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SAN DIEGO'S BELOVED HOLIDAY TRADITION, DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! RETURNS TO GLOBE FOR NINTH INCREDIBLE YEAR

GRINCH ALSO OPENS ON BROADWAY IN OCTOBER AT HILTON THEATER

BROADWAY VETERAN JAY GOEDE TO PLAY "GRINCH" AT GLOBE

GRINCH FAMILY EXPERIENCE RAISES FUNDS FOR GLOBE EDUCATION PROGRAMS; PROVIDES HANDS-ON THEATRE ACTIVITIES FOR SAN DIEGO CHILDREN & FAMILIES

San Diego - Executive Director Louis Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch of the Tony Award[®]-winning Old Globe are pleased to present San Diego's premiere holiday event, Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, directed by Globe Artistic Director Jack O'Brien, with book and lyrics by Timothy Mason and music by Mel Marvin, playing November 11 – December 24, 2006 (press/opening night: Thursday, November 16 at 7:30pm). The San Diego Union-Tribune will once again serve as a Presenting Sponsor of the production.

Now in its ninth amazing year, this wonderful musical will once again jump right off the pages of the classic Dr. Seuss book and onto the Old Globe stage. Launched in 1998, the Globe is pleased to bring back this family favorite year after year. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas! has become a San Diego tradition," said Globe Executive Director Louis G. Spisto. "We thank Audrey Geisel (a.k.a. "Mrs. Dr. Seuss") for her generous gift to the Globe and to the San Diego community of this timeless holiday classic."

The Globe is thrilled to announce that How the Grinch Stole Christmas! will also premiere on Broadway this fall. Presented by Running Subway Productions, the show will run at the Hilton Theater October 25, 2006 through January 7, 2007. This annual Globe holiday favorite production will transfer to New York with the original creative team, including O'Brien, who will serve as Production Creator and Supervisor, scenic designer John Lee Beatty, costume designer Robert Morgan, lighting designer Pat Collins, and choreographer John DeLuca. The show will be directed by Matt August, who recently directed the Globe's co-world premiere production of *Pig Farm* (September 23 – October 29).

Playing the role of the "Grinch" this year will be **Jay Goede** and "Young Max" will be played by local favorite **Ryan Drummond**.

Goede's Broadway credits include in Angels in America, A Year with Frog and Toad (Frog), Sex and Longing and The Play's the Thing. Off-Broadway he has appeared in Shopping and F**cking, Miracle Brothers, A Letter from Ethel Kennedy, The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told and Gross Indecency; Three Trials of Oscar Wilde. He has also appeared in the national tour of Cabaret. His regional credits include The Real Thing at the Guthrie Theater, A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Intiman Theatre; The Dying Gaul, The Singing Forest and Three Sisters at The Shakespeare Theatre, and Hamlet and Romeo and Juliet at the Williamstown Theater Festival. On film and television he has appeared in Ethan Frome, Breaking and Entering, Girl 6, A Year with Frog and Toad (PBS), Over Here (BBC) and Law and Order.

Drummond was an original ensemble member in the Globe's *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*. He has appeared locally in *Forever Plaid* (Smudge) at the Theatre in Old Town, *Into the Woods, Godspell* and *Cotton Patch Gospel* at Lamb's Players Theatre; *Showboat* and *Joseph...Dreamcoat* at the Lawrence Welk Resort Theatre, and many others. His film and television credits include *Bring It On, The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and *Baywatch*, to name a few. Drummond is also the voice of "Sonic the Hedgehog" for Sega Gaming Corp.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas! has been hailed by critics: "This Grinch is a smash," wrote the L.A. Times, while the San Diego Union-Tribune raved, "Jack O'Brien scaled this Globe holiday show...to the heartfelt humanity of the season." As an added feature of this holiday celebration, the Globe again plans to feature many wonderful characters and graphic elements from How the Grinch Stole Christmas! in a mini Who-ville on the outdoor Copley Plaza throughout the run of the production.

Tickets for *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* are currently on sale and can be purchased by calling the Old Globe's Ticket Services Department at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, by visiting the Globe box office in Balboa Park or on line at www.TheOldGlobe.org. Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$29 for children 3-17 years of age; and \$39 to \$59 for adults.

The Old Globe is also pleased to present the fourth annual **Grinch Family Experience**, a delightful family gala created to help raise money for the Globe's education and outreach programs, while offering an exciting day of hands-on theatre activities for children and families. The celebration takes place on **Sunday**, **December 3**, beginning at 11:00am in the Globe's rehearsal halls in Balboa Park. The event includes a special buffet lunch, followed by a puppet show and a delightful performance by the children in the *Grinch* cast, as well as "Grinchy" crafting activities where children can make fun holiday items. At 2:00pm patrons attend a performance of *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* in the Old Globe Theatre. VIP ticket holders receive complimentary valet parking, priority seating, a photo with the cast and much more. VIP tickets are \$175 for children and \$300 for adults. Tickets are \$100 for children and \$150 for adults. Torrey Pines Bank is the Lead Corporate Underwriter for the Grinch Family Experience. For more information, please contact Christina Greenfield at (619) 231-1941, x2308.

Additionally, the Globe will host its annual **Seussabration** event, which brings 600 first-graders from Title One San Diego County schools to the Globe to attend *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* as part of **The Grinch Children's Initiatives**. This year's Seussabration will take place on **Wednesday**, **November 29**, **from 10:30am to 1:00pm** and includes lunch and a special performance of the Globe's annual holiday production. Through The Grinch Children's Initiatives, more than 600 children are invited to participate in an ongoing project to read six books before the day of the celebration on November 29. The program also provides a free book to every child who successfully completes his or her reading list. Participating school groups include: Encanto Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, King-Chavez Arts Academy, McGill School of Success, McKinley Elementary, Orange Glen School and Pauma Elementary.

