

March 2, 2018

For Immediate Release

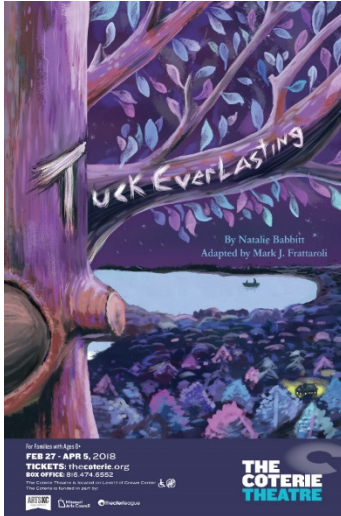
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PRESS RELEASE

**Best-Selling Novel Examining
Immortality Brought to Life
on Stage at The Coterie**

Tuck Everlasting

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: ***Tuck Everlasting***

Script by Mark J. Frattaroli

Based on the book *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

Directed by Jeff Church

WHEN: **February 27 – April 5, 2018**

Press / Opening Night: Friday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m.

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

PRICE: \$11.00 for youth under 18, full-time students, and seniors age 60 and older;
\$15.00 for adults

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

Phone: (816) 474-6552

Online: www.thecoterie.org

Kansas City, MO – The Coterie Theatre brings Natalie Babbitt’s best-selling novel, ***Tuck Everlasting***, to life on stage in a thrilling and thought-provoking adaptation that considers the benefits and burdens of eternal life. Adapted by Mark J. Frattaroli, ***Tuck Everlasting*** is directed by Jeff Church and will be performed live at The Coterie Theatre, located in Crown Center, February 27 – April 5, 2018.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Over a century ago, the Tucks - Ma, Pa, and their sons Miles and Jesse - drank from a forest spring. Ever since, no one in the family has aged a bit. They must live separately only to reunite once every 10 years because of rising suspicions when they never age. Now, young Winnie Foster is out exploring the woods, and she has accidentally discovered the Tuck family secret... which brings her to the question: Is living outside the rules of time a blessing or a curse?

Written by Mark J. Frattaroli, ***Tuck Everlasting*** is an adventurous and charming stage adaptation of the popular novel by Natalie Babbitt. As an adventure-mystery uniquely told from the perspective of a young girl, the book is recognized for its sophisticated examination of life and death and has become a modern classic for young adults. It has sold over nine million copies worldwide and won several notable literary awards, including the Janusz Korczak Medal and the Christopher Award. Previously adapted into multiple films and a Tony Award-winning stage musical, Frattaroli's ***Tuck Everlasting*** remains faithful to the novel's contemplation of never growing older, while bringing all the wonder and enchantment of the captivating story to life on stage.

The Coterie's production of ***Tuck Everlasting*** will feature respected local actor, Gary Neal Johnson, in the role of Angus Tuck, marking not only his debut for The Coterie but his first appearance in any Theatre for Young Audiences production. A staple of the Kansas City acting community for decades, Johnson has performed at many of the city's professional theatres, including 106 productions with Kansas City Rep since 1982 - many of those reprising his popular portrayal of Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. The cast of ***Tuck Everlasting*** also features Nancy Marcy (as Mae Tuck), Fisher Stewart (as Jesse Tuck), Tyler Alan Rowe (as Miles Tuck), Jonathan Lloyd Schriock (as Stranger in the Yellow Suit), George Forbes (Constable), Aurelia Power (as Winnie Foster), and Bonita Hanson (as Voice of Grandmother).

Tuck Everlasting will run approximately 65 minutes with no intermission and will be appreciated by families with ages nine and older. The Coterie is funded in part by Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, and Theater League.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The artistic and production company of ***Tuck Everlasting*** includes Jeff Church (director), Danielle Renee (production stage manager), Jordan Janota (set designer), Jarrett Bertoncin (lighting designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (costume designer), David Kiehl (sound designer), Scott Hobart (technical director), Joyce Merrill (properties/set dressing), and Taylor Smith (production assistant).

SHOW DATES, TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 39th Season and named "One of the Five Best Theaters for Young Audiences in the

U.S.” by *TIME* magazine, will perform ***Tuck Everlasting*** February 27 – April 5, 2018, in The Coterie Theatre, located on level one of the Crown Center Shops in Kansas City, MO. Press Night will be held on Friday, March 2, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

- **Individual Tickets:** Tickets are \$11.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors age 60 and older; and \$15.00 for adults.
- **Subscriptions:** In lieu of season subscriptions, The Coterie offers the Spotlight Club Pass, which works like a season ticket without committing to a set schedule. Spotlight Club members pay \$100.00 for a flexible pass that includes 10 tickets - a savings of 40% off individual ticket prices that can be used for any show or combination of shows in the 2017/2018 Season.

All tickets and Spotlight Club Passes 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.

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

TUCK EVERLASTING

FEBRUARY 27 - APRIL 5, 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		27 10 am	28 10 am	1 10 am 12 pm	2 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	3 2 pm
4 2 pm	5	6 10 am 12 pm	7 10 am 12 pm	8 10 am 12 pm	9 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	10 2 pm
11 2 pm	12	13 10 am 12 pm	14 10 am 12 pm	15 10 am 12 pm	16 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	17 2 pm
18 2 pm	19	20 10 am 12 pm	21 10 am 12 pm	22 10 am 12 pm	23 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	24 2 pm
25 2 pm	26	27 10 am 12 pm	28 10 am 12 pm	29 10 am 12 pm	30 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	31 2 pm
1 10 am 12 pm	2 10 am 12 pm	3 10 am 12 pm	4 10 am 12 pm	5 10 am 12 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



Aurelia Power (as Winnie Foster) and Fisher Stewart (as Jesse Tuck) in *Tuck Everlasting*. Photo by J. Robert Schraeder.



Aurelia Power (as Winnie Foster), Gary Neal Johnson (as Angus Tuck), and Tyler Rowe (as Miles Tuck) in *Tuck Everlasting*. Photo by J. Robert Schraeder.

B-Roll is available upon request. Production photos are available online:

www.thecoterie.org/press-room

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

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

Friday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration. A free post-performance reception with the company, staff, and board of directors.

Saturday, March 3, and Sunday, March 4, 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, March 9, 16, 23, and 30, 7:00 p.m.: **Friday Family Fun Night.** A free post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.

Saturday, March 10, 2:00 p.m.: Interpreted performance in American Sign Language.

THE REMAINING 2017/2018 SEASON

Following *Tuck Everlasting*, The Coterie's 2017/2018 Season continues with *Jack and the Bean Mágico!*, a bi-lingual, interactive adaptation of the classic fairy tale, April 17 – May 20, 2018; and concludes with the summer musical for all ages, *Goosebumps: The Phantom of the Auditorium – The Musical*, June 19 – August 5, 2018. As a special engagement, The Coterie and the White Theatre at The J will also co-produce *Disney's Newsies*, performing at the White Theatre, July 7-29, 2018. All tickets are on sale now.

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