

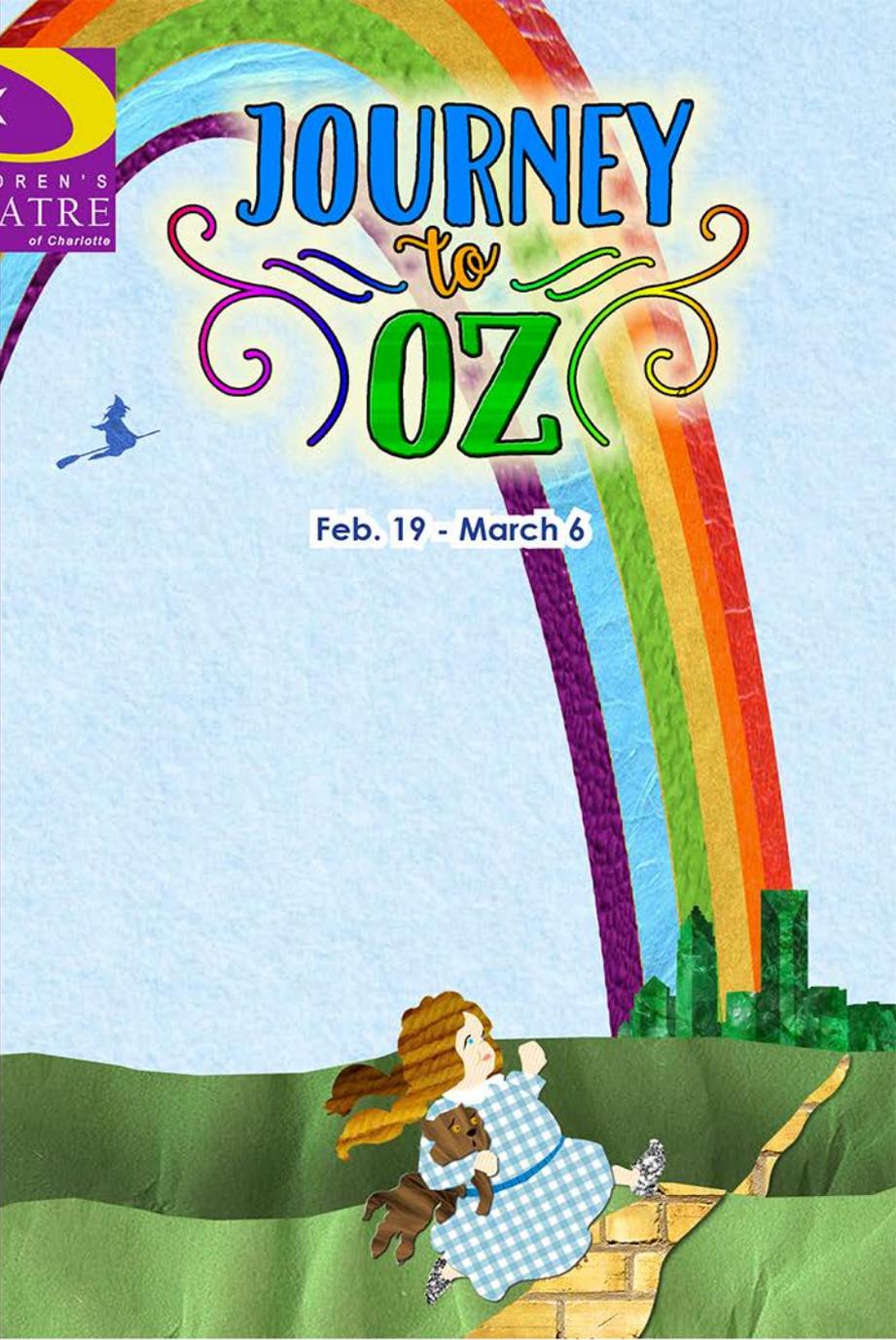


CHILDREN'S
THEATRE
of Charlotte

Children's Theatre of Charlotte | 2015-2016 Season

JOURNEY *to* OZ

Feb. 19 - March 6



Show Sponsors



The Dunsbaugh-Dalton Foundation, Inc.
Ed and Florence Kim
Tom and Gina Lawrence
Ryan and Danielle Hutcheson

This project is supported in part by an award from
the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Children's Theatre of Charlotte
presents

JOURNEY to OZ

Feb. 19 to March 6, 2016
McColl Family Theatre

Journey to Oz

Written and Directed by **Christopher Parks**
Based on the works of L. Frank Baum and W. W. Denslow

Scenic Design **Tom Burch** Costume Design **Jennifer Matthews**
Lighting Design **Todd Loyd** Sound Design **Josh Totora**
Stage Manager **Hazel Doherty**

JOURNEY TO OZ was commissioned by Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers Florida;
Robert Cacioppo, Producing Artistic Director; John Martin, Managing Director.

