

For Immediate Release

DATE: May 2015

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***Mary Poppins* delivers a spoonful of fun at The Rose Theater**

(OMAHA, Nebr.) The world's most beloved nanny drops in on The Rose Theater stage this June in Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's ***Mary Poppins***. Based on the timeless books of P.L. Travers and complete with all the beloved songs from the Academy Award-winning Disney film, this magical stage musical tells the inspirational tale of the amazing flying nanny who's practically perfect in every way. The show will run June 5-28, 2015, at The Rose Theater in Omaha.

Mary Poppins is the story of the practically perfect nanny who teaches to take our medicine with a spoonful of sugar, find the silver lining in every situation, and realize that sometimes we should just use the winds of change to go fly a kite.

The show introduces audiences to the Banks family. The Banks children, Jane and Michael, have sent many a nanny packing due to their mischievous antics. But when Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep, she uses ordinary common sense, extraordinary magic, and "A Spoonful of Sugar," to bring unexpected changes to the house on Cherry Tree Lane.

Along with the cheerful chimney sweep Bert, Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical adventures. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that, "Anything can happen if you let it." With Mary and Bert leading the way, audiences of all ages will rejoice in (and probably sing along with) beloved songs like "Super-cali-fragil-istic-expi-alidocious," "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "Jolly Holiday," and the iconic dance number "Step in Time" in this exhilarating live theater experience for the whole family. All the favorite songs written by Richard M. Sherman & Robert B. Sherman for the Disney film are a part of the production, along with some new original pieces written by George Stiles & Anthony Drewe.

"***Mary Poppins*** is full of fantasy and magic, and yes, Mary will fly! This show is absolutely chock-full of magic that will definitely keep you on your toes," says director Matthew Gutschick. "***Mary Poppins*** is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers, and astonishing things happening on stage."

The stage production of ***Mary Poppins*** was co-created by Cameron Mackintosh and written by Oscar-winning screenwriter and *Downton Abbey* creator, Julian Fellowes.

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Mary Poppins promises to be an unforgettable time at The Rose, with breathtaking dance numbers and spectacular stagecraft. Thanks to the talents of Hall Associates Flying Effects, several characters will appear to soar through the air, objects will move on their own, and Bert will literally do a head-over-heels rendition of "Step in Time."

"Disney's inventive adaptation of the Travers book and the resulting movie feels fresh, magical, and brimming with life," says Gutschick. "We are excited to bring the show to Omaha."

The eight children's books by P.L. Travers, published from 1934 to 1988, first introduced the magical nanny who floated into the lives of the Bank's family at 17 Cherry Tree Lane. Mary Poppins' encounters with chimney sweeps and other characters were re-envisioned in the Walt Disney film in 1964 starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. The stage version was first presented in London's West End in 2004, then on Broadway in 2006 where it ran until March 2013. During this time it won the Olivier Award for Best Theatre Choreography and Best Set Design as well as the Evening Standard Award for Best Set Design and the Variety Club Award for Best Musical. The Broadway production won the Tony Award for Best Set Design.

Mary Poppins will be presented Fridays at 7 pm, Saturdays at 2 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm. Additional performances will be held Saturday, June 6 at 7 pm; Thursday, June 11 at 7 pm; Thursday, June 18 at 7 pm; and Saturday, June 27 at 7 pm. Interpretation for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing will be offered at the 2 pm show on Saturday, June 13.

Tickets are available by calling The Rose Box Office at (402) 345-4849 or online at www.rosetheater.org. Ticket reservations for the reserved seating show are required, with prices from \$20-25. Discount ticket vouchers for main floor seating are available for \$20 at all area Hy-Vee stores.

Mary Poppins is sponsored by Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Nebraska Furniture Mart, Mutual of Omaha, Q-98 Five, WOWT NBC Omaha, Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Cultural Endowment. The Opening Night Sponsor is Kids Love Stickers, Powered by MediBadge.

About The Rose

The Rose Theater is one of the largest and most accomplished children's theaters in the nation, with a reputation for enriching the lives of children and families through top-quality professional productions and arts education. The Rose is committed to making the arts accessible to all children, providing opportunities for thousands of children throughout the community to attend shows and participate in classes each year.