

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Charlotte's Web, a play based on the book by E.B. White, will be performed at

_____ on _____ at
_____ o'clock, under the auspices of _____.

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E.B. White's loving story of the friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a little gray spider named Charlotte comes to life in *Charlotte's Web*. Wilbur has a problem: how to avoid winding up in the slaughterhouse. Enter Charlotte, a fine writer and a true friend, who assures Wilbur she will save him. Charlotte hits on a plan to fool Farmer Zuckerman – she will create a “miracle”. Spinning the words “Some Pig” in her web, Charlotte weaves a solution which not only makes Wilbur a prize pig, but ensures his place on the farm forever.

This treasured tale, featuring mad-cap and endearing farm animals, explores bravery, selfless love, and the true meaning of friendship.

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Charlotte's Web is a play by **Joseph Robinette** based on the Newbery Medal-winning book by **E.B. White** (*Stuart Little*, *Trumpet of the Swan*). The production is directed by **Rob Barron** (current Theatreworks USA productions of *Romeo & Juliet*, *Ferdinand the Bull*, *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*, among others) and the incidental music score is by **Jeffrey Lunden** (Winner of the Lortel Award, Rodgers Award, and Jonathan Larson Award, and composer of Theatreworks USA productions of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Little Prince*, *The Great Railroad Race*). The scenic design is by **James D. Sandefur**, and the costumes are by **Anne-Marie Wright**. This 60-minute play is recommended for audiences age 5 and up.

(MORE...)

Charlotte's Web began its national tour in fall 1993, and has been one of Theatreworks USA's most popular productions ever since. *Charlotte's Web* is able, as are all Theatreworks USA productions, to play a wide range of venues, from large Broadway-sized performing arts centers in major metropolitan areas to elementary school cafeterias in small towns.

The six actors and stage manager in *Charlotte's Web* rehearsed for two weeks in New York City with the director. Once the tour begins, the actors and stage manager typically arrive at the performance venue early in the morning to set up the scenery and to prepare for the performance. Following the show, they pack the set, costumes, and sound equipment into two large vans, and drive to the next city, sleep in a hotel, and begin the whole ritual again the following day.

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Theatreworks USA has a distinguished history of not only providing young audiences with their first taste of the performing arts, but also giving young actors, writers, directors, and designers an early opportunity to work in this field. A list of Theatreworks USA alumni reads like a veritable "who's who" of theatre: four-time Tony-winning director Jerry Zaks, Robert Jess Roth (*Beauty and the Beast*), Michael Mayer (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*); writers Marta Kauffman and David Crane (TV's "Friends"), Lynn Ahrens and Steven Flaherty (*Ragtime, Once on This Island*), Jason Robert Brown (*Parade*), Larry O'Keefe (*Bat Boy*), Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx (*Avenue Q*); and Tony-winning actors John Lloyd Young, Roger Bart, Chuck Cooper, and John Glover. Esteemed performers F. Murray Abraham, Henry Winkler, and Judy Kuhn also got their start with Theatreworks, and other actors have gone on to originate lead roles in such Broadway shows as *Avenue Q, Hairspray, Young Frankenstein, Rent, Wicked, Jersey Boys*, and many others. The actors, writers, director, choreographer, and designers of *Charlotte's Web* may also go on to similar success in musical theatre.

Theatreworks USA is America's largest and most prolific professional not-for-profit theatre for young and family audiences. Since 1961, Theatreworks USA has enlightened, entertained, and instructed over 68 million people in 49 states and Canada, now performing for about four million people annually. Every year, the company tours approximately 16 shows from its ever-growing repertoire of 110 plays and musicals. In addition, Theatreworks USA also has an extensive multi-cultural guest artist roster, including storytellers, puppeteers, poets, and magicians. Under the direction of Barbara Pasternack (Artistic Director) and Ken Arthur (Managing Director), Theatreworks USA is also one of the most honored theatres of its kind. It is the only children's theatre to receive both a Drama Desk and a Lucille Lortel Award. In addition, Theatreworks USA was the recipient of a 2001 Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award, and in May 2000, The Actors Fund of America bestowed its Medal of Honor upon its founders, Jay Harnick and Charles Hull

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