

MEDIA RELEASE
Contact: Jazmine Hill
jazmine.hill@dct.org
214-978-0110 ext. 152

The logo for Dallas Children's Theater, featuring the text "DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATER" in white, uppercase letters on a red rectangular background.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 10, 2024

**EMBARK ON A MAGICAL JOURNEY THROUGH MULTIPLE WORLDS IN C.S. LEWIS'S
EXCITING TALE WHERE MAGIC, ADVENTURE, AND DESTINY COLLIDE**

(DALLAS, TX) - Dive into the captivating prequel of the cherished Narnia saga as C.S. Lewis's timeless masterpiece *The Magician's Nephew* comes to life on stage at Dallas Children's Theater (DCT) this spring. This enchanting adaptation offers audiences a glimpse into the magical origins of Narnia where the fates of destiny intertwine between good and evil.

Set in multiple worlds full of wonder and mystery, *The Magician's Nephew* follows the adventures of young Digory and Polly as they embark on a journey that goes beyond their imagination. After stumbling upon eccentric Uncle Andrew's secret attic, they find magical rings that unlock portals to other worlds, including the enchanting land of Narnia itself. Audiences will see this enchanting and adventure-filled production performing at DCT from April 27 through May 25, 2024.

As the story unfolds, audiences will witness the creation of Narnia and the emergence of iconic characters such as the wise and noble lion, Aslan. "While, perhaps, not as well-known as *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, this prequel has much to offer to our youth & family audiences. Full of heart, this beginning to *The Chronicles of Narnia* focuses on one boy's steadfast love for his Mother and his pursuit to save her. We are at once swept up into a world of magic that tests the courage and character of our hero. And, as a consequence of his choices, Narnia is born! It is a narrative of impactful and theatrical storytelling that is sure to challenge, excite, and delight our audience!" says Artie Olaisen, Dallas Children's Theater's Associate Artistic Director. "This show is filled with inspiring lessons of courage, loyalty, and above all the enduring power of hope."

This tale highlights valuable lessons to children about the consequences of giving into temptation, the power of friendship, and the importance of making courageous choices to help those we love. Throughout the adventures of Digory and Polly, audiences learn the significance of standing up for what is right and the power of empathy. The story also encourages everyone to explore one's curiosity while also cautioning them about the dangers of an unchecked ambition. Ultimately, every action, no matter how small, has the potential to shape the course of destiny.

Returning to the Dallas Children's Theater stage, Leslie Collins brings her talent and charm to the role of prim & proper Aunt Letty, showcasing her versatility as an actor. Audiences may remember Leslie from her portrayal of fun-loving Piggie in DCT's recent production of Mo Willems' *Elephant and Piggie's "We Are In A Play!"*. Joining her as Polly and Digory are Lily Gast and Carson Wright, who captivated audiences earlier this season in *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. The entire cast's immense talent and dedication to their craft promise to elevate this enchanting Narnia prequel, making this production of *The Magician's Nephew* a highly-anticipated, must-see event for DCT families.

Tickets for C.S. Lewis's *The Magician's Nephew* is available online at www.dct.org/plays or by calling the Box Office at 214-740-0051.

C.S. Lewis'

THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW

Dramatized by Aurand Harris

Adapted from the story by C.S. Lewis

Directed by Artie Olaisen

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

Recommended for ages 7 and up

Cast

Uncle Andrew - Nicholas Moore*

Digory Kirke - Carson Wright*

Aunt Letty - Leslie Collins*

Polly Plummer - Lily Gast*

Queen Jadis - Madeleine Norton*

Mable Kirke/Ensemble - Katie Otten

Aslan (Lion) - Jonah Munroe*

Narnian Bird/Ensemble/Dance Captain - Gena Loe

Narnian Monkey/Ensemble - Ryan Ramirez

Narnian Skunk/Ensemble - Gerald Taylor II

Narnian Bear/Ensemble - Maximilian Swenson

Narnian Stag/ Ensemble - Rai Barnard

Understudies - Gerald Taylor II , Ania Lyons

*Denotes member of Actors Equity Association

Production Team

Director- Artie Olaisen

Movement Director- Ania Lyons

Scenic/Video Designer- Jeff Franks*

Lighting Designer- Aaron Johansen

Props Designer- Sally Fiorello

Sound Designer- Marco Salinas

Costume Designer- Lyle Huchton

Stage Manager- Leah Fitzgerald*

Asst. Stage Manager- Becca Bongiorno*

Performance Dates and Times

Saturday, April 27, 1:30 PM - Public Opening

Sunday, April 28, 1:30 PM

Sunday, April 28, 4:30 PM

Saturday, May 4, 1:30 PM (Sensory-Friendly Performance)

Saturday, May 4, 4:30 PM

Sunday, May 5, 1:30 PM (ASL Performance)

Saturday, May 11, 1:30 PM

Saturday, May 11, 4:30 PM

Sunday, May 12, 1:30 PM

Saturday, May 18, 1:30 PM

Sunday, May 19, 1:30 PM

Sunday, May 19, 4:30 PM

Saturday, May 25, 1:30 PM - Public Closing

Title Sponsor: TXU Energy. **2023-2024 Season Sponsors are:** Texas Instruments, City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, March Family Foundation, The Carlson Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The M.R. & Evelyn Hudson Foundation, The Theodore and Beulah Beasley Foundation, Inc., The Rosewood Corporation, The Melinda and Jim Johnson Family.

General Sponsors Include: The Hearst Foundations, The Holloway Family Foundation, Sharron Hunt, Lara and Stephen Harrison, TACA, Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation, TXU Energy, The Rocky Howard Family, Texas Travel Industry Recovery Program. **Additional**

Support is Provided By: Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District, Capital for Kids, Joan Becker, Texas Commission on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts, Stephen M. Seay Foundation, Margot B. Perot, The Eugene McDermott Foundation, Ellen and Jim Markus, Central Market, Laurie Sands Harrison, Lisa K. Simmons, Green Mountain Energy DCT's official renewable energy partner. **Sensory-Friendly Sponsors Include:** Fichtenbaum Charitable Trust. **Building Fund Supported By:** The Carlson Foundation, The March Family Foundation, Laurie Sands Harrison, The Rosewood Corporation, Anonymous Family, Elizabeth & Bart Showalter, Karen & Ken Travis, The Hersh Foundation, Everett & Becky Spaeth.

Dallas Children's Theater
Rosewood Center for the Family Arts
5938 Skillman Street
Dallas, Texas 75231

About Dallas Children's Theater

Dallas Children's Theater features professional actors performing for an annual audience of 150,000 young people and their families through mainstage productions and an arts-in-education program. As the only major organization in Dallas focusing solely on youth and family theater, DCT builds bridges of understanding between generations and cultures, instilling an early appreciation of literature, art, and the performing arts in tomorrow's artists and patrons.

###