

Miracle on 34th Street brightens childrens eyes

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When Kris Kringle is hired as a Santa at Macy's department store, he unleashes waves of goodwill and prompts the question... Is he really Santa Claus? Drammy-award winning Oregon Children's Theatre (OCT) presents Miracle on 34th Street at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall from December 10 - 23.

Young Susan Walker doesn't believe in fairy tales and she certainly doesn't believe in Santa Claus. But when Kris Kringle gets a job as Santa at Macy's department store and insists that he is the real article, doubtful Susan is forced to consider that things aren't always what they seem. This beloved classic shines a light on friendship, trust, and the goodness of people while reawakening the true spirit of the holidays.

Public performances of Miracle on 34th Street will be held at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall from December 10-23. Shows will be held selected weekdays at 7 pm and weekends at 1, 4 and 7 pm. Reserved seats are \$19 for adults and \$15 for children and seniors. Tickets are available by calling OCT's box office at 503/228-9571 or Ticketmaster outlets at 503/790-ARTS (2787). The production runs approximately one hour and twenty minutes and is appropriate for adults and children four years of age and older. Group discounts available. The sign interpreted performances will be on December 11 at 4 pm and December 17 at 7 pm. Special services for disable patrons available on request.

Oregon Children's Theatre gratefully acknowledges its season sponsors, US Bank, Oregon Public Broadcasting, and US WestDex, as well as its production sponsor for Miracle on 34th Street, Meier & Frank. Funding for the 1999-2000 season is provided in part by the Oregon Arts Commission (OAC) and the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC).

Oregon Children's Theatre is a nonprofit professional theatre company celebrating its 12th season of presenting quality stage adaptations of the best in children's literature. OCT boasts an extensive outreach program targeted to economically deserving and culturally diverse students, children and families. Approximately 9,000 children and families attended productions free-of-charge last season as a direct result of OCT's outreach program, funded in large part by corporate and foundation support. Oregon Children's Theatre also sponsors year-round acting classes for children.

In addition to Miracle on 34th Street, Oregon Children's Theatre's 1999-2000 season also includes The Adventure of Treasure Island, January 16 & 23 at Portland Civic Auditorium and Charlotte's Web, April 16 & 30 at Portland Civic Auditorium. Oregon Children's Theatre will celebrate its one-millionth patron during the production of Charlotte's Web.



When Kris Kringle is hired as a Santa at Macy's department store, he unleashes waves of goodwill and prompts the question... Is he really Santa Claus? Starring Chelsea Delgado (left) as Susan and Jay Pevney (right) as Kris Kringle.

Season subscriptions are now on sale and can be ordered by calling Oregon Children's Theatre at 228-9571.

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