

For Immediate Release May 4, 2012

The Witches

May 18 - 20, 2012

MST – CHELSEA MARKET

Roald Dahl's classic tale, *The Witches*, comes to Main Street Theater this month! Performed by MST students for families, *The Witches* plays Friday and Saturday, May 18 and 19, at 7:30pm, and Sunday, May 20 at 3:30pm. Performances are at Main Street Theater – Chelsea Market, located at 4617 Montrose Boulevard. For tickets, call 713-524-6706 or log on to mainstreettheater.com. All tickets are \$5.00.

About the Play

Witches hate children. The Boy in this play has been warned about witches by his Grandmother, so he thinks he's safe—until he overhears the Grand High Witch's plan to turn all the children of the world into mice using her Formula Eighty-Six Delayed-Action Mouse-Maker! When he is discovered, the Boy fears the witches will kill him—but they test their potion on him instead. Now permanently a mouse, the Boy (and his Grandmother) must try to thwart the witches' evil plan!

About The Production

The cast is comprised students ages 12 - 18 from the Houston area and includes Melissa Alyassin, Jasmine Blas, Grace Burgert, Lenore Craig, Bridget Kennedy, Jake Keville, Betty Pittatima, Natalia Salas, and Ellis Tanner.

Professional artists direct and design all R&P productions. James Monaghan is the director. Lauren Smith is the Assistant Director. Macy Perrone is the Costume Designer, and Art Ornelas is the Set and Properties designer.

About MST's Education Department

Now in its 24th season, MST's Education Department is designed to spark a lifelong appreciation of theater by encouraging young people to participate in all aspects of play production, from movement and monologues to stagecraft and theater history. The curriculum teaches essential skills such as creative thinking, teamwork, self-confidence, and communication—skills that enhance the overall learning process.

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Through year-round classes, outreach programs, and camps both on-site and at satellite locations, students develop their voices, bodies, and imaginations in a challenging and fun curriculum, taught by professional artists and arts educators.

Main Street Theater's education programs offer a wide range of classes for students of all skill levels, including individual audition coaching sessions, movement and dance classes, filmmaking classes, high school workshops, and a Summer Performing Arts Camp throughout the summer. The Rehearsal and Performance system includes classes for students at two levels: those who are ready to audition for plays for the public and those who want to hone their skills by producing a play in a "lab" context for family and friends. Classes range from \$175 - \$500; camp ranges from \$50 - \$530. For more information or to register for classes and camps, please call 713-524-9196 x 104 or 103 or log on to mainstreettheater.com

Troy Scheid is Director of Education. Jonathan Gonzalez is Assistant Director of Education.

Since 1975, Main Street Theater has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and Main Street Youth Theater. The Main Street Theater Kids On Stage program offers performing arts classes and camps for children 5 years to 19 years of age. The organization produces plays at two locations, 2540 Times Boulevard in Rice Village and 4617 Montrose Boulevard at Chelsea Market.

Main Street Theater is a member of the Fresh Arts Coalition, a collaboration of 25 arts organizations that work collectively to raise awareness of the size and diversity of the arts in Houston, and a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters. Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages and provides a much-needed showcase for Houston theater professionals. Main Street Theater is also a member of Actors' Equity Association and of ASSITEJ, the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people. Main Street Theater is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston, the Houston Arts Alliance, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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