

1000 SW Broadway
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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

Release Date
January 6, 2026

End Date
February 12, 2026

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

**Ashley Coates
NWCT Marketing
Support**
ashley@nwcts.org

Press Release: January 6, 2026

ELEPHANT & PIGGIE'S

We are in a Play!

Based on the Elephant & Piggie books by Mo Willems

Published by Hyperion Books for Children

Script and Lyrics by Mo Willems

Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma

Northwest Children's Theater Brings Elephant & Piggie Student Matinees to Portland's Newmark Theatre in February 2026



The pilot partnership
aims to
fill a student matinee
programming gap
at Portland's

PORLAND, Ore. — Northwest Children's Theater (NWCT) will bring its most popular production of all time, *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are In a Play!"*, to the Newmark Theatre for a special series of six student matinees, running February 10–12, 2026.

Directed by Sarah Jane Hardy, this school-matinee-only run responds to a significant programming gap at Portland's Centers for the Arts. For the 2025–26 season, student matinee programming is down significantly, especially in the Newmark Theatre. Meanwhile, school demand for field trips far exceeded what NWCT had scheduled at The Judy.

To meet this need, NWCT and Portland's are teaming up to bring *Elephant & Piggie's* joyful musical adventure right across the street to the Newmark Theatre. This limited engagement will serve more than 5,400 students in just one week, demonstrating how local arts organizations can collaborate to expand access, better serve the community, and bring thousands of people to downtown Portland.

"This pilot program is an important step toward addressing the overwhelming demand for school field trips in Portland," says NWCT

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Managing Director
Nick Fenster. "This
pilot partnership
with Portland's
allows us to bring
high-quality theater
to many more
students than we'd
be able to serve at
The Judy alone."

"Portland's is happy
to support NWCT at
the Newmark this
year," says Portland's
Executive Director
Rachael Lembo. "Introducing young people
to the performing arts is a transformative
experience and can start a life-long love of the
arts."

Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!" is
presented in the Newmark Theatre at Portland's
Centers for the Arts in downtown Portland, right
across the street from Northwest Children's
Theater's home, The Judy. Performances run
February 10-12, 2026 with two showtimes each
day: 9:30am and 11:45am.

Tickets are selling quickly, but there is still
select availability. Schools may reserve seats
now at:

nwcts.org/ep-field-trips



SCHOOL MATINEE VENUE:



PORTLAND'S
NEWMARK
THEATRE

1111 SW Broadway
Portland, OR 97205

February 10-12, 2026
Saturdays & Sundays
9:30 am & 11:45 am

Most enjoyed by ages 3 and up

TICKETS \$14 per ticket for students,
teachers, and chaperones.
We offer half-price tickets to
Title 1 schools.

[NWCTS.ORG](http://nwcts.org) • 503-222-2190

Please see nwcts.org/ep-field-trips
for details.

Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!" 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.

This play was commissioned by and first produced at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com.