



South Coast Repertory

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

2019/20 SEASON • JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE

Judith Viorst's

ALEXANDER

and the

TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE,

NO GOOD, *Very*

BAD DAY

book & lyrics by Judith Viorst
music by Shelly Markham
directed by Kari Hayter

Nov 8-24, 2019



Be sure to check out our website for the *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* study guide, which features additional information about the play, plus a variety of other educational resources. scr.org



 South Coast Repertory

DAVID IVERS
Artistic Director

PAULA TOMEI
Managing Director

DAVID EMMES & MARTIN BENSON
Founding Artistic Directors

PRESENTS

Judith Viorst's

ALEXANDER
and the
TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD,
Very **BAD DAY**

BOOK & LYRICS BY **JUDITH VIORST**

MUSIC BY **SHELLY MARKHAM**

SET DESIGNER
FRED KINNEY

COSTUME DESIGNER
ELIZABETH A. COX

LIGHTING DESIGNER
ANDREW SCHMEDAKE

SOUND DESIGNER
JEFF POLUNAS

CASTING
JOANNE DENAUT, csa

STAGE MANAGER
KATHRYN DAVIES

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
DIANE KING VANN

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY
KARI HAYTER

HONORARY PRODUCERS

APRIEM ADVISORS

MARIANNE & TIMOTHY KAY/ARGYROS FAMILY FOUNDATION

CORPORATE HONORARY PRODUCERS



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The Musical was commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was first produced in 1998 at the The Kennedy Center. Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois.

The Theatre for Young Audiences program is made possible in part by a major grant from
THE SEGERSTROM FOUNDATION

The Cast



Ensemble #4 (also plays Paul)..... RICKY ABILEZ
 Mother (also plays Mrs. Dickens).....JANNA CARDIA
 Father (also plays Dr. Fields
 and Shoe Salesman)ROBERT COLLINS
 Ensemble #3 (also plays Audrey
 and Philip Parker) CRISTINA GERLA
 Ensemble #1 (also plays Nick
 and Albert)MITCHELL GERRARD JOHNSON
 Alexander AUSTYN MYERS
 Ensemble #2 (also plays Anthony and Becky) ... MONIKA PEÑA

The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

For Your Information

NO BABES IN ARMS ALLOWED. Everyone must have a ticket; children under the age of four will not be admitted to Theatre for Young Audiences performances.

To cause the least disruption, patrons who have not entered the theatre when the performance begins will be asked to watch the show on lobby monitors until an appropriate break in the performance. Latecomers, as well as those who leave the theatre anytime during the performance, may be assisted to alternate seats by the House Manager at an appropriate

interval and may take their assigned seats at intermission. SCR accepts no liability for inconvenience.

Special seating arrangements may be made in advance for disabled patrons by calling South Coast Repertory's Ticket Services Department at (714) 708-5555.

As a courtesy to all patrons and the actors, please turn off all electronic devices or switch them to non-audible mode before the performance begins.

Photographing, videotaping or other video or audio recording during the performance is strictly prohibited.

These folks help bring all of our shows to life

DAVID IVERS
Artistic Director

PAULA TOMEI
Managing Director

DAVID EMMES & MARTIN BENSON
Founding Artistic Directors

JOHN GLORE
Associate Artistic Director

HISA TAKAKUWA
Conservatory & Educational
Programs Director

BIL SCHROEDER
Marketing & Communications Director

LORI MONNIER
General Manager

MATTHEW E. CHANDLER
Production Manager

ALEX WANG
Development Director

These folks are helping run this show backstage

DRAMATURG: Andy Knight
ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER: Holly Ahlborn
MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS: Deborah Wicks LaPuma
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: Rubén Bolívar
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Erin Cholakian
SCENIC DESIGN ASSISTANT: Samantha Lehotai
COSTUME DESIGN ASSISTANT: Julie Carr
STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERNS:
 Emperatriz "Teresa" Mejia, Gloria Perez

