



Theatreworks USA | 151 West 26th Street, New York, NY 10001 | 212.647.1100 ph | 212.924.5377 fax | www.twusa.org

THE MIDNIGHT RIDE OF PAUL REVERE

The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, Theatreworks USA's musical inspired by the life and activities of a true hero of the American Revolution, will be performed at

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

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In Boston, a simple artisan named Paul Revere etches out a humble living as a silversmith. Americans and British alike hail the exquisite artistry of his work. But when Paul's revolutionary friends, John Hancock and Samuel Adams pressure Revere to take a stand against British tyranny and join the Sons of Liberty, he hesitates—supporting the American cause would mean losing valuable business from his British customers and risking the safety of his family. Revere must make a choice: to do what is easy, or to do what is right.

From the halls of British Parliament, to the port of Boston and the "Tea Party" protest, to the Boston Massacre to the dangerous thrill of Revere's now-legendary ride warning people of the coming British invasion, this new musical makes American history accessible and exciting through a unique combination of music, drama and humor. Theatreworks USA's *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* tells the inspirational, universal story of how ordinary people can make a difference.

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The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere was written by **Ben H. Winters** (book and lyrics) and **Stephen Sislen**, who collaborated on the Off-Broadway musical *Slut*. The production is directed by **Jeremy Dobrish** (*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare -- Abridged*) and choreographed by **Dan Knetchtges** (*25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* on Broadway). Scenic design is by **Lauren Helpert** (*Bug* Off-Broadway) and costume design is by **Lora LaVon** (Theatreworks USA's *Junie B. Jones*). This 60-minute musical is recommended for audiences age 7 and up.

(MORE...)

After a brief New York City-area tour in spring 2006, *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* began its national tour in September 2006. *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* 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 touring with *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* rehearsed for two weeks in New York City with the director and choreographer. 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 *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* 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 72 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 115 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