



John Ellingson (Gandalf) in NWCT's production of *The Hobbit*.

THE HOBBIT

Between the dawn of Faerie and the Dominion of Men, this unlikely hero's journey is full of magic and mystery! Travel there and back again with Bilbo Baggins and Gandalf the Grey in this epic adventure to reclaim a stolen treasure from a fearsome dragon. Most enjoyed by ages 6 and up. *The Hobbit* is adapted by Patricia Gray and based on the book by J.R.R. Tolkien and runs May 1-24, 2009, Fri. at 7 p.m., Sat. at 2 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. [Click here](#) for tickets.

SPEND THE SUMMER AT NWCT

NWCT camps are a fun way to spend those dog-days of summer! Theater camps start June 15 and run until September 4. Choose from one- to two-week camps for kids ages 4½-18, starting at just \$135 for a week. For camp dates and descriptions, download a [schedule](#) and [registration form](#). Wondering which classes are still available? Call 503-222-4480 to speak with one of our friendly office staff.

SEASON AUDITIONS

NWCT will hold open auditions for youth and adult performers for the 2009-10 season of plays on June 10-13. Visit the [NWCT audition page](#) for Frequently Asked Questions, including resources for finding monologues and songs. Available mid-May, download a [Season Audition Packet](#) for information on how to sign up, how to prepare, and what to expect at an NWCT audition. The site will also have information on each title in the 2009-2010 mainstage season, as well as NWCT's audition-only advanced training programs.

2009-2010 SEASON

Tickets for the 2009-2010 season of plays will be on sale to the public beginning mid-May!

We realize you have a choice when it comes to your arts and entertainment dollars. That's why NWCT works so hard to keep our shows affordable. With tickets starting at just \$13, well-priced concessions and free parking, bringing a family to NWCT costs less than seeing a movie! And becoming an NWCT member saves another 10-20%. Visit www.nwcts.org to learn more about NWCT membership levels and benefits.

MAY CALENDAR

	<i>The Hobbit:</i>
1-24	Mainstage
2	Grandparents' Day
8	Family Date Night
15, 22	Scout Nights
17	Oaks Park 2 & 3 pm— Kid's Co. NW
19-20	Interns NW Showcase
26-27	Spring playlabs and demos
29-30	Make a Rock Musical!— Teens NW

A "POSITIVELY DIFFERENT" SPONSOR

If you've been to an NWCT show, chances are you've heard the phrase "Positively Different" during curtain speeches. And while NWCT prides itself on being unique, "Positively Different" is actually the memorable tagline of The Standard, one of NWCT's season sponsors. "Arts and cultural organizations play a major role in thriving, vibrant communities," says Bob Speltz, Director of Public Affairs for The Standard. "We support programs that build audiences and promote the arts through education and sustainable artistic excellence. NWCT's programming aligns with our community investment priorities."

NWCT sponsorship also fills a need for companies like The Standard, whose noteworthy commitment to employees extends beyond the typical benefits package. The Standard offers its employees tickets to NWCT shows, discounts on classes, and invitations to special events. When asked what he hears from employees who visit NWCT, Bob answers, "For us, it's all about sharing the productions with as many of our employees and their children as possible. When it's time to draw tickets for the next production, the demand is through the roof. NWCT plays are one of the most popular opportunities we offer."

The Standard reports through its website that even in this climate, the company is in good health. So are we saying that an NWCT sponsorship is the key to economic recovery? Well, we won't go that far. (But we're willing for other companies in Portland to give it a try.) We do, however, offer our most sincere thanks to everyone at The Standard for their valued support. We at NWCT look forward to continuing our partnership into the future with this company, one that is positively different in wonderful ways, especially in setting 'the standard' for arts support in Portland.

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