

Oregon Children's Theatre
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oregon Children's Theatre presents
The Magic School Bus Live: The Climate Challenge

- Based on the popular book series

Portland, OR – Drammy Award winning Oregon Children's Theatre presents *The Magic School Bus Live: The Climate Challenge*, January 22–February 19, 2012 at the Newmark Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway (Saturdays at 2:00 & 5:00 pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm). Tickets are \$16-\$30 for adults and \$13-\$26 for children. Box Office: 503-228-9571 or through TicketMaster (503-790-ARTS or www.ticketmaster.com). General information: www.octc.org. Recommended for ages 6 & up.

In January 2012, *The Magic School Bus Live: The Climate Challenge* will fly into the Newmark Theatre. After 25 years of scientific adventures, the Magic School Bus makes its first-ever landing in Portland. OCT has co-commissioned this play with Bay Area Children's Theatre and will be the only company to produce it outside of the national tour. Projections and photo-realism will add to the set design, help deepen concepts, and show the expanse of the globe.

Ms. Frizzle, Wanda, Ralphie, Carlos and the other students at Walkerville Elementary are putting on a play about climate change, and we know what that means...field trip. WAHOO! The Frizz and her class circle the globe, from Antarctica to the equator, learning about global warming. In classic School Bus style, they start with the big picture, then take a closer look at the reasons the world is getting warmer. It's not all bad news—Ms. Frizzle and kids explore countless easy ways to combat climate change and learn that science is fun when you take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!

The show is based on the book *The Magic School Bus and the Climate Challenge* by **Joanna Cole** and **Bruce Degen**. Book, music, and lyrics by **Scott Elmegreen**. In association with Bay Area Children's Theatre and Maximum Entertainment.

The cast features **Emily Sahler Beleele** as Ms. Frizzle, **Connor Delaplane** as Arnold, **Sophie Shely** as Wanda, **Lauren Steele** as Keesha, **Ashlee Waldbauer** as Dorothy Ann, **Bryce Earhart** and **Blake Peebles** as Carlos, and **Claire Aldridge** as Liz the Iguana.

The creative team includes: **Matt Cospers** (Director), **Gene Dent** (Scenic & Lighting Design), **Emily Horton** (Costume Design), **Cecil Averett** (Sound Design), **Jeffrey Childs** (Musical Director), **Sara Mishler Martins** (Choreography), and **Amy Weller** (Props Master).

Founded in 1988, Oregon Children's Theatre is Oregon's largest non-profit professional children's theater company and a resident company of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. Performances are held weekdays for school audiences and on weekends for family audiences. OCT serves more than 120,000 children of all ages each year. OCT offers numerous school services including study guides, teacher professional development opportunities, in-school workshops, and an extensive outreach program. In partnership with Kaiser Permanente, our Educational Theatre Program provides free touring productions that promote healthy living. OCT's year round Acting Academy offers theater classes for children ages 4-17.

The Magic School Bus Live: The Climate Challenge is sponsored by Bank of America and the Harold & Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation. This project is supported in part by grants from the Regional Arts & Culture Council and Work for Art, and the Oregon Arts Commission.

Tickets can be ordered by calling Oregon Children's Theatre at 503-228-9571.

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