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For Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

The Coterie Brings Sendak Classic to Life On Stage in Interactive Storytelling Adventure

Where the Wild Things Are

OVERVIEW:

WHAT: Where the Wild Things Are

Based on the book by Maurice Sendak A Presentation House Theatre Production

Directed by Kim Selody, Artistic Director, Presentation House Theatre Originally adapted for the stage by TAG Theatre Glasgow, Scotland

WHEN: March 21, 2016 - May 7, 2016

Press / Opening Night: Friday, March 25, 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

<u>Kansas City, MO</u> – This Spring, The Coterie Theatre sets sail to *Where the Wild Things Are*, bringing Maurice Sendak's timeless classic to life on stage in a highly interactive, guided play

experience. This acclaimed adaptation is a Presentation House Theatre production directed by Kim Selody and will be performed live on The Coterie's stage in Crown Center March 21 – May 7, 2016.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Maurice Sendak's 1963 enchanting literary classic, *Where the Wild Things Are*, comes to life on stage in an intimate guided storytelling adventure. As part of the show, young audience members are drawn into the performance to help transform Max's bedroom into a forest, then become Max's benevolent monster friends, and are encouraged to "let the Wild Rumpus begin!" After Max is ultimately crowned ruler, the audience also helps bring him safely home.

Where the Wild Things Are audience members between the ages of three and eight years old receive Adventure with Max tickets, which offer floor seating and audience participation with Max. For details, call The Coterie box office at 816.474.6552 and ask about Max's Adventure Tickets.

Adapted for the stage by TAG Theatre Glasgow, Scotland, *Where the Wild Things Are* is a faithful and imaginative re-telling of Sendak's award-winning children's book. Recognized for its unforgettable illustrations as much as its charming story, the book has sold over 19 million copies worldwide and has become one of the most lauded picture books ever. In 1964, it was named the winner of the Caldecott Medal from the children's librarians for "most distinguished American picture book for children." 45 years later, in 2009, the National Education Association named the book one of its "Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children."

Now, over 50 years since its creation, *Where the Wild Things Are* finally comes to life on stage. In its January 2016 review of Presentation House Theater's live performance of *Where the Wild Things Are* at Seattle Children's Theatre, BroadwayWorld.com praised, "Adorably interactive... a magical journey that is just as amazing for the adults as it is for the kids... I just cannot stress how much you need to bring your kids to check [it] out... It's a truly joyfully wild time." ParentMap.com also raved, "Kids will love this wild, highly participatory production... a complete delight... highly engaging... an excellent introduction to theater for young kids. Be prepared for a room full of roars and unlimited fun."

Where the Wild Things Are will run approximately 60 minutes with no intermission and will be

most appreciated by families with ages three to eight. The production is funded in part by the Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, and Theater League.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Where the Wild Things Are will feature Presentation House Theatre cast members Raes Calvert (as Max) and Linda A. Carson (as Narrator/Mom) from March 21 – April 6, 2016. Taking over the roles from March 7 – May 7, 2016, will be Coterie cast members Teddy Trice (as Max) and Lauren Braton (as Narrator/Mom). The artistic and production company includes Kim Selody (director), Giselle Clarke-Trenaman (PHT Stage Manager), Bradley A. Trenaman (lighting designer), Linda Leon (Set/Props/Costume Designer), Cathy Nosaty (Composer/Sound Designer), William J. Christie (Coterie Resident Stage Manager), Scott Hobart (resident technical director), Art Kent (master electrician/resident light designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (resident costume designer), David Kiehl (Sound Engineer/Resident Sound Designer), and Chloé N. Robbins-Anderson (resident production assistant).

SHOW DATES, TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 37th Season and named "One of the Five Best Theaters for Young Audiences in the U.S." by *TIME* magazine, will perform *Where the Wild Things Are* March 21, 2016 – May 7, 2016, 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 25, 2016, 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 2015/2016 Season.

All tickets and Spotlight Club 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.

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Where the Wild Things Are

MARCH 21 - MAY 7, 2016						
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
	21 10 am	22 10 am 12 pm	23 10 am 12 pm	24 10 am 12 pm	25 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	26 2 pm
27	28 10 am	29 10 am 12 pm	30 10 am 12 pm	31 10 am 12 pm	10 am 12 pm 7 pm	2 2 pm
3 2 pm	4	10 am 12 pm	6 10 am 12 pm	7 10 am 12 pm	10 am 12 pm 7 pm	9 2 pm ខ្លង់
10 2 pm	11	12 10 am 12 pm	13 10 am 12 pm	14 10 am 12 pm	15 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	16 2 pm
17 2 pm	18	19 10 am 12 pm	20 10 am 12 pm	21 10 am 12 pm	22 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	23 2 pm
24 2 pm	25	26 10 am 12 pm	27 10 am 12 pm	28 10 am 12 pm	29 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	30 2 pm
1 2 pm	2	10 am 12 pm	10 am 12 pm	5 10 am 12 pm	6 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	7 2 pm 4 pm



Raes Calvert (as Max) and Linda A. Carson (as Mom/Narrator) in *Where the Wild Things Are*. Photo by Chris van der Schyf and provided courtesy of Presentation House Theatre.



Opening Night



Interpreted performances in American Sign Language

THE REMAINING 2015/2016 SEASON

Following *Where the Wild Things Are*, The Coterie's 2015/2016 Season concludes with the premiere of *Madagascar – A Musical Adventure*, based on the animated hit DreamWorks film, June 14 – August 7, 2016.

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