreted in American Sign Language. Call TTY: 773.325.7975 for more information. Join the cast for an autograph session after the performance on April 21. The performances on April 27 and May 19 will be followed by a post-show discussion. Visit the website or call the box office for additional details.

Tickets are \$10. Subscriptions and group rates (15 or more people) are available. DePaul employees, alumni, and college students receive a discount (with ID). Active military and their families receive a discount (with ID). Tickets are available online or by calling the Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre is located at 60 E. Balbo Drive at Michigan Avenue, in Chicago. For information about parking, please contact the Box Office. The theatre is accessible via CTA buses (3-King Drive, 29-State Street, 146-Michigan/ Museums and others), and CTA El stops (Red, Blue, Brown, Green, Orange, Purple, and Pink).

The cast features **Emily Anderson** (*Thing 1*), **Lyndsey Betham** (*Sally*), **Gregory Fields** (*The Cat*), **Isabelle Jennings** (*Thing 2*), **Jack Lancaster** (*Narrator*), **Vinh Nguyen** (*Brother*), and **Harmony Zhang** (*The Fish*).

The production team includes scenic design by **Jennifer Wernau**, costume design by **Elizabeth Martinez**, lighting design by **Alexandra Jonasse**, sound design by **Haley Feiler**, technical direction by **William Young**, dramaturgy by **Patricia Mahoney**, and stage management by **Danny Fender**.

About the Director: Jeff Mills (*Director*) is an award-winning actor, director, teacher, fight director, and musician. He is best known for his work with the award winning BOXTALES Theatre Company in Santa Barbara. As a core member of BOXTALES, Jeff co-created ten original works in as many years, including his direction of *OM: An Indian Tale of Good and Evil* (The Ramayana) and his portrayal of Odysseus in *The Odyssey*. Jeff and BOXTALES have toured their innovative theater for young audiences throughout the U.S. and in Mexico. Nationally and internationally Jeff has performed with the Denver Center Theater Company, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, American Folklore Theater, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Door Shakespeare Festival, Seattle Shakespeare Festival, Wooden O Theater, the International City Theater, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Pominencer Census (Munich), the Estudia Busqueda de Pantomima Teatro (Guanajuato, Mexico), and Theater Mitu/Visthar Center (Bangalore, India). Jeff is an Assistant Professor of Movement in the performance department at The Theatre School at DePaul University.

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The Theatre School trains students to the highest level of professional skill and artistry in an inclusive and diverse conservatory setting.