



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ben Thiem
Director of Member Services
League of Chicago Theatres
(312) 554-9800
ben@chicagoplays.com

WARM UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH HOT CHICAGO THEATER

Get into the spirit at a Chicago theater near you

(Chicago), November 3, 2008 – The holidays are around the corner, and there is no better way to get into a festive spirit than seeing a production at a Chicago area theater. Every year dozens of companies present special holiday shows sure to delight the entire family. This year is no exception with thrilling productions in store in many neighborhoods and suburbs. From annual classics like *The Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol* to musicals, like *The Snow Queen* and *The Christmas Schooner*, to children's affair, like *Snowflake Tim's Big Holiday Adventure*, Chicago theaters have you covered.

Some highlights of the upcoming holiday season schedule include:

- The Goodman Theatre, The Center for Performing Arts at Governor's State University, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, and Paramount Theatre present productions of Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*.
- The Neo-Futurists present their own unique version of the Dickens holiday classic with *A Very Neo-Futurist Christmas Carol*.
- American Theater Company brings the town of Bedford Falls to life with the classic *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*. Stay for the free milk and cookies after every performance!
- In St. Charles, Noble Fool Theatricals at Pheasant Run Resort presents a stage adaptation of *A Christmas Story*, the all-American tale of Ralph, who hopes to find a Red Ryder Carbine Action 200 Shot Range model air rifle waiting for him under the Christmas tree.
- Victory Gardens Theater remounts their hit musical production of *The Snow Queen* with folk legend Michael Smith at the Biograph Theater in Lincoln Park.
- Looking for the perfect show for kids? Lifeline Theatre performs *Snowflake Tim's Big Holiday Adventure*, in their Rogers Park home.
- The Salt Creek Ballet's *The Nutcracker* returns at the Paramount Theatre. Sugarplum fairies, nutcrackers and delightful dancers will dazzle you in this classic dream tale.
- *The Second City's Exceedingly Disfunctional Holiday Revue* brings down the house at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights.
- Join the cast of *The Molly Doone* as they bring Christmas Trees across icy Lake Michigan to Chicago in *The Christmas Schooner* at Bailiwick Repertory in Lakeview.
- Poke fun at holiday season icons at *A Forbidden Broadway Christmas* at the Royal George Theatre
- Theater Wit presents their hit production of David Sedaris' *The Santaland Diaries* and *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* at Theatre Building Chicago.

The League of Chicago Theatres (LCT) is an alliance of theaters which leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. The League of Chicago Theatres Foundation (LCTF) is dedicated to enhancing the art of theater in the Chicago area through audience development and support services for theaters and theater professionals.



- Provision Theater's touching world-premiere adaptation of Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* and the *Thanksgiving Visitor* are sure to warm your heart at the Royal George Theatre.

Information and links to all of these productions can be found online at ChicagoPlays.com. Half-priced theater tickets are always available online at HotTix.org and at the Hot Tix booth locations, 72 E. Randolph at the Chicago Tourism Center and 163 E. Pearson in the Waterworks Visitors Center in downtown Chicago.

###

CHICAGO THEATER BY THE NUMBERS:

- More than **200** producing theater companies
- More than **5 million** tickets sold annually
- More than **130** world premiere productions and adaptations in the 08-09 season.
- Average ticket price to a Chicago theater production is approximately **\$23**
- More than **115** total performance venues
- More than **64,000** total seats in Chicago area performance venues
- **4** Tony Awards for Outstanding Regional Theatre (Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman, Steppenwolf, and Victory Gardens Theater)

THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES

Founded in 1979, the League is a non-profit alliance of theaters that leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. Currently, the League serves a diverse membership of nearly 200 theaters and theater companies, ranging from small storefront, non-union companies to major cultural centers with multi-million dollar facilities and productions.

###

The League of Chicago Theatres (LCT) is an alliance of theaters which leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. The League of Chicago Theatres Foundation (LCTF) is dedicated to enhancing the art of theater in the Chicago area through audience development and support services for theaters and theater professionals.