

November 6, 2018

For Immediate Release

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**Family-Friendly Holiday Classic
Soars Back to The Coterie Stage
by Extraordinary Popular Demand**

***Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer™:
The Musical***

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer™: The Musical*

Based on the animated television special "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

Directed by William J. Christie

Music Direction Anthony Edwards

Choreography Marc Wayne

WHEN: November 6 – December 30, 2018

Press / Opening Night: Friday, November 9, at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Coterie, Level one of Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO

PRICE: \$13.00 - \$15.00 for youth under 18, full-time students, and seniors age 60+;
\$17.00 - \$19.00 for adults

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

Phone: (816) 474-6552

Online: www.thecoterie.org

Kansas City, MO – The "most famous reindeer of all" from the longest-running and highest-rated holiday television special will be live on stage in *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical* at The Coterie Theatre in Crown Center. Directed by William J. Christie, The Coterie's critically-acclaimed production features Rudolph and the entire holly jolly cast of iconic characters, including Sam the Snowman, Hermey the Elf, Yukon Cornelius, and the Abominable Snow Monster, helping Santa save Christmas this holiday season, November 6 – December 30, 2018.

THE PLAY

In 1964, the beloved stop-motion animated television classic, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, made its television debut delighting audiences across the country. Since then, *Rudolph* has become an annual tradition for generations of children and adults and The Coterie once again brings the show to life for fans in Kansas City. As the reviewer for *The Pitch* exclaimed, "*If adorable is at the top of your Christmas list, save an afternoon or evening for Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical... as rich as eggnog...*"

Projections, costumes, and characters are faithfully brought to the stage against a backdrop of nostalgic set designs. All the familiar story elements from the television special come to life with a talented cast and puppeteers who help recreate the magic on stage. The cast brings high energy to classic songs and dialogue, while irresistible and loveable puppets bring out the simplistic charm of the TV show's stop-motion effects. And audiences are delighted when they hear full performances of the iconic songs associated with the TV special, including "Holly Jolly Christmas," "Fame and Fortune," "There's Always Tomorrow," "Silver and Gold," and of course, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

The story tells the tale of a young Rudolph who, because of the appearance of his bright, shining nose, is excluded from the Reindeer Games. He flees Christmastown and meets up with new friends Hermey the Elf and Yukon Cornelius. After finding The Island of Misfit Toys, Rudolph journeys home, where a snowstorm of epic proportions is threatening Christmas. When Rudolph rescues his family and friends and helps Santa save the holiday, it's a colorful musical adventure that teaches us what makes you different can also be what makes you special.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical will run 60 minutes with no intermission and will be enjoyed by families with all ages. The Coterie is funded in part by the Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, Theater League, and the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund. The production is sponsored by:



Deluxe Corporate Foundation

THE ARTISTS

The cast of ***Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*** will feature Ron Lackey (as Sam the Snowman), Tony J. Pulford (as Rudolph), Elise Campagna (as Clarice), Martin Buchanan (as Coach Comet/Yukon Cornelius), David LeVota (as Hermey), Zachrey York (as Santa), Deanna Mazdra (Mrs. Claus/Mrs. Donner), Jake Gollhier (as Donner), Roan Ricker (as Fireball), Zach Faust (Boss Elf), Jay Love (Spotted Elephant Snoken Puppeteer), Ashley Elliot-Rowe (as Elf/Dolly & Bumble Snoken Puppeteer), Ben Renfrow (as Elf/Dog Snoken Puppeteer), David Michael Hall (as Charlie Snoken Puppeteer), Matthew Grigoratos (as a Reindeer), Fritz Sullivan (as a Reindeer),

Robin Robles (as a Reindeer), Catie Wolff (as an Elf), Molly Moore (as an Elf), Kimberly Girkin (as an Elf). The artistic and production company includes Jeff Church (producing artistic director), William J. Christie (director), Anthony T. Edwards (music director), Marc Wayne (choreographer), Danielle Renee (production stage manager), Scott Hobart (set designer/technical director), Jarrett Bertoncin (lighting designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (costume designer), David Kiehl (sound designer), Caitlin Brisendine (properties/puppets), and Chloé Robbins (production assistant/deck manager).

SHOW DATES, TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 40th Season and named “One of the Five Best Theaters for Young Audiences in the U.S.” by *TIME* magazine, will perform ***Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*** November 6 – December 30, 2018, in The Coterie Theatre, located on level one of Crown Center Shops in Kansas City, MO. Press Night will be held on Friday, November 9, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

Individual Tickets: Tickets are \$13.00-\$15.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors age 60 and older; and \$17.00-\$19.00 for adults, depending on performance date.

