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1000 SW Broadway
T-100
Portland, OR 97205

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

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

Press Release: February 13, 2025

Pete^{the} Cat

a LIVE rock musical

Script & lyrics by Sarah Hammond, music by Will Aronson
Based on the "Pete the Cat" series of books by Kimberly and James Dean

Northwest Children's Theater Presents the Lively Rock Musical, "Pete the Cat"

Get ready for a rockin' good time as Northwest Children's Theater (NWCT) brings *Pete the Cat*, the vibrant and hilarious musical, to life at The Judy in downtown Portland. Running from March 15 through April 13, this exciting production will have audiences of all ages singing, laughing, and tapping their feet to the beat.

Based on the beloved "Pete the Cat" book series, this musical adaptation celebrates the playful energy, creativity, and cool attitude of the ever-chill cat, Pete, as well as his best buddy, Jimmy. As Pete helps Jimmy embrace the power of imagination, families will be treated to a joyful, visually stunning experience that highlights the whimsical world of *Pete the Cat*.

NWCT's Artistic Director Sarah Jane Hardy directs the show and embraces the challenge of creating a production that feels authentic to both the original book series as well as to the creative team. "The books are visually creative and stimulating, and that's something we're really emphasizing in this production," says Hardy. "It's a rock musical, and the music and the visuals work together to create a truly immersive experience for kids and their families."

The musical follows the story of Pete as he moves in with the Biddle family and befriends young Jimmy, a very organized second grader who struggles with creativity. When Jimmy hits a block in art class, Pete takes him on a fun, imaginative adventure to find inspiration,

teaching him valuable lessons about friendship and embracing the unexpected, all while singing catchy songs and rocking out with a laid-back attitude.

Starring in the title role is Henry Martin, who appeared in his first NWCT Mainstage show at 10 years old. Since then, Martin has had several standout roles, including the Bunny in *Goodnight Moon* and Huckle Cat in *Busytown*. "This will be my first time performing as an adult actor on the Mainstage," says Martin. "It's a full-circle moment for me because my very first role here was Alexander in *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. Now, I'm playing Pete—another iconic title character. I'm excited to be back on the Mainstage in such a fun show."

Families can expect a joyful and lively theater experience, filled with catchy tunes, humor, and heart as they watch Pete and Jimmy's journey through imagination, self-discovery, and friendship unfold on stage. "This show is hilarious, and it's a great opportunity for families to come together, have fun, and laugh," adds Hardy.

Pete the Cat is presented on The Schnitzer Stage at The Judy in downtown Portland. Performances run March 15-April 13 on Saturdays and Sundays at 11am and 2pm.

Special weekday performances will take place during Spring Break on Monday, March 24;

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Release Date
February 13, 2025

End Date
April 13, 2025

Media Contact
To set up interviews or discuss other possibilities for stories, please contact:
Ashley Coates
NWCT Marketing Support
ashley@nwcts.org



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Tuesday, March 25; and Friday, March 28 at 11am
and 2pm.

An ASL-interpreted performance will be held on
Saturday, March 22 at 11am.

NWCT offers a sensory friendly performance
of *Pete the Cat* on Sunday, March 23 at 2pm.
Tickets to this performance are pay-what-you-
will starting at \$5. 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.

In addition to weekend public shows, around
2,500 students from 40 different schools will
catch *Pete the Cat* on stage during 10 weekday
school matinee performances.

Pete the Cat is produced in part through the
support of the Oregon Arts Commission, Kafoury
McDougal: Lawyers for the People, and NWCT's
donor families; plus media sponsors PDX Parent
and NW Kids.


VENUE >> NWCT's HOME:





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

March 15-April 13, 2025
Saturdays & Sundays
11 am & 2 pm

Most enjoyed by ages 4 and up

 **ASL INTERPRETED SHOW**
March 22 at 11 am

 **SENSORY FRIENDLY SHOW**
March 23 at 2pm

 **SPRING BREAK SHOWS**
11AM & 2PM

Monday, March 24
Tuesday, March 25
Friday, March 28

TICKETS \$25-\$35
NWCTS.ORG • 503-222-2190

**\$5 Arts for All tickets are available for
Oregon Trail/SNAP Card holders. Please
[see nwcts.org/faqs](http://nwcts.org/faqs) for details.**

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