



Contact: Steve Bianchi
Nashville Children's Theatre
(615) 254-9103, ext. 212

Amanda King
McNeely Pigott & Fox
(615) 259-4000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2008

NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRESENTS *THE RELUCTANT DRAGON*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Children's Theatre will present a brand-new production of an old masterpiece – *The Reluctant Dragon*. The production begins April 22 and runs through May 12.

The main character, the dragon, has a delicious wit, discriminating taste, impeccable manners, the grace of a dancer, the ego of an artist and the soul of a poet. Every eight years or so, the dragon, a lonely, loyal boy and an admired, battle-weary old saint return to NCT's stage to meet a new generation of children – and to share with them one perfect moment. The show is appropriate for children ages 5 and up.

The Reluctant Dragon is adapted by Mary Hall Surface from the book by Kenneth Grahame. The cast features Brian Webb Russell as "The Dragon," Peter Vann as "Glaston," and Henry Haggard as "St. George." The cast also includes Evelyn Blythe, Matt Carlton, Jamie Farmer Ebersole, Shawn Knight and Ross Brooks. Scot Copeland, NCT producing director, will direct the production. Copeland and Erica Edmondson will serve as co-scenic designers. Lighting design is by Scott Leathers and costume design is by Patricia Taber.

Weekend performances are scheduled at 2:30 p.m., April 26 and May 3, 4, 10 and 11. School performances run Tuesday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. All performances are open to the public, and reservations are recommended. Individual ticket prices are \$11 per child (ages 2 to 17), \$15 per adult and free for children under 2 years old. Group discounts are also available. A sign-interpreted performance is scheduled for Saturday, May 3.

Target will sponsor a free family reception and hands-on art activities before the show on Saturday, April 26. The event is part of the Target Family Time Series and is nearly sold out. Reservations are required.

For more information, please visit www.nashvillechildrenstheatre.org or call (615) 254-9103.

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 professional 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.

NCT's 2007-08 media sponsors are *The City Paper*, *Comcast Spotlight* and *Nashville Parent*.

###