

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Starlight's Performances for Young Audiences Series Returns This Fall



All performances are held inside the climate-controlled Cohen Community Stage House.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Starlight Theatre is excited to announce the return of its Performances for Young Audiences Series, featuring international, award-winning theater companies to inspire and engage elementary aged youth. This season, three beloved children's books come to life on the Starlight Indoors stage. Tickets are available online at kcstarlight.com, by calling (816) 363-7827, or by visiting the ticket office at 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City, Mo., 64132. The Performances for Young Audiences Series is brought to you by Children's Mercy.

Developed for young people ages 5-9 and designed for children and adults to enjoy together, this series provides young audiences the inspirational and developmental benefits of live theatre to community students and families. School matinee performances and weekend family shows ensure young people and their families have opportunities to experience the magic of Starlight.

“We believe a young person’s first experience with live theatre can spark a lifelong sense of curiosity, creativity, and connection,” Alex Jones, Starlight’s Chief Programming Officer, said. “This season’s Performances for Young Audiences Series brings internationally acclaimed storytelling to Kansas City through productions that are imaginative, joyful, and heartfelt. It’s a privilege to create opportunities for students and families to experience the wonder of live performance together at Starlight.”

In chronological order, the Performances for Young Audiences Series at Starlight features:

The Snowy Day and Other Stories
October 24, 2026

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The Snowy Day and Other Stories celebrates the magic and boundless possibilities of the first snowfall! Follow Peter and his friends as they romp and play, starting snow ball fights and making snow angels in this imaginative musical play about the childhood joys and challenges of growing up. Using innovative shadow puppetry, Keats' treasured characters come to life in this humorous and fun adaptation of *Whistle for Willie*, *Goggles!*, *A Letter to Amy*, and *The Snowy Day*.

The Invisible Boy
February 20, 2027

This story of kindness shows that the smallest gestures often have the biggest impact.

Meet Brian. No one notices him. No one includes him. He just feels invisible. But everything suddenly changes when a new student named Justin arrives. A bit of creativity helps form a new friendship, unleashing Brian's lively personality and vivid imagination. This high-spirited musical, complete with fun songs and heartfelt humor, will help us all discover the possibilities that begin with a simple act of kindness.

The Gruffalo
April 3, 2027

Tall Stories' much-loved magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler returns by popular demand, celebrating the show's 25th anniversary.

On a daring adventure in search of hazelnuts, Mouse meets the cunning Fox, the eccentric old Owl and the high-spirited Snake. Will the story of the scary Gruffalo save Mouse from ending up as dinner for these hungry woodland creatures? After all, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo – is there?

Songs, laughs and mischievous fun for children aged 3 and up and their grown-ups, from Tall Stories, creators of imaginative storytelling theatre, where everything is possible.

How to Purchase Tickets:

Tickets for each show are on sale now and available online at kcstarlight.com, by calling (816) 363-7827, or by visiting the ticket office at 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City Mo., 64132. For more information, please visit kcstarlight.com.

New this year! Purchase tickets to all three shows in the Performances for Young Audiences Series and receive 20% off.

Discount prices for groups of 10 or more are available by contacting Starlight's group sales department at 816-997-1137 or groups@kcstarlight.com. Please note that kcstarlight.com is the only official ticket source for all shows in the Performances for Young Audiences Series. If you purchase tickets from another website or ticket broker, we cannot guarantee those tickets are legitimate.

About Starlight:

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest

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performing arts organization in Kansas City, Missouri, and connects our community through live arts experiences that entertain, inspire, and engage audiences of all ages. Offering diverse programming year-round, Starlight presents Broadway musicals, concert events, and extensive community engagement programming, including arts access initiatives, scholarships, school partnerships, and one of the most well-regarded high school musical theatre award programs in the nation. Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, the historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country with almost 8,000 seats. Follow Starlight on social media @kcstarlight and visit kcstarlight.com for more information.

Starlight is supported in part by the City of Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

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