

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, please

August 14, 2011

THE WACKY WORLD OF ROALD DAHL'S WILLY WONKA AT THE WASHINGTON CROSSING OPEN AIR THEATRE FOR TWO WEEKENDS

Visit a world where the only limits are your imagination when *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka* comes to the Open Air Theatre stage for two weekends. Beginning Friday, August 19, the musical will be performed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 pm through Sunday, August 28, 2011.

Prepare to have all your preconceived notions about the world-famous candyman, Willy Wonka, and his mysterious factory turned upside-down as a diverse cast of children, teens and adults bring new life and vitality to this musical stage adaptation of Roald Dahl's timeless tale, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Follow our hero, Charlie Bucket, and the four other golden ticket winners as they discover the secrets of Willy Wonka's factory. Along with their various parents and guardians, the children discover that there is far more to life than sweets, and that children who misbehave at the candy factory are sure to end up in trouble! The musical score features the classic songs "Pure Imagination" and "The Candy Man," and promises to entertain children of any age.

The cast of *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka* includes several faces notable to Open Air Theatre audiences. OAT Artistic Director, Louis Palena, takes on the lead role of Willy Wonka. Husband and wife team, and Lambertville, NJ residents, David and Jenny Whiteman play Grandpa Joe and Mrs. Beauregarde. David played F.D.R. in last season's final production of *Annie* while Jenny won rave reviews for her portrayal of the evil Miss Hannigan. Suzanne Slade, well known for her many performances at New Hope's Bucks County Playhouse plays Mrs. Teavee while Toni Thompson, memorable as Mae Peterson in last season's hit *Bye Bye Birdie*, takes the role of Mrs. Gloop. Tyler Hentz plays the musical's young hero, Charlie Bucket. The cast also includes David McCloughan and Anna Hentz and a large number of the area's young actors and actresses round out the chorus.

The Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre production of *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka* will be performed on Friday, August 19, Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21 at 7:30 pm. The musical returns for a second weekend of performances on Friday, August 26, Saturday, August 27 and Sunday, August 28 also at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children (ages 12 and under). Tickets can always be purchased at the Open Air Theatre Box Office prior to the performance. 10-Show Ticket Packages are available for purchase at the Box Office as well.

For complete information about the 2011 Summer Season of mainstage shows, children's theatre productions, movies, directions and more, visit the website at

www.downtownpac.com. The Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre is located inside Washington Crossing State Park at 355 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road in Titusville, New Jersey. Box Office phone is (267) 885-9857.

DISNEY'S CINDERELLA KIDS FOR A SECOND WEEKEND AT THE WASHINGTON CROSSING OPEN AIR THEATRE

A Disney classic returns for a second weekend of performances at the Open Air Theatre when *Disney's Cinderella Kids* is performed on Friday, August 12 at 11 am, Saturday, August 13 at 11 am and Sunday, August 14 at 4 pm.

Poor Cinderella is endlessly mistreated by her wicked stepmother and stepsisters, and denied a chance to go to the Royal Ball. With a little help from her mice friends, and a lot of help from her Fairy Godmother, Cinderella goes to the ball, meets the Prince, and falls in love! With a beautiful score including "A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes" and the classic "Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo," this musical will charm its way into your heart, and remind you that dreams really can come true."

The Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre production of *Disney's Cinderella Kids* will be performed on Friday, August 12 at 11 am, Saturday, August 13 at 11 am and Sunday, August 14 at 4 pm. Tickets are \$5 for children or adults. Tickets can always be purchased at the Open Air Theatre Box Office prior to the performance.

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