



Press Release: June 27, 2023

# THE STINKY CHEESE MAN *and* FAIRLY STUPID TALES

1000 SW Broadway  
T-100  
Portland, OR 97205

Written by John Glore

Based on the Caldecott Honor book by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith

Phone: 503-222-2190  
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nwcts.org

## Northwest Children's Theater alumni return to Portland to perform at The Judy Kafoury Center for Youth Arts!

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

**Founding Executive Director**  
Judy Kafoury

**Managing Director**  
Nick Fenster

**Artistic Director**  
Sarah Jane Hardy

What happens when The Ugly Duckling grows up to be a REALLY Ugly Duck? Will the wolf EVER catch up to Little Red Running Shorts? And does ANYONE catch the Stinky Cheese Man (and do they want to!?) These questions and more will be answered at Northwest Children's Theater's upcoming Mainstage performance, *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*. The show is presented on The Schnitzer Stage at The Judy, NWCT's new home in downtown Portland, July 22 through August 6, 2023.

NWCT alumni are returning to Portland from across the country to work on stage and behind the scenes on *The Stinky Cheese Man* - including Derek R. Herman, who is flying in from New York City to direct the show. Returning to work with NWCT over the summer was a no-brainer for him. "My dream has always been to return to NWCT at some point in my life," he says.

Herman recently received a master's in Theater Education from NYU. While he was there, he reflected heavily on his time as a young actor at NWCT. "My experience at NWCT is at the core of everything I do. NWCT entrusts young people and pushes them to be their best selves," he expresses. "The place that gave me my start as a professional actor is now giving me my start as a Theater for Young Audiences professional; it's a full-circle moment."

Herman's vision for *The Stinky Cheese Man* centers around Jack (of beanstalk fame) who has

created a play with a troupe of actors ...but things don't go quite the way they planned. The result? A marvelous mixup of very cheesy stories! The script is based on the 1993 Caldecott Honor book of the same name and features a cast of colorful characters and zany musical numbers. Parents may remember the hilarious parodies from the book that flips classic fairy tales on their head - Cinderella snubs Rumpelstiltskin, frogs trick princesses into kissing them with no magical outcome, and tortoises race "hairs" with no end in sight. Now they can see these irreverent tales come to life on stage, and share them with their kids! But they should be warned: This play is *incredibly* stupid. Tickets are on sale now.

NWCT offers a sensory friendly performance of *The Stinky Cheese Man* at The Judy, free of charge. Featuring shorter run times, reduced or removed lighting and sound cues, and the constant presence of house lights, these performances are specially designed for children on the autism spectrum or with other sensory sensitivities.

*The Stinky Cheese Man* is produced in part through the support of the Regional Arts and Culture Council, Kafoury McDougal: Lawyers for the People, the Oregon Arts Commission, the Oregon Cultural Trust, Pacific Office Automation, and NWCT's donor families; plus media sponsor PDX Parent.

*Please see next page for at-a-glance show info*

**Release Date**

June 27, 2023

**End Date**

August 6, 2023

**Media Contact**

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

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## At-a-Glance Show Information

VENUE >> NWCT's NEW HOME:

### THE JUDY

The Judy Kafoury Center for Youth Arts  
1000 SW Broadway, Suite T-100  
Portland, OR 97205

**JULY 22 - AUGUST 6, 2023**

**Saturdays & Sundays**

**11am & 2pm**



**ASL INTERPRETED SHOW**

July 23 at 11am



**MASK REQUIRED SHOW**

July 29 at 11am



**SENSORY FRIENDLY SHOW**

July 30 at 11am



**AUDIO DESCRIBED SHOW**

August 5 at 2pm

Most enjoyed by ages 5 and up

**TICKETS \$25-\$35**

**\$5 Arts for All tickets are available for  
Oregon Trail/SNAP Card holders  
NWCTS.ORG • 503-222-2190**

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