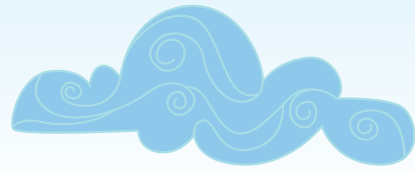
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR: Sean Deuel
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR: Jim Lupercio
A2/AUDIO SUPPORT: Abraham Lopez
AUTOMATION OPERATOR: Steven McFann
DRESSER: Margaret Johnson
ADDITIONAL COSTUME STAFF:
 Maria C. Solesbee, LaRae Mychel Wilson
HOUSE MANAGER: Ashleigh Hector

And these folks helped get it ready for you

THESE FOLKS BUILT THE SCENERY
 Jon Lagerquist, **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**
 John Gaddis IV, **ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**
 Matt MacCready, **MASTER CARPENTER**
 Daniel Petrich, Eric Crider, **SCENIC CARPENTERS**
 Alex Johnson, **AUTOMATION TECHNICIAN**
 Jen Stringfellow, **SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST**
 Judy Allen, Terra Writz, **SCENIC ARTISTS**
THESE PEOPLE CREATED PROPS
 David Saewert, **PROP MASTER**
 Cat Kerr, **ASSISTANT PROP SUPERVISOR**
 Byron Bacon, **PROPERTIES SHOPPER**
 Hayley Parker, **SOFT GOODS ARTISAN**

THE FOLLOWING MADE THE COSTUMES
 Amy L. Hutto, **COSTUME SHOP MANAGER**
 Laurie Donati, **FULL CHARGE COSTUMER**
 Catherine J. Esera, **CUTTER/DRAPER**
 Jyll Christolini, **WARDROBE SUPERVISOR**
THESE PEOPLE FIXED THE HAIR
 Allison Lowery, **HAIR & MAKEUP SUPERVISOR**
 Gillian Woodson, **HAIR & MAKEUP TECHNICIAN**
THIS GROUP DEALT WITH LIGHTS & SOUND
 Mike Ritchey, **SOUND & VIDEO SUPERVISOR**
 Kara Ramlow, **LIGHTING SUPERVISOR**
 Sean Deuel, Keannak Parvaz, **STAGE ELECTRICIANS**
 Jim Lupercio, Jim Busker, **SOUND ENGINEERS**





Songs

- “If I Were in Charge of the World” Alexander, Ensemble
- “First Day of School” Audrey
- “Baby Sister” Becky, Alexander
- “Lizzie Pitofsky” Paul
- “Mother Doesn’t Want a Dog” Albert, Alexander
- “Australia” Alexander, Ensemble
- “Shoes” Shoe Salesman, Ensemble
- “The Sweetest of Nights and the Finest of Days” Mother, Ensemble
- “If I Were in Charge of the World” Alexander, Ensemble

Invisible Image

Alexander has a big imagination, and sometimes—like when he draws invisible pictures during class—others don’t quite understand what he’s thinking. But you can! Connect the dots below to reveal Alexander’s secret drawing.

28

46

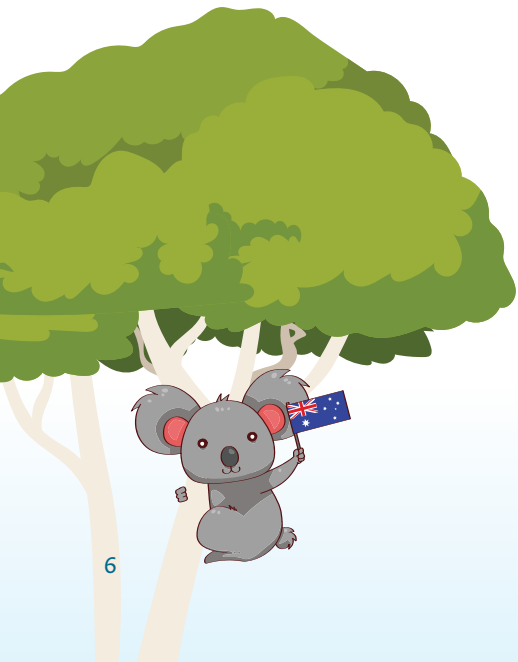
10

30, 29, 27, 26, 31, 25, 24, 13, 12, 9, 8, 48, 47, 44, 43, 32, 23, 22, 34, 33, 49, 42, 36, 35, 21, 20, 14, 15, 7, 50, 41, 38, 37, 39, 40, 19, 18, 17, 16, 6

52, 51

5, 4

53, 57, 58, 59, 3, 56, 60, 1, 2, 54, 55



Hanging Out in the Outback

It's no secret that Alexander loves Australia. And there's no denying that the world "Down Under" is pretty cool, with lots to explore. Here are some fun facts about the continent.



