

Press Release: February 25, 2020

ELEPHANT & PIGGIE'S

We are in a Play!

Written by Mo Willems, Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma

Northwest Children's Theater Brings *Elephant & Piggie* to Bag & Baggage's Vault Theater in Hillsboro!

The Beloved Play Tours Throughout Oregon this Spring



1819 NW Everett Street
Suite 216
Portland, OR 97209-2189

Phone: 503-222-2190
Fax: 503-222-4130
nwcts.org

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

Managing Director
Judy Kafoury

Artistic Director
Sarah Jane Hardy

Associate Artistic Director
John Ellingson

**Donor & Patron
Relations Director**
Nick Fenster

Education Director
Leigh Mallonee

Release Date
February 25, 2020

End Date
April 5, 2020

Media Contact
To set up interviews
or discuss other
possibilities for stories,
please contact:

Rachael Brown
NWCT Marketing Manager
rachael@nwcts.org

If you have kids, chances are you've read Mo Willems' *Elephant & Piggie* books. NWCT Artistic Director Sarah Jane Hardy brings the world of *Elephant & Piggie* to life in this upbeat musical that weaves through eight of his most popular books, including *Elephants Cannot Dance*, *I Love My New Toy*, and *Should I Share My Ice Cream?* The tour is modeled on NWCT's 2018 production, which enjoyed sold-out houses and rave reviews.

Perfect for first-time theatergoers, *Elephant & Piggie's We are in a Play!* explores the ups and downs of friendship through the eyes of "bestus friends" Gerald the Elephant and Piggie (portrayed by John Ellingson and Ashley Coates, both returning from last year's production at the Oregon Zoo). Together, they tackle friendship's big questions: What DO you wear to a fancy party? What happens when two friends want to play with ONE toy? And will ANYONE say "Banana?" Dog, Penguin, and the Squirrelles (portrayed by NWCT's youth performers) join in on the fun.

Elephant & Piggie kicks off its tour in Portland on the NWCT Mainstage in March, before travelling to theaters in Hillsboro and Sherwood in April; and Salem and Gresham in May.

"We are really excited to embark on our first-ever multiple-city tour, bringing the magic of live theater to new communities and audiences!" exclaims Hardy. "This is a wonderful activity for families to do together—all of our shows have something special in them for the parents as well. Plus, there is nothing like seeing a child's face light up as they see their favorite characters come to life on stage."

The Vault Theatre in Hillsboro is an intimate venue where kids and families will feel like they are part of the action. Following each public show, audience members will also get the opportunity to meet the cast, take photos with the characters, and collect autographs in their playbills.

In addition to weekend public shows, more than 400 students from the Hillsboro area will catch *Elephant & Piggie* on stage during four week-day, school matinee performances. These shows conclude with a talk-back led by a cast member. Students in the audience can ask questions to learn more about the story, actors, and creative process, and even get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of theater tricks and special effects.

Elephant & Piggie's We are in a Play! is produced in part through the support of the Oregon Cultural Trust; Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt; and NWCT's donor families.

5 - CITY TOUR

PORTLAND
HILLSBORO
SHERWOOD
SALEM
GRESHAM

Visit NWCTS.ORG
for Other
Tour
Show Times

SHOW TIMES:

APRIL 4 & 5
11 am & 2 pm

VENUE:



THE VAULT
THEATER & EVENT SPACE
350 E Main Street,
Hillsboro, OR 97123

TICKETS & INFO:

503-222-2190
NWCTS.ORG

Northwest Children's Theater and School
has touched the lives of more than 1 million children and adults
in their 27-year history, through award-winning shows for the whole family,
and theater education for youth.