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CATCO is Kids to Expand Programming to Dublin/Powell Fall 2019

Performances for fall musical, Disney's The Little Mermaid JR., set for Nov. 22-24

CATCO is Kids' announced today it will expand its programming to the Dublin/Powell area this fall with the production of *Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.* Nov. 22-24, 2019, following a successful expansion into New Albany last year.

"CATCO is Kids is excited about this new opportunity to take our youth programming to yet another part of central Ohio," said Joe Bishara, CATCO associate producing director. "For the past several years, we have seen an increase in the number of kids from Dublin and Powell participating in our classes and theatre programs. With those growing enrollment numbers have come requests from parents about expanding to those communities," he said.

The inaugural production will be *Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.*, a journey under the sea with Ariel and friends, based upon the Academy Award-winning film and Broadway musical. The production will feature famous tunes from the musical – *Kiss the Girl, Under the Sea, Poor Unfortunate Souls* and *Part of Your World* – and is condensed for young actors to approximately one hour.

Disney's The Little Mermaid JR. will be a five-week theatre camp that results in a weekend of performances, similar to other CATCO is Kids' musical education programs. The camp will begin Oct. 13, 2019, with auditions taking place on the first day of the initiative. Online registration will begin Aug. 8, 2019, at catco.org. Rehearsals will be held Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sundays from 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

All performances will be held at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, 5600 Post Road, Dublin Community Recreation Center.

In 2018, the New Albany Arts Council tapped CATCO is Kids to provide administration and production of its musical program for young artists, *Broadway, Jr. Musical*, at the McCoy Center for the Arts. CATCO is Kids produced *Mary Poppins JR.* last July and *Willy Wonka JR.* earlier this month, both in association with the McCoy Center for the Arts.

Programs in New Albany and Dublin/Powell expand CATCO is Kids' long list of theatre programming for youth throughout central Ohio. In addition to CATCO is Kids' educational camps, other offerings include programming in local schools and the community, collaborations with other arts organizations, the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Learning Never Ends and the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.

"As member of CATCO's board and resident of Dublin, I am thrilled about the expansion of CATCO is Kids into my community. Because of its longstanding reputation for creating and developing outstanding youth theatre programs throughout our community, the parents and youths in Dublin and Powell will be

well-served,” said Michael V. Wible, CATCO board member and a partner at Thompson Hine LLP.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids’ 35rd 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 Bernhart J. Mertz and Barbara B. Coons 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 and CATCO is Kids’ season sponsor is L Brands; presenting sponsor is the Columbus Metropolitan Library. CATCO is Kids’ presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks; media partner is WOSU Public Media. For more information, visit catco.org.

Subscriptions for CATCO is Kids are available by calling the box office at 614.469.0919 or visiting catco.org/subscribe/. Single tickets are now on sale for *Disney’s Alice in wonderland JR.*, *A Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas Tail* and *Dr. Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat*. Remaining shows for the 2019-20 season are:

- ***Disney’s Alice in Wonderland JR.***
Music and Lyrics by Sami Fain, Bob Hilliard
Oliver Wallace, Cy Coban
Allie Wrubel, Ray Gilbert
Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Music
and Lyrics by Bryan Louiselle
Book and Additional Lyrics by David Simpatico
Aug. 16-25, 2019
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Annie KIDS***
Book by Thomas Meehan
Music by Charles Strouse
Lyrics by Martin Charnin
Based on the book *Little Orphan Annie*
A Saturday Morning Musicals Production!
Nov. 9-10, 2019
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***A Winnie-The-Pooh Christmas Tail***
Music and Lyrics James W. Rodgers
Book inspired by A.A. Milne’s *Winnie-The-Pooh*
Dec. 6-22, 2019
Van Fleet Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
540 Franklin Ave.
- ***Dr. Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat***
Based on the book by Dr. Seuss

Play originally produced by the National Theatre of Great Britain
Jan. 10-26, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.

- ***Press Start!***
Book by Denver Casado, Brian Dawson
Music and Lyrics by Denver Casado
March 6-15, 2020
Van Fleet Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Schoolhouse Rock Live! JR.***
Lyrics by Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg, George Newall,
Kathy Mandry Lynn Ahrens, Tom Yohe
Music by Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg, George Newall,
Kathy Mandry, Lynn Ahrens, Tom Yohe
Book by George Keating, Kyle Hall, Scott Ferguson
Based on the ABC-TV educational animated series,
which aired during the 1970s and 1980s.
March 21-22, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical***
Book by Dennis Kelly
Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin
Based on the book, *Matilda*, by Roald Dahl
May 7-24, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages with CATCO is Kids, CATCO's imaginative, captivating theatre program for central Ohio's young theatre lovers and their families. Together, 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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