Australia's first people—known as **Aboriginal Australians**—have lived on the continent for over 50,000 years.



Australia has so many beaches that it would take **27 years** to visit one beach per day.

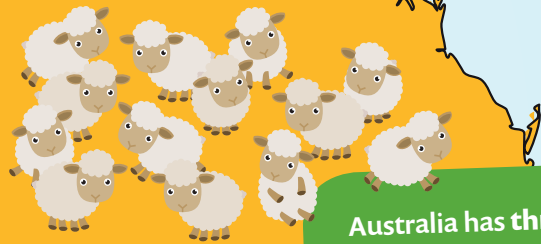
It's my **3,400,000,000th** birthday!



The world's oldest fossil was found in Australia. Scientists estimate it's approximately **3.4 billion** years old!



The Great Victoria Desert is the largest desert in Australia and covers **134,650** square miles.



Australia has **three times** more sheep than people.

The word "selfie" was first used in Australia.



Lyrebirds, which are native to Australia, can mimic the calls of **more than 20 other birds**. They can also mimic man-made sounds—like a camera shutter, chainsaw and a car alarm.



Who's Who in the Cast



RICKY ABILEZ *Ensemble #4 (also plays Paul)*

I come from a Hispanic family of more than 200 people who taught me to love, laugh and reach for the stars. Growing up, I would perform “parades” with my brother and sister in the living room; we loved to sing and dance. When I was 16, I dreamed of winning “American Idol” and becoming a recording artist. So, I auditioned, but was quickly sent home. I was heartbroken, until I was cast as the lead in my high school musical—so things worked out! Theatre inspired me to pursue my BFA in acting at California State University, Fullerton. I learned how to listen actively, challenge myself, work hard and I also learned how art can change the world. Now, I’m a teacher, an activist and an artist. You may have seen me here at SCR in *The Velveteen Rabbit* or with MainStreet Theatre Company in *Frederick*. Always pursue your dreams and never give up. Remember: if you have a terrible day, there’s always a better tomorrow!



JANNA CARDIA
Mother (also plays Mrs. Dickens)

I love my life in the theatre! I’ve been using my imagination for as long as I can remember and that is where my acting began. I’d conjure up stories in my head with my toys, with my twin sister, with the neighborhood kids and we’d put on plays in our backyard and at my grandparents’ house (we’d put on Christmas pageants); and at school, during recess, we’d re-enact great movie scenes. With all that imagination, it was natural for me to be in the drama club at school, sing in my church choir and perform in local community theatre productions. Once I graduated from high school, I loved musical theatre so much that I chose to major in it at college. I graduated with a degree in musical theatre and dance and now I work professionally in shows. It has been 25 years since I graduated and I’ve been happily telling stories on stage ever since. If you are curious about my adventures as a performer, go to jannacardia.com



ROBERT COLLINS
Father (also plays Dr. Fields and Shoe Salesman)

When I was growing up, I never thought that I would be a performer. That all changed when I saw a production of *Annie* that weirdly had hip-hop numbers in it that normally would not have been there. As silly as it was, the kids looked like they were having fun so I knew I needed to join! I graduated with a BA in theatre from Cal State Northridge and I am very excited that I get to be silly and play pretend for the rest of my life! I was always a quiet kid, but performing became an outlet to express myself and I am forever grateful that I took the leap to get on a stage. Follow your dreams and always continue to find ways to express yourself, no matter how silly they may seem to others.