This play was first produced as a staged reading as part of
Florida Repertory Theatre's Inaugural PlayLab Festival in May, 2014.

The original production premiered at Florida Repertory Theatre
in October 2014, and was directed by Jason Parrish.

SHOW SPONSORS



This project is supported in part by an award from
the National Endowment for the Arts.



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The Dunsbaugh-Dalton Foundation, Inc.
Ed and Florence Kim | Tom and Gina Lawrence | Ryan and Danielle Hutcheson

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



Children's Theatre of Charlotte is supported, in part, with funding from the
Arts & Science Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the
Department of Cultural Resources.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

If You're in the Room, You're in the Show!

In the early 20th century, dozens of adventures about Oz were written, and author L. Frank Baum was known for including ideas from children who wrote letters to him in these stories. It is befitting, therefore, that we invite you, our audience, to insert your own ideas into this performance as you go with us on a *Journey to Oz*. This play is a piece of experiential theater, which is a style of immersive participatory theater I began developing in 2008 with colleagues at the McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, N.J. The objective is to put you, the audience, at the center of the action. Instead of watching the story unfold, you'll become a part of it.

You will be invited to sing, dance and act alongside our professional actors. Sometimes, some of you will be chosen at random to play individual roles and create lines in an improvised manner. At other times, the entire audience will be invited to portray large groups of characters. You will also be called upon to create sound effects, engage in discussions with the actors and you may even be responsible for guiding the outcome of the story. It should feel a little dangerous; none of us ever know exactly what's going to happen next. It's an environment where everyone in the room is subconsciously aware that there has been no rehearsal for the audience participants and no preparation.

Actors who act in these plays often comment about how peculiar it is to rehearse when the other half of their cast (the audience) isn't there yet. But the techniques we've developed to facilitate these productions hopefully prepares the actors to deal with any circumstance as they empower their new cast-mates and give you all a strong collaborative voice. Audience members who are enlisted to perform something individually should be reassured you can participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable.

This theater you've entered into today is a safe place where you should feel like you're among friends. The actors will enjoy the experience just as much as you do, as you collectively create a completely unique performance. Welcome to the acting company, and we hope your trip to the magical land of Oz is a wonderful experience!

Christopher Parks
director and playwright

CAST

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Player 1, Glinda | Tiffany Bear |
| Player 2, Wicked Witch, Doorman..... | Nicia Carla |
| Player 3, Scarecrow, Flying Monkey Lawyer | Chaz Pofahl |
| Player 4, Cowardly Lion | Tommy Foster |
| Player 5, Tin Man, Wizard | Dan Brunson |

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Carpenters | Nathan Barron, Owen Beamer, Ryan Maloney, Mandy Peeler and Chris Tyer |
| Wardrobe supervisor | Alexis Howard |
| Electricians | Tiffany Eck, Matt Johnson, Patrick Kirby, Matthew Lewis and Paul Setzer |
| Light board operators | Patrick Kirby |
| Production deck chief | Mandy Peeler |
| Assistant scenic artist..... | Stuart Robertson |
| Props assistant | Emily Candelario |
| Wardrobe supervisor | Alexis Howard |
| Crafts..... | Jason Estrada |
| First hand | Mary Hunting |
| Run crew..... | Nathan Barron and Jimmy Cartee |

Children’s Theatre of Charlotte’s production staff is listed in the staff pages.

SPECIAL THANKS

to Rider University Department of Theatre and Dance, Eric Winkenwerder, Carolyn and Stephen Allred and the McCarter Theatre Center.

The show is approximately 60 minutes. There is no intermission.

CAST

Tiffany Bear (Player 1, Glinda) is thrilled to share the stage with you on this amazing *Journey to Oz*. Tiffany works both on stage and on camera, as well as in voice-over roles and in modeling. Tiffany has a master's degree in music in vocal performance and a bachelor's degree in music education and theatre. In addition to performance work she also music directs and runs a private voice studio. Some of her favorite past roles include: Ruby (*Ella's Big Chance*), Nancy (*Oliver!*), Gertrude (*Seussical*), Lily (*The Secret Garden*), Princess of France (*Love's Labours Lost*), Rosie (*The Confession*), Magnolia (*Showboat*), Eliza (*My Fair Lady*), Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*). Tiffany thanks her husband, Conrad, her family and friends for their unending support and wants to give special thanks to the entire creative team for this opportunity! Soli Deo Gloria! Visit tiffanyreneebear.com.

