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## THE YOUNG COMPANY WINTER FESTIVAL WARMS UP THE STAGE AT GREATER BOSTON STAGE COMPANY

The Young Company Winter Festival, performed by actors in grades 1-12, is the culmination of eight weeks of rehearsals by students and their professional directors, music directors, choreographers, stage managers, and design teams. The Young Company Winter Festival includes four fully staged productions: **Disney's** instant classic ***Frozen JR.***, the mischievous and playful ***Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka***, the raucous ***The Addams Family: A New Musical***, and the new and exciting ***Firebringer***.

A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, ***Disney's Frozen JR.*** expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. With a cast of beloved characters and loaded with magic, adventure, and plenty of humor, ***Frozen JR.*** is sure to thaw even the coldest heart! Directed by Liana C. Percoco, Assistant Directed and Choreographed by Autumn Blazon-Brown, Music Direction by Julia Nelson, Costume Design by Emma George, and Stage Managed by Shauwna Grillo.

***Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*** follows enigmatic candy manufacturer, Willy Wonka, as he stages a contest by hiding golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever comes up with these tickets will win a free tour of the Wonka factory, as well as a lifetime supply of candy. Four of the five winning children are insufferable brats; the fifth is a likeable young lad named Charlie Bucket, who takes the tour in the company of his equally amiable grandfather. The children must learn to follow Mr. Wonka's rules in the factory... or suffer the consequences. Co-Directed by Stephen Zubricki IV, Co-Directed & Choreographed by Sydney Grant, Music Direction by Vanessa Schukis, Costume Design by Rebecca Glick, and Stage Managed by Lindsey Sigler.

In the comical feast that is ***The Addams Family: A New Musical***, the wackiness in every family is joyously embraced. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family— a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before— keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Directed by Daniel Begin, Choreographed by Wanda Strukus, Music Direction by Lea Peterson, Costume Design by Brittany Meehan, and Stage Managed by Emma Campbell.

At the dawn of humanity, one tribe of cave-people survives the many trials of prehistoric life under the wise leadership of Jemilla, The Peacemaker. Jemilla taught her people to express themselves, rather than bashing each others' heads with rocks and eating each others' babies. But one member of the tribe doesn't seem to fit in. Zazzalil is always trying to invent things to make life easier... for herself. While out hatching her latest scheme,

Zazzalil stumbles upon the most important discovery in history. Recommended for audiences ages 13+ (contains strong language), **Firebringer** is directed and choreographed by Director of Education, Tyler Rosati. Music Direction is by Bethany Aiken, Costume Design by Emily Rossier, and Stage Managed by Molly Burman.

The Young Company Winter Festival program and design team also includes Tyler Rosati (Director of Education), Ceit Zweil (Education Associate), Molly Burman (Festival Production Manager), Tori Oakes (Set Designer), Matt Cost (Lighting Designer), and Jennifer Butler (Properties Master).

### Performances:

**Disney's Frozen JR.**—Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 11AM; Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 11AM; and Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11AM. **Disney's Frozen JR.** is recommended for all ages.

**Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka**—Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 1PM; Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 1PM; Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 1PM; and Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1PM. **Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka** is recommended for all ages.

**The Addams Family: A New Musical**—Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 4PM; Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4PM; Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM; and Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4PM. **The Addams Family: A New Musical** is recommended for all ages.

**Firebringer**—Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM; Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM; Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM; and Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM. **Firebringer** is recommended for ages 13 and up.

**Tickets are \$15.** For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Box Office at Greater Boston Stage Company at (781) 279-2200, or visit [www.greaterbostonstage.org](http://www.greaterbostonstage.org). Group sales are also available. Please contact Bryan Miner, Audience Development Manager, at [bryan@greaterbostonstage.org](mailto:bryan@greaterbostonstage.org) or (781) 279-7885 x107 for more information.