CRISTINA GERLA
Ensemble #3 (also plays Audrey and Philip Parker)

I have always loved to dress up and create make-believe stories about exciting adventures. I went to college at UCLA, where I learned how to sing all sorts of songs, dance in all sorts of shoes, speak made-up words by Shakespeare and have a lot of fun with my friends onstage. The best part about theatre is that anything is possible—because it’s live and the audience is part of the story, too! Onstage, I’ve played a parakeet, a wolf, a singing ghost, a competitive speller, and even Peppa Pig and Suzy Sheep all while traveling through the whole United States! Like Alexander and his big brothers, my big sister and I didn’t always get along when we were little. But now that we are older, we are best friends. Thanks so much for coming to the theatre today. I can’t wait to share this story with you!



MITCHELL GERRARD JOHNSON
Ensemble #1 (also plays Nick and Albert)

I have always had a love for performing. When we were kids, my sisters and I would perform shows that we created for my parents and that led me to start taking dance classes and singing lessons in high school. Since then, I haven’t stopped dancing, singing, acting and creating. Telling a story through the magic of theatre will always bring me so much happiness. I have been in various stage shows and commercials and you may even see me hanging with my friend Sebastian at Disneyland for *Mickey’s Magical Map*.



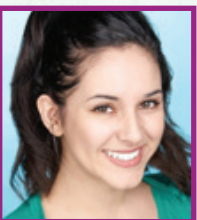


AUSTYN MYERS (Alexander)

I am so excited to be playing Alexander! I love storytelling and getting to create theatre, and have been doing this since I was 7 years old. I played Gavroche in the national tour of the musical *Les Misérables* as well as in that show's 2004 Broadway revival, and you may have seen me opposite Eddie Murphy in the feature film *Meet Dave*. This is the first show I've done since graduating from the University of California, San Diego, with a degree in directing.

It is so exciting to be making my South Coast Repertory debut! I

have recently been acting in San Diego theatres such as The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse and the Lyceum Theater, as well as the west coast last summer when I was Crutchie in *Newsies* in performances at both Moonlight Amphitheatre and at La Mirada Theatre. Thank you so much for coming to our show, and I hope none of you has a ...*Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!*



MONIKA PEÑA

Ensemble #2 (also plays Anthony and Becky)

Ever since I was little, I have loved singing and dancing, but I was really scared to perform for people! That was, until I did my first musical when I was 8 years old. When I got on stage, in costume, with a story to tell, I got lost in the make-believe world and found my happy place. With lots of hard work, and supportive friends and family, I've been able to do what makes me happy and now I'm

lucky enough to perform for wonderful audiences like you! You may have even seen me in last year's *A Christmas Carol* here at SCR or as Rhonda in *Fancy Nancy* at Chance Theater. I hope you enjoy today's show and continue to dream big. You can achieve anything you set your mind to!

Artist Bios

JUDITH VIORST (Playwright)

Alexander stories and two collections of poems—*If I Were in Charge of the World and Other Worries* and *Sad Underwear and Other Complications*. Her 12 adult books include *Necessary Losses*, *Imperfect Control*, a comic novel and six collections of poetry. Along with *Alexander*, Viorst has also collaborated with Shelly Markham on an adult musical, *Love and Shrimp*, which has been performed around the country, including the Pasadena Playhouse, the Beverly Canon Theatre in Beverly Hills and The Ballroom in New York City.

was born and raised in New Jersey and has lived in Washington, D.C., since her 1960 marriage to political writer Milton Viorst. They have three adult sons, whose names are the same as those of the brothers in her play, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. A graduate of Rutgers University and the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, Viorst is the author of numerous books of poetry and prose for both children and adults. Among her 14 children's books are two other

SHELLY MARKHAM (Composer)

I also went to college to earn a teaching credential and MA in education so that I could be a teacher and teach students like you! My favorite plays to direct are musicals because I love to sing and dance. *Parade* and *Urinetown* are two musicals I directed recently and they were both nominated for Ovation and Los Angeles Drama Critic Circle awards. When I am not directing, I love to walk my two dogs, Jackson and Toby, around the lake and watch them chase after the ducks and squirrels.

