

# Pinocchio

adapted by Milo Mowery, composed by Rodolfo Ortega

*“Look at that! What do you know? It’s gears and wheels that make me go!”*

## 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

From a pile of shiny scrap metal comes the buzz, clink and whir of the original toy story! This industrial musical is the tale of Geppetto’s brand-new mechanical boy who learns, through much trial and many errors, what it means to be human.

This re-imagining of the classic Collodi tale presents not a wooden puppet, but a robotic boy made out of cogs, wheels and tin. With a golden gear that makes him go, Pinocchio sets out for a day of trouble accompanied by Crick, an elaborate if somewhat flawed windup toy also created by Geppetto. But when sly thieves Catjack and Foxtrot steal his precious gear, the chase is on to get it back. Along the way Pinocchio is imprisoned for foolishness, turned into a mechanical donkey, and ultimately flies to a zeppelin airship to save the day! Protected by the Blue Fairy (the bringer of electricity), the musical score includes inventive songs like “Make a Copy” that cleverly combine a fictional historic backdrop with references to modern-day technology for today’s tech-savvy kids.

NWCT’s version of *Pinocchio* puts a “steampunk” spin on the children’s classic. What is steampunk? Imagine a world of copper and steel that reinvents modern machines using Victorian-age technology, where everything from abacus to zeppelins are powered by steam, with gadgets and gizmos that Jules Verne and H.G. Wells would envy and you’ve got it! With creative roots in music, design, and even fashion, steampunk is an appropriately rich, imaginative backdrop for Pinocchio’s story.

While set in a world of stovepipes and steam, NWCT’s adaptation is faithful to the major themes of the *Pinocchio* story. Audiences will recognize the iconic characters and scenes from other popular adaptations, like those in Disney’s 1940 animated classic, as well as some lesser-known plots from Collodi’s original tale. NWCT’s adaptation includes a courtroom scene where Pinocchio is tried for foolishness (with the Judge played brilliantly by Portland comic Kevin Michael Moore), and culminates in a high-stakes scene not with a whale, but on a zeppelin. As in the original, morals like learning from your mistakes, taking responsibility, and being honest are the key lessons in Pinocchio’s journey.

Led by NWCT Artistic Director Sarah Jane Hardy, this steampunk story on Collodi’s world is realized by some of Portland’s most talented theater professionals. Written by Milo Mowery (*Swiss Family Robinson*, *Legend of Sleepy Hollow*) and composed and sound designed by Rodolfo Ortega (multiple Drammy award-winner, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Swiss Family Robinson*), the cast stars powerhouse Lea Zawada (*Hansel and Gretel*, *Go, Dog. Go!*) as Pinocchio. Other principals include Alan King as Geppetto, John Ellingson as Catjack, Kerry Ryan as Foxtrot, Matt Loehrke as Crick, Bryce Earhart as Lampwick, and Julia Staben as the Blue Fairy. The ensemble is comprised of students from NWCT’s professional training programs, including Leona Kindermann, Austen Curtis, Connor Delaplaine, Peter Elgee, Caroline Haroldson, Shannon Jung, Aidan Jung, Jennie Spector, Violet Trachtenberg, and Hannah Wilson.

*continued on next page*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Release Date**  
January 15, 2010  
**Kill Date**  
February 22, 2010

**Media Contact**  
To set up interviews  
or discuss other  
possibilities for feature  
stories, please contact:  
Marri-Beth Serritella  
Sucha Production, Inc.  
503-528-1370  
mb@suchaproduction.com

<b>WHEN</b>	Jan. 29-Feb. 21, 2010 Fri. 7 pm • Sat. 2 & 7 pm. • Sun. 2 pm
<b>WHERE</b>	NW Neighborhood Cultural Center 1819 NW Everett Street, Portland, OR 97209
<b>TICKETS</b>	503-222-4480 or NWCTS.ORG
<b>AGE RANGE</b>	Most enjoyed by ages 6 and up
<b>PRICES</b>	\$18-20 adults, \$15-18 youth (14 & under)
<b>INFO</b>	503-222-4480 or NWCTS.ORG

# Pinocchio

adapted by Milo Mowery, composed by Rodolfo Ortega

“Look at that! What do you know? It’s gears and wheels that make me go!”

Continued from page one

*Pinocchio*’s world of cogs and wheels has been engineered by an award-winning production team, with scenic design by Jeff Seats, lights by Kristeen Crosser, props by Kollodi, scenic painting by John Ellingson, costumes by Mary Rochon and metalwork by Mike Jones.

*Pinocchio* marks the third original cast recording produced by the company and the fourth fully-produced original script in just the past two seasons. Last year’s *Alice in Wonderland* was recently recognized as a Top Ten Cast Album of 2009 on *Talkin’ Broadway*, sharing the spotlight with such luminaries as Stephen Sondheim and Liza Minelli! Visit [www.talkinbroadway.com](http://www.talkinbroadway.com), or contact NWCT for more information. Next up at NWCT: *Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*, adapted from the book by Mo Willems.

*Pinocchio* is one of ten fully-staged premieres in the Fertile Ground festival for new works, produced in partnership with Travel Portland and the Portland Area Theatre Alliance. A Festival Pass gets patrons into over 50 original productions, staged readings and events, all for just \$50. *New this year!* Included with a Festival Pass: a FREE first read event for NWCT’s upcoming production of *Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* Festival Passes are available through NWCT; patrons may call the NWCT box office at 503-222-4480.

*Pinocchio* is sponsored by The Collins Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council/Work for Art, The Standard, the Oregon Arts Commission and the NWCT Producers Guild. 3,000+ school children will cheer as *Pinocchio* becomes a real boy through 12 student matinees. *Pinocchio* is an NWCT world premiere, and is most enjoyed by inventors, explorers and tinkerers ages 6 & up.

## 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](http://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

## PHOTOS

photo credit: ©2010 Annaliese Moyer

high resolution photos online at:  
<http://nwcts.org/html/press.html>

Character (actor) names from left to right:

# 11, 17, 24, 25, 31

Catjack (John Ellingson), *Pinocchio* (Lea Zawada), in NWCT’s world premiere of *Pinocchio*.

# 47, 53, 81, 83

Geppetto (Alan King) and *Pinocchio* (Lea Zawada), in NWCT’s world premiere of *Pinocchio*.

#98

*Pinocchio* (Lea Zawada), in NWCT’s world premiere of *Pinocchio*.

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date  
January 15, 2010  
Kill Date  
February 22, 2010

#### Media Contact

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

Marri-Beth Serritella  
Sucha Production, Inc.  
503-528-1370  
[mb@suchaproduction.com](mailto:mb@suchaproduction.com)

#### WHEN

Jan. 29-Feb. 21, 2010  
Fri. 7 pm, Sat. 2 & 7 pm, Sun. 2 pm

#### WHERE

NW Neighborhood Cultural Center  
1819 NW Everett Street, Portland

#### TICKETS

503-222-4480 or NWCTS.ORG

#### AGE RANGE

Most enjoyed by ages 6 and up

#### PRICES

\$18-20 adults  
\$15-18 youth (14 & under)

#### INFO

503-222-4480 or NWCTS.ORG