



SANTA MONICA GROUP THEATRE
A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL CORPORATION

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For Immediate Release

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Santa Monica Playhouse Holiday Workshops for Kids 4 to 14 **WINTER BREAK CREATE-A-PLAY WORKSHOPS**

"You bring out the best in everyone!" C. Diaz, age 13

Santa Monica, CA October 24, 2006 – Santa Monica Playhouse announced today that enrollment is now open for two special December programs where youngsters can discover the joy of participation as they go about the business of making theatre in the exciting **WINTER BREAK CREATE-A-PLAY WORKSHOP** for kids **6 to 14** or the one day **ENCHANTED LUNCHTIME THEATRE WORKSHOP** for youngsters **3 to 5**.

The **WINTER BREAK WORKSHOP** runs Monday through Friday, December 18-22, 2006, 9am to 3pm. Boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 14 participate in an incredible week-long adventure in creativity, joyfully diving into all aspects of play production. Music, dance, make-up, costumes, props, lighting and sound, and of course, performance, are just the beginning as members make new friends and learn to express themselves, working with professional theatre artists and playwrights to create an astonishing piece of theatre.

"Santa Monica Playhouse was a turning point in my son's life. It is the best children's workshop I've ever seen!" says actress, educator and mom Jill Jaress.

WINTER BREAK WORKSHOPS at *Santa Monica Playhouse* are the perfect way for aspiring thespians to spend their holiday vacation time, and a great entrée for those who are curious about the theatre arts experience. The culminating performance, presented for family and friends, is the highlight of an inspiring five days of theatre games and arts activities that build self-confidence, challenge the imagination, excite the intellect and tickle the funny bone. And parents will be pleased to note that the techniques gained during this fun-filled workshop enhance such study and life skills as problem-solving, collaboration, attention and focus, cooperation, negotiation, socialization and language arts.

Back by popular demand for 2006, the Playhouse is also offering the special holiday version of its popular **ENCHANTED LUNCHTIME THEATRE**, a delightful Mommy (or Daddy)

(cont'd)

providing continuous theatrical and educational services to the community for forty-six years



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and me experience for youngsters 3 to 5, offering a lively and creative holiday-themed performing adventure that includes story time, theatre games, sing-a-longs, craft-making, and play building with members of Actors' Repertory Theatre plus a magical lunchtime meal as it introduces preschoolers to the creative process and provides families with new ways to interact.

Santa Monica Playhouse is one of only ten City arts organizations recognized through the SMARTS Arts in Schools and Demonstration Project for California Arts Council as qualified to teach the arts in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The Playhouse Education Conservatory programs are designed to augment the State Education Standards in English, Reading, Music and Dance and are based on work done with over 20,000 on-site students since 1969. Alumni include Kate and Oliver Hudson, Zooey Deschanel, Jason Ritter, Monet Mazur, Azura Skye, Jon Kasdan, Mickey Maddens, Liz Dean and Cami Anderson.

Santa Monica Playhouse educators are professional working theatre artists who dedicate a portion of their time to fostering an appreciation for and a love of theatre in the hearts and minds of today's media-oriented young people. They have studied and taught with such prestigious theatre arts organizations as the English Shakespeare Company, the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, the Lee Strasberg Institute, Model Language Studio, the Royal National Theatre, Guild Hall, Playbox Theatre, The Muse Machine and the UCLA, USC, Yale, Harvard, Emerson, Brown, Kent State, NYU and Sarah Lawrence Schools of Drama.

Workshop enrollment is limited and acceptance is by interview only. For an appointment and to find out more about this critically acclaimed youth theatre program, call Director of Education Cammy Truong at 310-394-9779 ext. 673. Alumni Rina Mimoun (producer/writer *Everwood*, *Gilmore Girls*) writes, "Thank you for everything you have given me – my second home, my best friends, my confidence, my love of acting, and most of all myself." Give your child the best holiday gift there is: the gift of theatre magic at **Santa Monica Playhouse**.

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[Note: We will happily provide jpegs; just ask]



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