



**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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

IF YOU GIVE A PIG A PANCAKE & OTHER STORY BOOKS

If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Story Books, a musical revue based on popular children's literature, will be performed at _____ on _____ at _____ o'clock under the auspices of _____.

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Seven delightful stories come to life in Theatreworks USA's musical revue *If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Story Books*. Performed by a multi-talented cast, the stories represent various issues, themes and ideas relevant to a broad and diverse audience of children. Books featured in the show include:

- **DIARY OF A WORM** It's great to be a worm, but a wormy life also has its difficulties (like wiggling across a playground as human kids jump rope). Follow a worm's adventures as he writes about them all in his diary. (Adapted by Robert Lopez & Kristen Anderson-Lopez, based on the book by Doreen Cronin and Harry Bliss)
- **FLUFFY THE CLASSROOM GUINEA PIG** When Fluffy enters a Best Pets Contest, a pesky flea threatens to derail the entire competition. (Adapted by Steven Lutvak & Robert L. Freedman, based on the book *Fluffy's Silly Summer* by Kate McMullan.)
- **HORACE & MORRIS BUT MOSTLY DOLORES** Three mice promise to be best friends forever. But when Horace and Morris join the Mega-Mice club (for boys only!), and Dolores becomes a Cheese Puff (for girls only!), what will happen to their friendship? (Adapted by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, based on the book by James Howe, Illustrated by Amy Walrod.)
- **HOW I BECAME A PIRATE** Young Jeremy Jacob would love to sail away and be a pirate no vegetables, no manners, no bedtime, and no rules at all! But he soon discovers that there's really no place like home. (Adapted by Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin, based on the book by Melinda Long, illustrations by David Shannon.)
- **IF YOU GIVE A PIG A PANCAKE** A bossy little pig's demands frazzle a little girl in this hilarious lesson about cause-and-effect. (Adapted by Anthony King & Scott Brown, based on the book by Laura Numeroff, illustrations by Felicia Bond.)
- **LILLY'S BIG DAY** Lilly's teacher is getting married, and she just knows she'll be a great flower girl, despite the fact that Mr. Slinger has already asked his niece to be the flower girl. When she suffers a bout of stage fright, it's up to Lilly to save the day! (Adapted by Kevin Del Aguila & Brad Alexander, based on the book by Kevin Henkes.)
- **THE PAPER BAG PRINCESS** When a ferocious dragon smashes Princess Elizabeth's castle, burns all her fancy clothes, and kidnaps her beloved prince, she dons a paper bag and comes to the rescue. (Adapted by David Kirshenbaum, based on the book by Robert Munsch.)

(MORE...)

If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Story Books was directed by Kevin Del Aguila, with choreography by Devanand Janki. Scenery and props were designed by Vaughn Patterson, and costumes were created by Anne-Marie Wright. This 60-minute musical is recommended for ages 4 and up.

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After a brief New York City-area tour in spring 2008, *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* launched two national tours in fall 2008. *If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Story Books* 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 *If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Story Books* 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.

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 *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* 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 116 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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