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Portland, OR 97205

Phone: 503-222-2190
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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
December 16, 2025

End Date
February 15, 2026

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

Ashley Coates
NWCT Marketing
Support
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Press Release: December 16, 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

Back by Popular Demand, Northwest Children's Theater Presents "Pete the Cat", a Live Rock Musical!

Get ready for a rockin' good time as Northwest Children's Theater (NWCT) brings back its wildly popular live rock musical, *Pete the Cat*, for a brand-new run at The Judy in downtown Portland. Running from January 31 through February 15, 2026 this encore production follows last year's near sell-out success and features the original cast returning to the stage.

Based on the beloved "Pete the Cat" book series, the musical celebrates the playful energy, creativity, and cool attitude of the ever-chill cat Pete, along with his best buddy Jimmy. As Pete helps Jimmy embrace the power of imagination, families will experience a joyful, visually vibrant show that highlights the whimsical world of *Pete the Cat*.

NWCT's Artistic Director Sarah Jane Hardy directs the production and is thrilled to remount a show that resonated so deeply with audiences. "Audiences absolutely loved this show last year, so it's a thrill to bring it back for even more families to enjoy," says Hardy. "It's a rock musical, and the music and visuals work together to create a truly immersive experience for kids and their families."

The musical follows 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 rocking out with catchy songs and a laid-back attitude.

Returning in the title role is Henry Martin, who has been part of NWCT since childhood. "It's always fun to return to a role and a show that you really loved," says Martin. "And getting to perform again with such a great cast makes it even better."

Families can expect a joyful and lively theater experience filled with humor, heart, and high-energy music as Pete and Jimmy's journey of imagination and self-discovery unfolds on stage.

Pete the Cat is presented on The Schnitzer Stage at The Judy in downtown Portland. Performances run January 31–February 15 with showtimes at 11am and 2pm. Additional weekday school matinee performances will bring thousands of students to The Judy for this special remount of one of NWCT's most popular recent productions.

NWCT offers a sensory-friendly performance of *Pete the Cat* on Sunday, February 1 at 2pm with pay-what-you-will tickets starting at \$5. These performances feature shorter run times,

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reduced or removed lighting and sound cues,
and the constant presence of house lights,
and are designed for children on the autism
spectrum or with other sensory sensitivities.

An ASL-interpreted performance is offered on
Sunday, February 8 at 11am.

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

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

Jan. 31 - Feb. 15, 2026
Saturdays & Sundays
11 am & 2 pm

Most enjoyed by ages 4 and up



SENSORY FRIENDLY SHOW
Sunday, Feb. 1 at 2pm



ASL INTERPRETED SHOW
Sunday, Feb. 8 at 11 am

TICKETS \$25-\$35
NWCTS.ORG • [503-222-2190](tel: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.