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NCT ANNOUNCES 2008-2009 SEASON

Bonus Production Available for Full Season Subscribers

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Children's Theatre announces its 2008-09 lineup: *Frankenstein*, *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, *The Giver*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Still Life with Iris* and *The Fisherman and His Wife*.

For the second year, NCT is offering summer weekend shows. The summer performances include an encore presentation of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and *The Fisherman and His Wife*. Full season subscribers will receive free tickets to *The Fisherman and His Wife*.

Frankenstein

Adapted by Nick DiMartino from the book by Mary Shelley

Oct. 10 – Nov. 1, 2008

Ages 10 and up

Born in the mind of Mary Shelley and nurtured in the dark corners of our own deepest dread lurks an unholy abomination – pieced together from the bodies of the dead and forged in the fires of obsession. Alienated, rejected, spurned by his own creator and tormented by the world of men, what can he become but a predator, a walking terror... the monster? NCT's thrilling stage production of the most famous ghost story of all time will startle you with theatrical effects, move you with surprising humanity and scare you when you least expect it.

Charlie and The Chocolate Factory

Adapted from the book by Roald Dahl

Nov. 18, 2008 – Jan. 20, 2009

Enjoyed by all ages

Everything changes for humble Charlie Bucket the day he finds the last Golden Ticket in a Whipple Scrumptious Nutt-a-riffic Totally Twisted Combo Bar and gains full access to an absurd land of fantastic marvels – a tour of the world's most famous Chocolate Factory hosted by Mr. Willy Wonka himself! This new stage version of Roald Dahl's deliciously twisted tale combines stage wizardry, puppetry, hilarity and Oompa Loompas to create a rich, chocolate confection for kids of all ages... and for Charlie Bucket, the adventure of a lifetime!

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The Giver

Adapted by Eric Coble, from the Newbery Award-winning novel by Lois Lowry

Feb. 6 – 21, 2009

Ages 9 and up

“Jonas. You will be trained to be our next Receiver of Memory. Thank you for your childhood.”

At the Ceremony of Twelve, a ritual wherein 12-year-olds are given their life assignments, the Chief Elder charges Jonas with the loneliest and most crucial function in his safe, comfortable, perfect community. He will study at the feet of the mysterious Giver, who will pass on to Jonas – and Jonas alone – the echoes of a world long past. Only Jonas will learn about color, snow and sunshine. He alone will know pain, heartbreak and love, and he alone will stand up to the shocking truth of the community.

Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse

Adapted by Kevin Kling from the book by Kevin Henkes

March 10 – April 9, 2009

June 5 – June 27, 2009 (Summer Performance Programming)

Enjoyed by all ages

Lilly is a mouse who knows what she likes. She likes that she is “Queen of the World,” and she likes the way her red cowboy boots go clickety-click down the hallway. She likes crunchy cheese snacks, and she likes her best friends, Chester and Wilson. She doesn’t like her snooty cousin Garland, but she loves, loves, LOVES the purple plastic purse her grandmother bought her, and the music that plays whenever she opens it. She also loves her teacher, Mr. Slinger, until he takes her purple purse away from her in class. She likes the mean, funny drawing of big, fat Mr. “Stealing” Slinger that she leaves in his book bag – but then she doesn’t like herself very much. As for you, if you love to laugh, you are going to like *Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse* a LOT!

Still Life with Iris

Written by Steven Dietz

April 28 – May 17, 2009

Enjoyed by all ages

As you sleep, the citizens of the Land of Nocturno busily prepare for the next day. Iris, the Finder of Lost Things, lives in this land among the Flower Painters, Bug Sculptors, Thunder Bottlers and Leaf Monitors until one day she is whisked away by the enigmatic Mr. Matternot against her will to the Island of the Greatest Goods. She is placed in their collection of the “Best of the Best Things,” and so that she will not be sad, all of her memories are taken from her except for one. Compelled by that lonely memory – a still-life picture of a table, vase, iris and three chairs – this determined Finder of Lost Things will find herself, her father, and her way back home. Like the play’s heroine, you will never forget the simple beauty of *Still Life With Iris*.

The Fisherman and His Wife

Written by Larry and Vivian Snipes

June 6 – June 27, 2009 (Summer Performance Programming)

Enjoyed by all ages

A delightful, funny and wise folk tale set in the Irish isles. A simple fisherman hooks a talking flounder who grants wishes. Though the contented fisherman wishes for nothing, his wife is quite a different story. She has a wish – and another, then another, then another – until the poor fisherman is returning daily to get more magic fish. With a traditional score by Paul Carroll

Binkley and audience participation, this play is a treat for families. *The Fisherman and His Wife* is part of NCT's Summer Performance Programming and will be presented in NCT's Steine Rehearsal Hall. This production is included in the full season subscription package. Individual tickets will not be sold until Sept. 2.

For more information about tickets or how to become a season subscriber, please visit www.nashvillechildrenstheatre.org, or call (615) 254-9103.

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About Nashville Children's Theatre

Nashville Children's Theatre is an ensemble of professional artists who bring unique vision and compelling voice to the creation of meaningful theater for Nashville and Middle Tennessee audiences. We strive to make the imaginative celebration of our hopes, struggles and joys a vital part of the shared experience for young people, families and our community. NCT was founded in 1931 by the Junior League of Nashville and is recognized as the oldest children's theater in the country. A national leader in professional theater arts and education programs for young people, NCT was ranked by *TIME* magazine as one of the top five children's theaters in the country.