

April 20, 2018

For Immediate Release

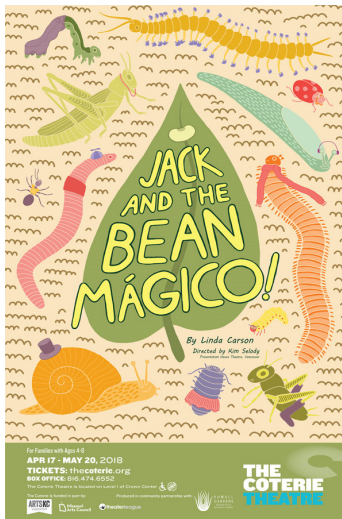
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MEDIA RELEASE

The Coterie Brings Classic Story
to Stage as Bi-lingual and
Interactive Adventure

Jack and the Bean Mágico!

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!***

Written by Linda A. Carson

Directed by Kim Selody, Presentation House Theatre, Vancouver

WHEN: **April 17 – May 20, 2018**

Press / Opening Night: Friday, April 20, 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 classic fairytale, “Jack and the Beanstalk,” comes to life on stage at The Coterie Theatre in ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!***, a new bi-lingual adaptation that uses original music and audience participation to put an adventurous, and environmental, twist on the story. Written by Linda A.

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Carson and featuring music by Cathy Nosaty, ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!*** is directed by Kim Selody and will be performed live on The Coterie's stage, April 17 - May 20, 2018.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Jack and the Bean Mágico! is an imaginative and adventurous new adaptation of the classic fairytale, "Jack and the Beanstalk," that tells the story with the audience's help. The play uses original music as well as a script in both English and Spanish to reimagine the tale of young Jack, whose family lives on a farm that won't grow anything. Compelled at first to sell his toys to help feed his hungry family, Jack instead encounters a mysterious gardener who trades him everything he owns for a single magic bean. Jack recruits the audience to help him plant and grow the bean into a towering stalk. The audience then assists Jack as he climbs the beanstalk and finds that it leads to the giant's rich and fertile garden. The giant loves bugs because they help keep his soil and plants healthy, so Jack and the audience become bugs to frolic in the giant's garden. While there, they learn about the life cycle and the importance of soil health, and soon Jack understands what he must do to solve the problems with his family's farm. Through music and interactive storytelling, ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!*** takes young audiences and their families on a highly-engaging and fun-filled journey.

Playwright Linda A. Carson was inspired to create ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!*** during a university course she took about soil. In an interview with the *Winnipeg Free Press* for the show's premiere production at Presentation House Theatre in 2013, Carson explained, "*I wanted to adapt that tale of why Jack's farm was very poor and not producing enough to feed them anymore... and how, in our day and age, soil can become dead by overuse.*" Adding music and audience participation to the production provided Carson the opportunity to draw young audiences in while also imparting vital information about their environment. "*I want kids to explore the dirt instead of seeing ground as something to run on. I want them to imagine that there is a whole life in that dirt... that they are like gentle giants themselves to all the life forms below their feet.*" Emphasizing the importance of audiences bringing their active imaginations to the performance, production director, Kim Selody, added with a wink, "*It encourages kids to go into role-playing... and if they don't, they could get eaten.*"

Jack and the Bean Mágico! will run approximately 60 minutes with no intermission and will be appreciated by families with ages 4 to 8. The production is funded in part by the Missouri Arts Council, Art Works, and The Theater League. It is produced in community partnership with Powell Gardens.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The cast of ***Jack and the Bean Mágico!*** features Freddy Acevedo (as Jack) and Jake Walker (as

Gardener/Papá/Giant/Squirm the Worm). The artistic and production company includes Kim Selody from Presentation House Theatre, Vancouver, Canada (director); Cathy Nosaty (musical director); Danielle Renee (production stage manager); Rafael Toribio (set designer); Jarrett Bertoincin (lighting designer); Brandy Giordano (costume designer); Emily Stovall (assistant costume designer); David Kiehl (sound designer); Scott Hobart (technical director); and Taylor Smith (production assistant).

PRODUCED IN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



The Coterie will produce *Jack and the Bean Mágico!* in community partnership with Powell Gardens, the Kansas City region's botanical garden, which is recognized as the signature destination showcasing the beauty of the Midwestern landscape. Powell Gardens is an experience that embraces the Midwest's spirit of place and inspires an appreciation for the importance of plants in our lives. On Sunday, April 29, Powell Gardens will offer a free post-show event which will invite young people to make a biodegradable Eco Pot by planting green bean seeds in a newspaper pot they can take home. More information about Powell Gardens is available online at www.powellgardens.org.

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 *Jack and the Bean Mágico!* April 17 - May 20, 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, April 20, 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

JACK AND THE BEAN MÁGICO!

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

CALENDAR LEGEND



Opening Night



Friday Family Fun Night featuring post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members



Interpreted performance in American Sign Language



FREE Post Show Event with Powell Gardens. Learn to make a biodegradable Eco Pot and get a seed to grow at home.



Freddy Acevedo (as Jack) and Jake Walker (as the Gardener) in *Jack and the Bean Mágico!* Photo by J. Robert Schraeder.



Jake Walker (as the Giant) in *Jack and the Bean Mágico!* Photo by J. Robert Schraeder.

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

www.thecoterie.org/press-room

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

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

- **Friday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration.** A free post-performance reception with the company, staff, and board of directors.
- **Fridays, April 27, May 4, 11, and 18, 7:00 p.m.: Friday Family Fun Night.** A free post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.

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- **Saturday, April 28, 2:00 p.m.:** Interpreted performance in American Sign Language.
- **Sunday, April 29, 2:00 p.m.:** A free post-performance event with Powell Gardens. Audiences will be invited to learn to make a biodegradable Eco Pot by planting green bean seeds in a newspaper pot they can take home.

THE REMAINING 2017/2018 SEASON

Following *Jack and the Bean Mágico!*, The Coterie's 2017/2018 Season 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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