



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CATCO, CATCO is Kids Present Regional Premiere of *Peter and the Starcatcher*

Tony Award-winning prequel to Peter Pan presented Dec. 2-20

Adventure, comedy, surprise, and music blend to transport audiences to the high seas in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, a Tony Award-winning prequel to the iconic story of Peter Pan and Wendy. It explains — among other things — how Peter got his name, how Captain Hook lost his hand, why the crocodile stalks them both, and how Tinkerbell came to be.

“The story, which is delivered in a mixture of story telling, song and imaginative movement, is everything we love about going to the theatre,” said Steven C. Anderson. “It’s perfect for the holidays, daring theatre-goers to imagine, hope and dream.”

Anderson, who also will direct the play, first saw *Peter and the Starcatcher* in 2013 during its second Off-Broadway run and said he knew he wanted to bring the show to Columbus. “I was completely captivated by it,” he said.

The New York Times calls *Peter and the Starcatcher* “the most exhilarating Broadway storytelling in decades,” while *New York Magazine* says, “Spectacle, wit, and joy spill out of this production like treasure from a magic pocket.”

CATCO and CATCO is Kids will present this family-friendly musical, the winner of many Tony, Obie and Lucille Lortel awards, Dec. 2-20, 2015, in the Studio One Theatre, Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High St.

Peter and the Starcatcher at CATCO and CATCO is Kids features a cast of 12, seven of whom are new to the CATCO stage. They include: Mark Mineart (Black Stash), who recently joined Otterbein University as associate professor of performance in the Department of Theatre and Dance. Mineart has appeared on and Off Broadway with such stars as Denzel Washington and Kelsey Grammer, and worked at many of the nation’s most well-respected and award-winning regional theatres.

Returning to the CATCO stage after his highly acclaimed debut last spring in the hit comedy *Buyer & Cellar* is Andrew Levitt (Betty Bumbroke/Teacher), also known as drag performer Nina West. As the character of Nina, Levitt has helped to raise more than \$1 million for local and national charities.

Mineart and Levitt are joined by Emma Cordray (Molly) and Danny Turek (Boy/Peter). Cordray’s acting credits include *Crazy for You* (Interlochen Center for the Arts); *Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz* (CATCO is Kids); and *Healers in the Forest* (Columbus Children’s Theatre). Turek, a senior at The Ohio State University, has been involved in main-stage shows such as *As You Like It* (school tour) and *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays*, and student lab shows (*Will’s Burrows* and *The Aliens*).

Additional cast members are Ted Amore (Gremplin/School Master/Fighting Prawn/Mack/Sanchez) who has appeared in many central Ohio theatre productions, including *Kindertransport*, *The Paper Bag Princess*, *Isabella e la Bestia* and *A Stranger Came Ashore*; trial attorney Brad Barbin (Lord Leonard Aster), who has performed at the Weathervane Playhouse (*The Odd Couple*), Gallery Players (*Yentl* and *The Farnsworth Invention*) and CAPA (*Margie*); Terrence Brown (Captain Scott), whose acting credits include *Once on This Island*, *Hairspray*, *Chicago*, *9 to 5*, *La Cage Aux Folles* and *Five Guys Named Moe* (CATCO); Jonathan Collura (Bill Slank/Hawking Clam), who returns to the CATCO stage after appearing last season in [title of show] and whose other credits include *Hair*, *RENT*, *Aida* and *Shrek*; and David Harewood (Smee), whose credits include *Mother Courage and Her Children* (Columbus Civic Theatre) and *A Most Rare Vision* and *The Miser* (Actors' Theatre of Columbus).

Connor Moore (Ted), a junior at Worthington Kilbourne High School has attended theater classes and performed in numerous productions in and out of school; Andrew Protopapas (Alf), CATCO's artist educator and a former acting apprentice at the theatre, appeared last year in *The Jungle Book*, *Go, Dog. Go!* and *Master Class*; and Colby Tarrh (Prentiss), one of CATCO's acting apprentices this season, who appeared in the theatre's season opener, *The Elephant Man*, last month.

Anderson's directing credits include *The Elephant Man*, *Buyer & Cellar*, *The Final Table*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Avenue Q*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Rubenstein Kiss*, *Souvenir* and the highly acclaimed production of Doug Wright's *I Am My Own Wife*. He has also directed *Candide* and *Hair* at The Ohio State University Theatre Department; *Love! Velour! Compassion!* And *The Taste of Sunrise* at CATCO; *Big River* and *Pippin* at Actors Theatre; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at New Harmony Theatre; and *Greater Tuna*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Assassins* at the former Players Theatre Columbus where he served as Associate Producing Director.

Presenting sponsor for *Peter and the Starcatcher* is Macy's; in kind support is provided by Residence Inn Marriott Columbus Downtown.

CATCO's 31th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Cathrine C. Hislop and Barbara J. Haddox Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO's Season sponsor is L Brands; the season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org.

[Preview \(Discounted Tickets\)/Opening Night Performances](#)

There are two previews for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 11:00 a.m., and Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17 for the 11 a.m. performance, and \$30 for the 7:30 p.m. show. The opening performance is Friday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40.

Wednesday Matinees

For *Peter and the Starcatcher*, there will be three 11 a.m. matinee performances: Wednesday, Dec. 2, Dec. 9 and Dec. 16.

Ticket/Parking Information

Tickets for all other performances are Thursdays, \$30; Sundays, \$35; and Fridays and Saturdays, \$40.

Students may purchase \$15 tickets two hours before any performance based on availability and valid I.D. A limited number of \$20 rush tickets are available beginning two hours prior to curtain for 30 minutes only. All tickets can be purchased at the box office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location.

Performances are in the Studio Theatres at the Vern Riffe Center, located at 77 S. High St., in Downtown Columbus at the corner of State and High streets. Attached parking is available in the Riffe Center garage, which is entered from Front Street.

CATCO's remaining shows of the season are:

- ***Mothers and Sons***
By Terrence McNally
Feb. 10-28, 2016
- ***Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike***
By Christopher Durang
April 6-24, 2016
- ***Ring of Fire***
The Music of Johnny Cash
Created by Richard Maltby Jr.
Conceived by William Meade
Adapted from the Broadway production by Richard Maltby Jr. and Jason Edwards
Orchestrations by Steven Bishop and Jeff Lisenby
Additional arrangements by David Abbinanti
June 1-19, 2016

CATCO is Kids remaining shows of the season area:

- ***Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!"***
Book and lyrics by Mo Willems
Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma
Jan. 15-24, 2016
- ***Hansel and Gretel***
By The Brothers Grimm
Adapted for the stage by Steven C. Anderson

March 11-20, 2016

- ***The Kabuki Sleeping Beauty***
By Steven C. Anderson
May 13-22, 2016

For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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