Subscriptions: In lieu of season subscriptions, The Coterie offers the Priority Spotlight Pass and Value Spotlight Pass, which work like a season ticket without committing to a set schedule. Priority Spotlight Pass holders pay \$150.00 for a flexible pass that includes 10 tickets that can be used for any show or combination of shows in the 2018/2019 Season, including ***Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical***.

All tickets and Spotlight Passes are on sale now and may be purchased by calling The Coterie’s box office at (816) 474-6552, dropping by the box office on level one of the Crown Center Shops, or by visiting www.thecoterie.org.



The Coterie’s 2016 production of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*, featuring (left to right) Ron Lackey (as Sam the Snowman); D’Andre McKenzie (as Baby Rudolph) and Emily Nan Phillips (as Mrs. Donner); Jake Walker (as Yukon Cornelius), Tony J. Pulford (as Rudolph) and David LeVola (as Hermey). Photos by J. Robert Schraeder.

Performance Calendar

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER: THE MUSICAL

| NOVEMBER 6 - DECEMBER 30, 2018 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 6 10 am | 7 10 am | 8 10 am 12 pm | 9 10 am 12 pm 7 pm | 10 2 pm |
| 11 2 pm | 12 | 13 10 am | 14 10 am 12 pm | 15 10 am 12 pm | 16 10 am 12 pm 7 pm | 17 2 pm 4 pm |
| 18 2 pm 4 pm | 19 10 am 12 pm | 20 10 am 12 pm | 21 | 22 | 23 2 pm 4 pm 7 pm | 24 2 pm 4 pm |
| 25 2 pm 4 pm | 26 | 27 10 am | 28 10 am 12 pm | 29 10 am 12 pm | 30 10 am 12 pm 7 pm | 1 2 pm 4 pm |
| 2 2 pm 4 pm | 3 | 4 10 am | 5 10 am 12 pm | 6 10 am 12 pm | 7 10 am 12 pm 7 pm | 8 2 pm 4 pm |
| 9 2 pm 4 pm | 10 | 11 10 am | 12 10 am 12 pm | 13 10 am 12 pm | 14 2 pm 4 pm 7 pm | 15 2 pm 4 pm |
| 16 2 pm 4 pm | 17 | 18 2 pm 4 pm | 19 2 pm 4 pm | 20 2 pm 4 pm | 21 2 pm 4 pm | 22 2 pm 4 pm |
| 23 2 pm 4 pm | 24 | 25 | 26 2 pm 4 pm | 27 2 pm 4 pm | 28 2 pm 4 pm 7 pm | 29 2 pm 4 pm |
| 30 2 pm 4 pm | | | | | | |

| CALENDAR LEGEND | |
|---|---|
|  | Opening Night |
|  | Friday Family Fun Night featuring post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members |
|  | Post-performance Question and Answer session with the company |
|  | Interpreted performance in American Sign Language |

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

During the run of *Rudolph*, The Coterie invites audiences to take advantage of these special, free performance extras (with paid admission):

Friday, November 9, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration. A free post-performance reception with the director, company, staff, and board of directors.

Saturday, November 10, and Sunday, November 11, 2:00 p.m.: Question & Answer session. A free Q&A with members of The Coterie’s staff and artistic company will immediately follow the performance.

Fridays, November 16, 23, 30, and December 7, 14, and 28, 7:00 p.m.: Friday Family Fun Night. Post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.

Saturday, November 17, 2:00 p.m.: Interpreted performance in American Sign Language.

 Script adaptation by Robert Penola.
 Arrangements and orchestrations by Timothy Splain.
 Based on the animated television special and the stage production directed and conceived by Jeff Frank and First Stage.
 “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” animated television special adapted from a story by Robert L. May and the song by Johnny Marks, music and lyrics by Johnny Marks.
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THE REMAINING 2018/2019 SEASON

Following *Rudolph*, The Coterie’s 40th Anniversary Season continues with ***Secret Soldiers: Heroines in Disguise***, the true story of four women who disguised themselves as men to fight in the Civil War, January 22 – February 10, 2019; a musical telling of the beloved novel, ***Mr. Popper’s Penguins***, February 26 – March 31, 2019; the stage adaptation of the Netflix series featuring music made famous by The Beatles, ***Beat Bugs: A Musical Adventure***, April 16 – May 19, 2019; and the return of one of The Coterie’s all-time audience favorites, Mo Willem’s ***Elephant and Piggie’s “We are in a Play!”***, June 11 – August 4, 2019.

 Due to the nature of live theatre, play selection, performance schedule and casting are subject to change.

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