As part of The Grinch Children's Initiatives, the Globe's Education Department also offers a free workshop, providing information, insights and additional resources to teachers involved in the matinee series and Seussabration, to help maximize the learning experience for their classes. The Old Globe also provides more than 4,000 free tickets to *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* for underserved San Diego children, in order to share the magic of this wonderful holiday story with those who may not otherwise be able to attend. The tickets are distributed to more than 40 Title One San Diego County Schools during a series of 10:30am matinees (the Grinch Children's Matinee Series) throughout the run of the show. In addition, all children's (ages 3-17) tickets to *Grinch* performances are offered at a substantial discount off the regular adult price. The Grinch Children's Initiatives are sponsored by The San Diego Union-Tribune, Bank of America, Union Bank of California, Wells Fargo, Nokia, County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, Torrey Pines Bank, The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, Nissan Foundation, The County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program, Pratt Memorial Fund, Cush Family Foundation and Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek.

This year The Old Globe is proud to launch the Globe's Literacy Initiative, an expansion of last year's **Globe Readers** program, where Globe volunteers traveled to San Diego-area schools throughout the spring semester to read stories to students, work with them on writing their own stories and donate books to the school libraries. This year the Globe Readers program has doubled in size, partnering with 30 schools in San Diego County.

The full 2006 cast of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* includes **Jay Goede** as the "Grinch," **Ryan Drummond** as "Young Max," **Kevin Bailey** as "Old Max," **Eileen Bowman** as "Grandma Who," **Justin Michael Duval** as "J.P. Who," **Sarah Sumner** as "Mama Who," and **James Vasquez** as "Grandpa Seth Who." Reprising her role as "Cindy-Lou Who" is **Mackenzie Holmes**, who will alternate in the role with newcomer **Skylar Starrs Siben**. The Who Children include **Alison Grace Norwood** and **Bibi Valderrama** as "Betty-Lou Who" (on alternate performances), **Cassidy Burwell** and **Caroline Hyatt** as "Annie Who" (on alternate performances), **A.J. Foggiano** and **Troy Hussman** as "Boo Who" (on alternate performances), and **Ari Lerner** and **Nathan Wetter** as "Danny Who" (on alternate performances).

The adult ensemble includes: Randall Dodge, Ron Christopher Jones, Theresa Layne, Ashley Linton, Spencer Moses and Carly Nykanen. The ensemble also consists of ten local children, who will rotate into their roles every other performance: Maddie Shea Baldwin, Halle Hoffman, Ari Krasner, Zev Lerner, Natalya Phillips, Hannah Prater, Keilani Joy Spahn, Celia Tedde, Allie Trimm and Tommy Twomey.

DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!

WHAT: Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

Book and lyrics by Timothy Mason; music by Mel Marvin

WHERE: Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park

WHEN: November 11 through December 24, 2006 (Press Opening: November 16 at 7:30pm)

CREW: Director: Jack O'Brien Scenic Design: John Lee Beatty

Lighting Design: Pat Collins
Sound Design: Paul Peterson

Costume Design: Robert Morgan (Associate Artist)
Stage Managers: Leila Knox, Tracy Skoczelas

Choreography: John DeLuca Musical Director: Phil Reno

Associate Director: Brendon Fox Associate Musical Director/Conductor: Ron Colvard

CAST: Kevin Bailey Old Max

Eileen Bowman Grandma Who

Cassidy Burwell Betty-Lou Who (alternate performances)

Ryan Drummond Young Max
Justin Michael Duval J.P. Who

A.J. Foggiano Boo Who (alternate performances)

Jay Goede Grinch

Mackenzie Holmes
Caroline Hyatt
Annie Who (alternate performances)
Troy Hussman
Ari Lerner
Alison Grace Norwood
Skylar Starrs Siben

Cindy-Lou Who (alternate performances)
Annie Who (alternate performances)
Cindy-Lou Who (alternate performances)

Sarah Sumner Mama Who

Bibi Valderrama Betty-Lou Who (alternate performances)

James Vasquez Grandpa Seth Who

Nathan Wetter Danny Who (alternate performances)

Adult Ensemble: Randall Dodge, Ron Christopher Jones, Theresa Layne,

Ashley Linton, Spencer Moses, Carly Nykanen,

Child Ensemble: Maddie Shea Baldwin, Halle Hoffman, Ari Krasner, Zev Lerner,

Natalya Phillips, Hannah Prater, Keilani Joy Spahn, Celia

Tedde, Allie Trimm, Tommy Twomey

TICKETS: Adults: \$39-\$59

Children (ages 3-17): \$19-\$29

BOX OFFICE: (619) 23-GLOBE or order tickets on-line at www.TheOldGlobe.org

-Hours: Mondays: noon to 6pm; Tuesdays - Sundays: noon to 8:00pm

-MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express accepted

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: http://www.theoldglobe.org/pdf/Calendar Grinch2006.pdf

The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe's 2006/7 Season include the acclaimed production of Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone, the world premiere of Kenneth Lonergan's The Starry Messenger, starring Matthew Broderick, as well as Amy Freed's Restoration Comedy, the co-world premiere of Pig Farm, August Wilson's Two Trains Running and Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.