

Northwest Children's Theater and School Presents

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

book and lyrics by Judith Viorst, music by Shelly Markham

**NORTHWEST
CHILDRENS
THEATER and
SCHOOL**

NW Neighborhood
Cultural Center
1819 NW Everett Street
Suite 216
Portland, OR 97209-2189

phone: 503-222-4480
fax: 503-222-4130
www.nwcts.org

*Our mission—to educate,
entertain and enrich the lives
of young audiences*

Managing Director
Judy Kafoury

Artistic Director
Sarah Jane Hardy

Education Director
Carolyn Newsom

Volunteer Director
Diane Carlson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date
September 1, 2010
Kill Date
October 25, 2010

Media Contact
To set up interviews
or discuss other
possibilities for feature
stories, please contact:

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What turns a regular day into a bad day? What turns it into a terrible, horrible, no good, VERY bad day? Just ask Alexander, the peeved protagonist in this musical adaptation of the contemporary classic children's story about the Worst. Day. Ever.

From the moment he wakes up with gum in his hair, Alexander's day is doomed. He's forced to eat plain cereal without a prize in the box. His pushy older brothers smooch him into the middle seat on the ride to school. No one appreciates his picture of an invisible castle, or the fact that he sings too loud in music class. And to top it all off, he's the ONLY kid whose mom forgot to pack dessert in his lunch. What else could go wrong? (Spoiler alert! Girls, the dentist, lima beans, lame tennis shoes, a possessed copy machine.)

Phew! It's enough to make anyone want to move to Australia.

Alexander has been entertaining young readers since 1973, when he was first brought to life by author Judith Viorst. His day hasn't gotten any better in 37 years; it's just as awful now as it was then. But his story remains a comical reminder to kids and parents alike that all bad days will end, and may even be followed by a terrific, marvelous, very good day!

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day is directed by Lucas Welsh, who came to NWCT as a student, and went on to win an Outstanding Young Performer Drammy for his portrayal of Horton in NWCT's *Seussical*. A recent graduate of Willamette University, he was last seen at NWCT as Aslan in *Narnia*. Lucas is thrilled to be in the director's seat at NWCT, "a place that taught me that theater is a collaborative art form. As a former 'theater geek' I really relate to the young actors in the cast. They are talented and incredibly committed."

Ezra Weiss music directs a clever score with tunes like "If I Were in Charge of the World", "The Sweetest of Days and the Finest of Nights" and of course, "Disappointment". Tracy Ross (*Go, Dog. Go!*, *Winnie-the-Pooh*) accompanies.

NWCT's cast features Henry Martin (Tiny Tim, *A Christmas Carol*, PCS) as Alexander, with Ari Bluffstone and Martin Tebo as Nick and Anthony, his know-it-all brothers. Timothy Strauhal and Meredith Ott play Dad and Mom, and an ensemble including Niko Jackson, Olivia Rentz, Nathan Artman, Barrett Kent and Annie Barnicle play roles from school yard bullies to bathroom fixtures. (Bathroom fixtures? Yep. These actors become a sink.)

The production features a bright, flexible set by Jeff Seats, lights by Kristeen Crosser and costumes by Shana Targosz. Sound design is by Rody Ortega, props are by kollodi (2010 PAMTA winner, NWCT's *Pinocchio*) and scenic painting is by NWCT Artist-in-Residence John Ellingson.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day is sponsored by The Collins Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council/Work for Art and the NWCT Producers Guild. Nearly 6,000 school children will turn their day from bad to glad over 12 student matinees.

WHEN

Oct. 2-24, 2010
Sat & Sun at noon & 4pm

WHERE

NW Neighborhood Cultural Center
1819 NW Everett Street, Portland

TICKETS

503-222-4480 or NWCTS.ORG

AGE RANGE

Most enjoyed by ages 5 and up

PRICES

\$18-22 adults
\$13-18 youth (14 & under)

INFO

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PHOTOS & INFO

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PHOTOS

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<http://nwcts.org/html/press.html>

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(Alexander) Henry Martin, in NWCT's *Alexander
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