Nicia Carla (Player 2, Wicked Witch, Doorman) has performed on Children's Theatre of Charlotte's stage many times during the past 15 years, most recently as the Other Mother in *Coraline*. A graduate of Winthrop University, Nicia is the artistic director of PaperHouse Theatre and a teaching artist with Children's Theatre of Charlotte and Wolf Trap. Some of her favorite roles with Children's Theatre of Charlotte include Huck Finn, Pinocchio (during her Tarradiddle years), The Snail in *Frog and Toad* and Eva in *And Then They Came For Me*. Visit niciacarla.com.

Chaz Pofahl (Player 3, Scarecrow, Flying Monkey Lawyer) marks his 35th production with Children's Theatre of Charlotte in *Journey to Oz*. Chaz is proud to have spent three years with Children's Theatre of Charlotte's former resident touring company, the Tarradiddle Players, performing such shows as *The Yellow Boat*, *New Kid*, *Ferdinand The Bull* and *A Thousand Cranes*. Some of his more recent Children's Theatre of Charlotte credits include The Duke in *Ella's Big Chance*, Mr. Bobo in *Coraline*, Christmas Present in *Scrooge!*, Dr. Craven in *The Secret Garden*, Pod in *The Borrowers* and Horton in *Seussical*. Visit his website at chazpofahl.com

Tommy Foster (Player 4, Lion) last appeared as Gerald the Elephant in Children's Theatre of Charlotte's *Elephant and Piggie's We Are in a Play!*, and in the ensemble of *Ella's Big Chance*. Tommy's local credits include *Scrooge!*, *Jackie and Me* and *The Hundred Dresses* at Children's Theatre of Charlotte; *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Oliver* with Central Piedmont Community College; *River City* at Actor's Theatre of Charlotte; and *The Normal Heart* at Theatre Charlotte. Tommy's regional credits include *Next to Normal* with Music Theatre of Connecticut, *The Wild Party* with Kalliope Stage, *The Last 5 Years* with the Gorilla Theatre, *The Who's Tommy* with the Gallery Players, *Footloose* at the Ogunquit Playhouse and *Carousel* at the Gateway Playhouse. Tommy teaches at Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College and Catawba College. Tommy earned an M.F.A in classical acting from the Shakespeare Theatre Company's Academy for Classical Acting at the George Washington University and a B.F.A. in musical theatre from the University of Michigan. Tommy dedicates this performance to the Munchkin.

Dan Brunson (Player 5, Tin Man, Wizard) is a Charlotte native, who has performed previously at Children's Theatre of Charlotte in *The Secret Garden* and *Tarzan*. After studying voice and drama at The University of North Carolina School of the Arts, he moved to New York City and performed professionally for six years in national bus and truck tours of many productions and in the Off-Broadway musical hit, *Forever Plaid* as Frankie. Since moving back to Charlotte, Dan has worked as an actor as well as a photographer. Elsewhere in Charlotte, Dan has performed notable roles in *Civil War*, *In The Heat of the Night* and *Dracula*, just to name a few. Dan's very excited and grateful to have the opportunity to travel with you on an adventurous *Journey to Oz!*