I grew up in a little town on Long Island in New York. I learned to play the piano from my Italian grandmother and I loved it! I also liked making up my own pieces of music. As I grew up and went to school, I started composing, in addition to playing music by Beethoven, Mozart and even Elton John. I've always loved making music—playing, singing, composing, arranging. I had a caroling company for a long time and did most of the vocal arranging for the singers, who sang a *cappella*. Yeah—just like Pentatonix! I also like to perform and, once in a while, you'll see me up on the stage, instead of behind the scenes. My most recent show here at SCR was playing Baruska in the musical *Once*. I had to learn to play the accordion for that role. So many interesting things can happen when you're willing to take a risk and do what you love to do.

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DIANE KING VANN (Musical Director)

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KARI HAYTER (Director/Choreographer)

I am so grateful to have the opportunity to work on this production with such a fun and fabulous team. Here at SCR, I most recently directed a musical called *Nate the Great* and assistant-directed *Noises Off!*, *Ben and the Magic Paintbrush* and *Once*. I went to college at California State University, Fullerton, where I earned a BA in theatre and an MFA in directing.



FRED KINNEY (*Set Designer*)

I build the models and create the drawings that carpenters and painters make into the scenery that you see on stage today. This is my 10th production at SCR; I also designed various locations that *Nate the Great* traveled to in order to unravel that mystery, as well as the marsh for *A Year with Frog and Toad*, the scaffold playground that lit up for *Pinocchio*, the forest for *Robin Hood*, the Elephant for *The Emperor's New Clothes*, New Duck City for *Lucky Duck* and three worlds and an evil brain for *A Wrinkle in Time*. When I was a small boy, I thought I might become a painter, sculptor or an architect. But in high school, I started to design the scenery for school productions and really enjoyed it—and I still do. I'm the proud father of Kate and Gigi, who will be seeing *Alexander*...hopefully on a good day.

ELIZABETH A. COX (*Costume Designer*)

When I was a kid, I loved to read and make art. Both of my parents liked to see shows and movies, so I was lucky to see many things with singing, dancing and fancy costumes. When I was in high school, I discovered that being a costume designer was a profession; I was hooked because I knew I wanted to make the costumes, not wear them myself! I took as many theatre and art classes as I could in high school and I was even lucky enough to design costumes for shows like *Guys & Dolls* and *On The Town*. I ended up going to college for costume design in Ohio at a conservatory known for musical theatre and opera. After that, I decided to move to California

and got my MA in costume design at UC-Irvine. Costume design marries together so many things that I love: art, fashion, history, storytelling and, if I'm lucky—music (that is, if I'm designing a musical!)

ANDREW SCHMEDAKE (*Lighting Designer*)

I started to make theatre when I was in high school and kept with it all the way through getting my masters degree at Carnegie Mellon University. It is my favorite thing to use lighting to help tell stories. I can make scary moments terrifying and sweet moments beautiful. Some of my best work has been making shows that immerse the audience in the play, so that they're in the same world as the actors. One time, we even turned an old warehouse into a creepy mental asylum!

JEFF POLUNAS (*Sound Designer*)

I'm so excited to be sound-designing this production at SCR. I have designed many young audiences shows, most recently *Naked Mole Rat* and *Nate the Great* here at SCR. I love making new sounds from ordinary things to help create magical worlds and textures. I think its really fun to have sound come from speakers or from microphones that are smaller than my fingernail. I think sound is unique because it is the only design element that you can't see. There are times when I am in some new place and I just close my eyes and listen to all the wonderful sounds our planet has to offer.

KATHRYN DAVIES (*Stage Manager*) I grew up in Nova Scotia, Canada, where I studied piano, ukulele, recorder and tap dancing. My parents took me to see a lot of shows and I decided to become a stage manager when I was in the 12th grade. My high school drama teacher, Mr. Drew, inspired me to do this. Through the years, I have studied French, Italian, German and Spanish, which helped me to work on big opera productions. I am very grateful to my parents for making me keep up with my music lessons, because if I hadn't, I wouldn't be able to do what I do now. Today, I get to work with amazingly creative actors, directors, designers, singers, musicians and film stars in several countries.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 professional actors and stage managers. Equity endeavors to advance the careers of its members by negotiating wages, working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits (health and pension included). Member: AFL-CIO, FIA. #EquityWorks.



