

# NWCT Newsletter

February 2006



Frog (Leif Norby, on back of sled) and Toad (John Monteverde) enjoy winter time fun.

## BEHIND THE SCENES

Art does imitate life. In the case of *A Year with Frog & Toad*, a real-life friendship is reflected on stage. The show's two stars, Portland musical theater favorite Leif Norby, who plays Frog, and NWCT Artistic Director John Monteverde, who plays Toad, have been good friends for many years.

True, Leif isn't green, but reflecting on the upcoming production, he says, "I can't think of two guys better suited to play Frog and Toad, although for John to play the grumpy one and me to play the cheery one is something of a 'leap' from reality!"

John (who points out that you don't get warts from toads) says he is thrilled to be sharing the stage with his best bud. "I'm grateful for all Leif's support—vocally and otherwise," John says.

Don't miss this great show for kids of all ages. Performances run Feb. 3-26. [Click here](#) for tickets.

## REACHING FOR THE STARS

NWCT's mission includes bringing the joy of theater to children in their own schools and neighborhoods.

Outreach Coordinator Sarah Jane Hardy and her staff touch the lives of nearly 5,000 children a year—including special needs, talented and gifted, bilingual, and at-risk youth.

This winter, we have 10 teachers in 30 classes in 16 schools. Here are some highlights:

- We are working with a group of TAG students at Deep Creek Elementary School in Boring, developing a performance in support of their schools Life Skills curriculum.
- Teacher Tiffany Morris is working on script and performance development at Harriet Tubman Middle School in NorthPortland. Their theme is "Youth and Justice: Hope and the Power to Change."
- We are consulting at The Delphian School in Sheridan as they work towards a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the spring.
- We are delighted to be back at Shaver Elementary in Parkrose, where teacher Jenne Fenniman is directing "The Little Mermaid."

Outreach is funded in part by a generous grant from The Spirit Mountain Community Fund. For more information, [click here](#) to contact Sarah Jane.

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 3-26 *A Year with Frog & Toad*
- 4 Grandparents' Day
- 10 Family Date Night
- 17, 24 Girl Scout & Brownie Workshop

## BUY TICKETS NOW

[Click here](#) to buy your tickets now for Roaring '20s Razzmatazz, NWCT's annual fundraising auction.



## BUILDING PURCHASE UPDATE

We are very grateful to all who cast votes on Jan. 10 to help us buy our building. Although approval of the sale to NWCT received a simple majority of votes cast, it did not receive a 2/3 majority of members present and thus was voted down. The Northwest District Association (NWDA) campaigned amongst their membership to stop the sale, and we lost our dream by only 22 votes.

NWCT is currently working with the building's board and members of NWDA to see if we can agree on terms that will satisfy everyone. We are hopeful that another vote will be forthcoming. If you live or work in any of the 10 neighborhoods under the umbrella of Neighbors West NW, you are eligible to become a member of the building and vote on the sale. Please contact us for more information.

Parents, teachers and children came to a media event on Jan. 7 and surrounded the building in support of the sale. KOIN TV ran the story on the 11 o'clock news and also ran a PSA in support of the sale. Many parents went door-to-door in their neighborhoods to recruit members or made phone calls. With this kind of support from our community, the next time there is a vote, we will win!

This newsletter is a monthly online publication of Northwest Children's Theater and School, ©2006. Writer/editor: Gay Monteverde, Design: Sucha Production, Inc., Photography: Annaliese Moyer, Jared Holmgren. [Click here](#) to send us your feedback, article suggestions, calendar items or mailing list changes.

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**Our mission: to educate,  
entertain and enrich the lives  
of young audiences**