Full production credits: **Disney's Frozen JR.:** Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, Book by Jennifer Lee, Based on the Disney film written by Jennifer Lee and Directed by Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee. The original Broadway production of *Frozen* was directed by Michael Grandage and produced by Disney Theatrical Productions, Original Broadway Orchestrations by Dave Metzger, Original Broadway Music Supervision and Arrangements by Stephen Oremus, Additional Broadway Dance Arrangements by David Chase, *Frozen JR.* Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by Madeline Smith, *Frozen JR.* Script Adapted by Sara Wordsworth. Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International. **Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka:** Music and Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley, Adapted for the Stage by Leslie Bricusse and Timothy Allen McDonald. Based on the Book "Charlie and The Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl. Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International. **The Addams Family: A New Musical:** Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa, Based on Characters Created by Charles Addams. Originally produced on Broadway by Stuart Oken, Roy Furman, Michael Leavitt, Five Cent Productions, Stephen Schuler, Decca Theatricals, Scott M. Delman, Stuart Ditsky, Terry Allen Kramer, Stephanie P. McClelland, James L. Nederlander, Eva Price, Jam Theatricals/Mary LuRoffe, Pittsburgh CLO/Gutterman-Swinsky, Vivek Tiwary/Gary Kaplan, The Weinstein Company/Clarence, LLC, Adam Zotovich/TribeTheatricals. By Special Arrangement with Elephant Eye Theatrical. Presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide. **Firebringer:** Music & Lyrics by Meredith Stepien and Mark Swiderski, Book by Nick Lang, Matt Lang, and Brian Holden, Arrangements by Clark Baxtresser and Pierce Siebers, Originally produced by StarKid Productions.

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## **ABOUT GREATER BOSTON STAGE COMPANY:**

We bring vibrant professional theatre and dramatic education beyond the boundaries of Boston, featuring world and regional premieres alongside fresh interpretations of familiar work. Within this setting, we uniquely foster the artists of tomorrow by providing ongoing performance and employment opportunities to our company of current and former students. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> Season of live theatre in Stoneham, MA, Greater Boston Stage Company produces seven Mainstage shows, presents a series of Special Events, and runs year-round classes, lessons, and fully staged productions through The Young Company for students in grades 1–12.

## **ABOUT THE YOUNG COMPANY:**

The Young Company at Greater Boston Stage Company helps the next generation become better artists, better audience members, and better people through dramatic education. Through artistic training and performance opportunities, The Young Company at Greater Boston Stage Company develops life skills such as confidence, self-discipline, and collaboration to inspire and prepare young actors for future creative engagement and success. Our process-oriented programming pushes students to the next level by working with exceptional Boston teaching artists and theatre professionals. Students are also provided with opportunities to work on Mainstage productions side-by-side with professionals. The Young Company lives by the idea that **GOOD THEATRE MAKES GOOD PEOPLE.**

**Box Office:** (781) 279-2200

**Box Office Hours:** Mondays – Fridays, 11am to 6pm; Saturdays, 1pm to 6pm

**Location:** 395 Main Street, Stoneham, MA 02180

**Website:** [www.greaterbostonstage.org](http://www.greaterbostonstage.org)

**Flagship Season Sponsors:** StonehamBank and the Salem Five Charitable Foundation

**Winter Festival Sponsor:** Boston Partners Financial Group LLC

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## **SEASON 20 PRESS OPENINGS:**

### **SWAN LAKE IN BLUE**

Press Opening: Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 8pm

<https://www.greaterbostonstage.org/swanlakeinblue.html>

### **THE MOORS**

Press Opening: Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 8pm

<https://www.greaterbostonstage.org/moors.html>

### **ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL**

Press Opening: Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 7pm

<https://www.greaterbostonstage.org/matilda.html>

### **MISS HOLMES RETURNS**

Press Opening: June 6, 2020 at 8pm

<https://www.greaterbostonstage.org/missholmesreturns.html>