A Great Day

Think about the last great day you had.

What did you do? Where did you go?

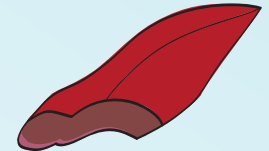
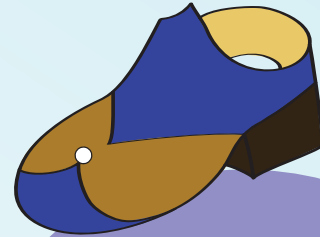
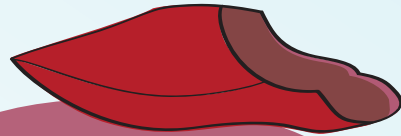
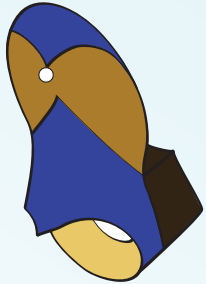
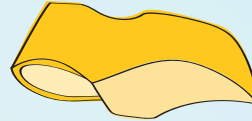
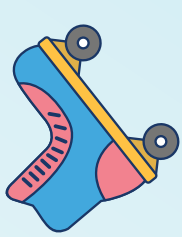
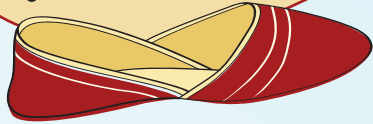
Who did you spend it with?

Draw your favorite moment from that day below.

All Kinds of Shoes

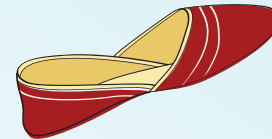
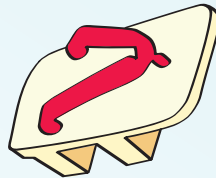
Can you match each shoe with its partner?
(hint, there's a total of 8 pairs of shoes)

In North India, the **jutti**, a leather shoe with intricate embroidery, is often worn at traditional events.



Babouches are soft slippers popular in the North African country of Morocco.

In South Asia, **Mojari** is a style of handcrafted footwear. This style of shoe is also known as Khussa or Saleem Shahi.



Mukluks are a soft boot, often made from reindeer or sealskin, worn by the Inuit peoples who inhabit regions of Greenland, Canada and Alaska.

Klompen are wooden shoes from the Netherlands that are made from willow or poplar.

In Japan, the **geta** is a traditional wooden sandal.





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 and creativity—skills that build
ENRICHED LIVES



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 —Parenting OC

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“I have learned countless lessons about preparation, self-confidence, and positivity.” —Emme O’Toole

“These lessons have made me a better student and, all around, a better person.” —Olivia Drury

“SCR has taught me that vulnerability is a strength rather than a weakness.” —Shane Iverson

Nov 30–Dec 24

Don’t miss
 Hal Landon Jr.’s
 final **“Bah
 Humbug!”**

40th ANNIVERSARY OF
 CHARLES DICKENS’
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

**AGES
 6+**

Children under age 6 will not be admitted.

adapted by **JERRY PATCH**
 directed by **JOHN-DAVID KELLER**

The cast of *A Christmas Carol* featuring Hal Landon Jr. as Scrooge, with Greg Daniels, Timothy Landonfield, John David Keller & Richard Doyle. Photos: Jim Cox & Henry DiMarco

Adapted from the
 best-selling book based
 on Chinese folklore

Where
 the
**Mountain
 Meets
 the
 Moon**

A Musical Adaptation

FEB 7–23, 2020

book, music & lyrics by **Min Kahng**
 based on the novel by **Grace Lin**
 directed by **Jennifer Chang**

**AGES
 6+**



THANK YOU

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The long-term development of Theatre for Young Audiences and other educational programs at SCR is greatly assisted by the establishment of endowment funds. We deeply appreciate the following donors who have honored us with gifts:

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Yvonne & Damien Jordan Theatre for Young Audiences Endowment
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