



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 19, 2009

MEDIA CONTACT: Amanda Russell
PHONE: 301-634-2267
BOX OFFICE: 301-634-2270
EMAIL: arussell@adventuretheatre.org

ADVENTURE THEATRE PRESENTS THE AREA PREMIERE OF THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD™

DECEMBER 7 – JANUARY 10, 2009

GLEN ECHO, MD – [Adventure Theatre](#), the longest-running children's theatre in the Washington, D.C. area and recent Helen Hayes Award nominee, presents the area premiere of The Little Engine That Could™, based on the children's book by Watty Piper and adapted for the stage by James Larson with music and lyrics by Stuart Kenny. Directed by Jeremy Skidmore, The Little Engine That Could™ marks the second production of [Adventure Theatre's 58th](#) season and runs from December 7, 2009 to January 10, 2010.

"I think I can... I think I can... I think I can..." This holiday production brings to the stage the classic tale of the determined little engine that despite its size, attempts to pull oodles of toys to the waiting children on the other side of a mountain. The Little Engine That Could™ is wholly owned and published by [Penguin Young Readers Group](#) © 2009 and has been a children's classic for over 50 years.

Michael J. Bobbitt, Adventure Theatre's Artistic Director praises The Little Engine That Could™ for its accessible, inspiring message. "It's about a train who not only donates his time and energy to toys, but for the benefit of all the awaiting children. So many times our schedules prevent us from being truly grateful for what we have during the year. What better way to celebrate the season than with a message about giving for the benefit of all?"

Director Jeremy Skidmore continues, "The Little Engine That Could may have been the first book I ever read that caused me to think about how I feel about myself. Its message of putting all of your energy and faith into everything you do is a powerful one. This production is a truly uplifting family event."

Tickets can be purchased through the box office by calling 301-634-2270 or online at www.adventuretheatre.org. Tickets are \$12 for children 12 and under and \$15 for adults. Children under the age of 1 are free. All performances will take place at Adventure Theatre, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo, MD, 20812 in the historic Glen Echo Park.

The **press performance** will be on **Sunday, December 13 at 1:30pm**. For more information on Adventure Theatre's upcoming [2009-2010 season](#), visit www.adventuretheatre.org.

SHARE THE ADVENTURE PROGRAM

After the success of the 2008 drive, Adventure Theatre will continue its 2nd Annual Hats and Mittens Drive in partnership with [A Wider Circle](#) and [Leadership Montgomery](#). Bring donations of new winter outerwear to any performance of The Little Engine That Could™ to support families transitioning out of shelters and impoverished conditions. Additionally, members of the 2010 Leadership Montgomery class will provide holiday festivities for families from A Wider Circle's contingency which includes a showing of The Little Engine That Could™.

ABOUT ADVENTURE THEATRE

Adventure Theatre cultivates new generations of audiences and artists by creating memorable theatre experiences in an intimate and interactive environment, by producing stage adaptations of traditional and popular children's stories, offering creative theatre-education programs, and building community through outreach initiatives. Adventure Theatre, founded in 1951, is the longest-running theatre program for children and families in the Washington metropolitan area and has been one of the main attractions at [Glen Echo Park](#) since 1971. Adventure Theatre is supported in part through the generous support of the [Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County](#) and the [Maryland State Arts Council](#), and is currently featured in the [2009-2010 Catalogue for Philanthropy](#).

“THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD” FACT SHEET

Based on the book by Watty Piper
 Adapted for the Stage by James Larson
 With Music and Lyrics by Stuart Kenny
 Directed by Jeremy Skidmore
 TM & © 2009 Penguin Group (USA) Inc.

CAST

Morning Train/Little Engine Branda Lock
 Old/Freight/Shiny Trains Jade Wheeler
 Clown Javi Harnly
 Bear Davis Chandler Hasty
 Red Doll Katie Brobst
 Monkey Chelsea Rae Abbate

PRODUCTION CREW

Director Jeremy Skidmore
 Assistant Director Jes Johnstone
 Musical Director Darius Smith
 Orchestrator Wayne Chadwick
 Choreographer Kelly Mayfield
 Scenic Designer Eileen Garcia
 Costume Designer Katie Touart
 Lighting Designer Andrew Cissna
 Sound Designer Matt Nielson
 Properties Designer Dre Moore
 Master Electrician Sarah MacKowski
 Stage Manager Melanie Shur
 Assistant Stage Manager Julie Roedersheimer

IMPORTANT DATES

Production Run Dates – December 7, 2009 – January 10, 2010
Pajama Party Opening Night – Friday, December 11, 2009 at 7pm
Press Opening – Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 1:30pm
Book Club Performance – Saturday, December 19, 2009 at 1:30pm
Sensory Friendly Performance – Sunday, December 20, 2009 at 1:30pm
American Sign Language (ASL) Performance – Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 1:30pm

Sundays

Dec 13, 20, 27/Jan 3,10 11am & 1:30pm
 Dec 13 (Press Opening) 1:30pm
 Dec 20 (Sensory Friendly Performance) 1:30pm
 Jan 10 (ASL Performance) 1:30pm

Mondays

Dec 7 10:30am
 Dec 21, 28 11am & 1:30pm

Tuesdays

Dec 8 10:30am
 Dec 22 7:00pm

Dec 29 11am & 1:30pm

Wednesdays

Dec 9 10:30am
Dec 16 10:30am & 12:30pm
Dec 23 7:00pm
Dec 30 11am & 1:30pm

Thursdays

Dec 17 10:30am & 12:30pm
Dec 31 11am & 1:30pm

Fridays

Dec 11 (Pajama Party w/ Free Milk & Cookies) 7:00pm
Dec 18 10:30am & 12:30pm

Saturdays

Dec 12 11am & 1:30pm
Dec 19, 26/Jan 2, 9..... 11am , 1:30pm, 4pm
Dec 19 (Book Club Performance)..... 1:30pm

###