



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

MAX & RUBY

Max & Ruby, a new musical based on the series of books by Rosemary Wells and the popular television program on Nick Jr. and Noggin, will be performed at

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

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Rosemary Wells' beloved bunny siblings Max and Ruby come to life on stage in a fun-filled musical production for the whole family. Seven-year-old Ruby and her little brother Max want to put on a play for Grandma. But, as is typical with the mischievous Max and his older sister, Ruby, some comedic hurdles arise along the way, and Ruby needs to call on her Bunny Scout friends to help them try to finish the play on time.

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Max & Ruby is a musical with music and lyrics by **Carol Hall** ("Sesame Street," *Free to Be... You and Me*, and the award-winning Broadway musical *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*) and book by **Glen Berger** (Off-Broadway hit *Underneath the Lintel*). The show is based on the series of books by **Rosemary Wells** and the top-rated television program produced by Nelvana Studios and Silver Lining Productions, as seen on Nick Jr. and Noggin. The production is directed by **Randy White** with choreography by **Tracy Bersley**. The scenic design is by **Louisa Thompson**, and the costumes are by **Junghyun Georgia Lee**. This 60-minute musical is recommended for audiences age 3 and up.

After a brief New York City-area tour in spring 2007, two companies of *Max & Ruby* began their national tours in fall 2007. The show will premiere at Off-Broadway's Lucille Lortel Theatre in December 2007. *Max & Ruby* 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.

(More...)

The six actors and stage manager touring with *Max & Ruby* 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 *Max & Ruby* 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 American bestowed its Medal of Honor upon its founders, Jay Harnick and Charles Hull