CREATIVE TEAM

Christopher Parks (director/playwright) is the artistic director of The Experiential Theater Company, which brings immersive, interactive theater to young audiences throughout the United States, Ireland and United Kingdom. His Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) work has been seen at theaters across the country and abroad, including Alaska Junior Theater, McCarter Theatre Center, The John F. Kennedy Center (New Visions/New Voices 2010), Children's Theatre of Charlotte, New Jersey Renaissance Kingdom, Long Island Children's Museum, Maryland Publick Playhouse, Goodwill Theatre, Acadiana Center for the Arts, Tricycle Theatre for Youth, Gateway Playhouse, Rose Bruford College in London, Roscommon Arts Center, Lime Tree Theater, The Black Box and Florida Repertory Theatre. Christopher's past director/playwright TYA productions include *The Odyssey Experience*; *Sunjata Kamalenya*; *The Adventures of Perseus*; *Aesop's Fables*; *The Tempest, a Puppet Play*; *Arabian Nights*; *Lucky Girl* (co-wrote); *The Scottish Play*; *Briar Rose*; *Healthier Ever After* (playwright only) and *Quest for the Holy Grail*. Among his Shakespearean director credits are *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *As You Like It*, *Winter's Tale*, *Othello* and the film *Hal* (an adaptation of Henry IV, parts I and II) for Muse of Fire Films. Christopher created the interactive style of performance called experiential theater and has been a guest lecturer on the subject at such places as New York University; American Alliance for Theatre and Education; Rose Bruford College, London; Manhattanville College and Columbia University. His company, Experiential Theater Company, has the unique distinction of being the first-ever American theater company to be invited to perform at both the prestigious Babaró Internaiional Festival for Children in Galway, Ireland, and the Bualadh Bos Children's Festival in Limerick. Christopher led the education department at the McCarter Theatre Center for more than a dozen years and is a graduate of Mason Gross, School of the Arts. Christopher is extremely grateful to Adam Burke, Michelle Long and the entire creative team at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for inviting him into this wonderful family of collaborators. Christopher also sends much love to the ladies in his life: Emma, Molly and wife, Jamie.

Tom Burch (scenic designer) is thrilled to return to Children's Theatre of Charlotte following last year's *Jackie & Me*. Tom teaches at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where he has designed *The Purple Flower* and this spring's *Hamletmachine*. He has designed off-Broadway (*Mistakes Were Made*, Barrow Street Theatre) and regionally across the country, including with Arizona's Childsplay and Louisville's Stage One. Tom's other regional credits include shows at The Goodman, Court and Victory Gardens Theatres among many others in Chicago; Cleveland Play House, American Repertory Theatre in Boston; Repertory Theatre of St. Louis; Milwaukee Repertory; Actors Theatre of Louisville and Berkeley Repertory Theatre among others. Tom is excited to call Charlotte home now. His work can be seen online at tomburch.com

Jennifer K. Matthews (costume designer) is delighted to design again for Children's Theatre of Charlotte, where she has designed *The Reluctant Dragon*, *Aladdin*, *Goodnight Moon* and others. In past years, Jennifer has designed costumes at Central Piedmont Community College Summer Theatre, which includes her most recent designs in *Spamalot!* Jennifer has also designed for various theatres in North Carolina and South Carolina. In Tennessee, Jennifer has designed for Mockingbird Public Theatre and Chattanooga Theatre Centre. Jennifer is a professor at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., where she teaches costume design and technology. Jennifer earned her M.F.A. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

CREATIVE TEAM

Todd Loyd (lighting designer) is the lighting director for Rider University's Department of Theatre and Dance in New Jersey, where he designs the lighting for every performance that the department produces in addition to mentoring several students who assist in designing, hanging, focusing and programming the lighting for each show. At Rider University, he has designed the lighting for more than 20 productions, including *Catch Me If You Can*, *Ubu Roi*, *The Penelopiad*, *All Shook Up*, *The Praying Mantis*, *Rider Dances: Collaborate and Innovate (Recital 2015)*, *Machinal*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Our Town*, *A Chorus Line*, *Metamorphoses*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and *The Crucible*. Todd has also designed the lighting for productions at Passage Theater in Trenton, N.J.; Princeton Ballet School; Princeton Day School and McCarter Theater's Education Department in Princeton, N.J.

Joe Watson (properties designer) has transitioned to the role of properties master after spending 18 months within Children's Theatre of Charlotte's education department. He would like to say thank you to his new team for welcoming him with open arms. As a theatre graduate of Appalachian State University, Joe has used his innovative and imaginative skills to effectively design, build and implement props for a myriad of shows during the last five years. Along with more than 10 years of carpentry and crafting experience, Joe brings a passion for stories and how they can move our children. He couldn't be more grateful to Children's Theatre of Charlotte in all that it does for our community and would like to let everyone know how blessed he is for the opportunity to work within this organization. As a military veteran, he would also like to thank his fellow service members for defending the freedoms that allow all of us to continue such important work.

Hazel Doherty's (stage manager) favorite thing about her job is that she gets to play dress up and make believe with her friends every day. As a native of Britain, Hazel has toured the United Kingdom extensively and has worked for a number of companies on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. However, it was while working at Stagedoor Manor in New York where she met her husband, Chris, and, together, they have made their home in the United States. Hazel trained at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, where, in addition to theatre arts, she studied radio, film, television and music video production. Some of her theatre credits include *Singin' In The Rain*, *My Fair Lady* and *Classic Victorian Melodrama* for Thin Air Theatre Company; *My Favourite Summer*, *Me and Me Dad* and *A Christmas Carol* for Hull Truck Theatre; *A Passionate Woman* for Oldham Coliseum; *Macbeth* and *The Changeling* for Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory; *42nd Street*, *Piece of My Heart*, *As it is in Heaven*, *Evita* and *Mack and Mabel* for Stagedoor Manor and *The Phantom of the Opera* in London's West End. Hazel would like to thank you for coming to play with us today.

Josh Totoro (sound designer) is a Philadelphia-based designer, actor and musician. Josh has sound designed, composed, and provided musical direction for Florida Repertory Theatre, McCarter Theatre, Commonwealth Classic Theater, Hedgerow Theatre, Simpatico Theatre Project and Little Fish Theatre Collaborative. In 2014, Josh toured with Experiential Theatre Company's *The Odyssey Experience*, performing an original live score for the show at the Babaro International Arts Festival for Children in Galway, Ireland. Josh has also co-written two musicals with the Haddonfield Theater Arts Center and is a member of the folk/bluegrass band The Nimble Cats.

Theatre 360 is a **free** program of Charlotte Mecklenburg Library and Children's Theatre of Charlotte, extending the theatrical experience beyond the stage **for the whole family.**



Pre-show activity

Feb. 13, noon to 1 p.m.

Feb. 21, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Come by and immerse yourself into the world of "experiential theatre," an engaging performance where the audience is active in the telling of the story.

Post-show activity

Feb. 28, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

March 6 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

How can you continue to develop the techniques you saw in the performance? Stop by and see how every book you read together as a family can be brought to life.

Audience engagement (post-show)

Feb. 20, 12:20 p.m.

Feb. 27 12:20 p.m.

In a "choose your own adventure" style, our audience will follow storytellers around *ImaginOn* deciding which direction their stories should go next. Each family's story may end differently!

Learn more and register to join us at
ctcharlotte.org!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF CHARLOTTE!

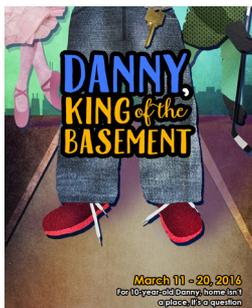
FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Anne Carlton
Gracie Deel
Charlie DeLucia
Marion Donald
Arella Flur
Avery Foster
Isabelle Ginn
Caris Gross
Alayna Jurch
Miller Kelling
Teddy Kelling
Elyssa Kim
Adam Murdock

Charlie Price
Sully Rhymer
William Smith
Payton Swindells
Carter Swindells
Bryce Walger
Keenya Western
Kensington Beachum
Lauren Bush
Maggie Cashion
Jack DuPuy
Meghan DuPuy
Brayden Elford

Jackson Farris
Everett Hair
Wesley Hair
Carlyn Head
Clara Head
Alex Hensley
Tenley Hippensteel
Max Joseph
Allie Joseph
Micajah McCurry
Paige Nurkin
Arianna Pretty
Lindsey Ratliff
Hank Smith
Charlotte Wise

COMING SOON TO CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF CHARLOTTE



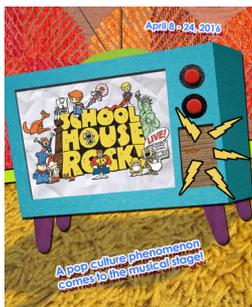
Danny, King of the Basement

March 11 to 20

Wells Fargo Playhouse

Recommended for ages 8 and older

Ten-year-old Danny and his mom can't scrape together enough money to live in one place for very long. Because of that, Danny gets really good at making friends quickly and keeping the real reasons for moving to himself. When his new friends discover his secret, he sees what true friendship really looks like.



Schoolhouse Rock Live!

April 8 to April 24

McColl Family Theatre

Recommended for ages 6 and older

Learning never rocked this hard! This musical adaptation of the classic TV show uses clever songs to teach about history, grammar, politics, math and more. Sing along with "Just a Bill" and "Conjunction Junction" with your own kids!



The Magic Kite

April 22 to May 1

Wells Fargo Playhouse

Recommended for ages 6 to 8

Tito's family reels when Papa is unexpectedly sent back to Mexico. But Tito remembers he knows how to build a magic flying kite! This world-premiere play with music and puppets, is an inspirational story of how a family leans on love and hope during a difficult time.

Tickets start at just \$12

Order tickets to these and all of our upcoming productions at ctcharlotte.org or call 704-973-2828 (M-F, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.).