

For Immediate Release

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CONTACT: Kori Radloff, korir@rosetheater.org, 402-502-4641

The Rose Theater announces the cast of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*

PLUS: Meet the cast at a special 'Under the Sea Tea' on May 21



Torisa Walker
Ariel



Marcel A. Daly
Prince Eric



Heather Wilhelm
Ursula



Bill Grennan
Scuttle



Grace Titus
Flounder



Cammy Watkins
Sebastian

(OMAHA, Nebr.) The Rose Theater is proud to announce the cast of their upcoming production of **Disney's *The Little Mermaid***, which opens June 3 and runs through June 26 (recently extended due to popular demand). The public can meet the cast at a special fundraising event, the 'Under the Sea Tea,' on May 21.

Torisa Walker will make her Rose debut as the headstrong mermaid princess Ariel. Marcel A. Daly will play the love of Ariel's life, Prince Eric. Heather Wilhelm will bring her talents to the role of Ursula, the sea witch. Bill Grennan -- who recently delighted audiences as Black Stache in The Rose's production of *Peter & the Starcatcher* -- will play Scuttle, the well-intentioned (but misinformed) seagull. Ariel's best friend Flounder will be played by student actor Grace Titus, and Cammy Watkins will portray the conscientious crab, Sebastian.

The Little Mermaid is based on the popular Disney movie and Broadway musical. It follows the adventures of Ariel, a bold young mermaid princess fascinated with the human world, in spite of the warnings of her father, King Triton, and her finny friends Flounder the fish and Sebastian the crab. When she makes a dangerous deal with the sea witch, Ursula, she begins a race against a setting sun to find her true love -- Prince Eric.

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The Rose
2001 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68102

t (402) 345-4849
f (402) 344-7255
www.rosetheater.org

the
Rose
Performing Arts
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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The show features all the favorite songs from the Disney film, including *Under the Sea*, *Kiss the Girl*, and *Part of Your World*.

Children are invited to meet select cast members of ***The Little Mermaid*** at a special ‘Under the Sea Tea’ fundraiser at The Rose on Saturday, May 21, 9-11 am, presented by The Rose Guild. Participants will celebrate ***The Little Mermaid*** with Ariel and her friends for a morning breakfast, treats and activities for princes and princesses of all ages. Tickets for the ‘Under the Sea Tea’ are \$25 for children and \$35 for adults, and may be purchased from The Rose Box Office or on The Rose website, www.rosetheater.org.

Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* is recommended for families of children ages five and up. The show runs June 3-26, 2016, with performances on Fridays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Rose recently extended the run of the show (which was originally scheduled to close on June 19) to June 26, giving audiences an additional weekend to catch the musical. The show is 2 hours long with an intermission.

Tickets for **Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*** are \$30 for main floor seats and \$25 for balcony. Discount ticket vouchers are available at all area Hy-Vee stores. Members of The Rose receive discounted tickets to the production.

The complete cast of The Rose’s production of Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* consists of:

Ariel	Torisa Walker
Prince Eric	Marcel A. Daly
Grimsby	Kevin Olsen
Scuttle	Bill Grennan
Flounder	Grace Titus
King Triton	Joe Dignoti
Sebastian	Cammy Watkins
Flotsam	Joseph T. O’Connor
Jetsam	Jonathan Smith
Ursula	Heather Wilhelm
Chef Louis	John E. Jones
Mersisters	Rachel Busse, Zhomontee Watson, Olivia Jones, Angela Gilbert, Ali Foley, Sierra Lancaster (Ariel Understudy)
Female Ensemble	Lucy Kupka, Gigi Hausman, Olivia Hess, Lizzy Fleissner, Mikaela Celine
Male Ensemble	Ryan McCann, Payton Johnson, Jake Williams, Drew Cota (Flounder Understudy), Kevin Mikulus (Eric Understudy)

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Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is sponsored by Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Nebraska Furniture Mart, Mutual of Omaha, Whitmore Charitable Trust, WOWT NBC Omaha, the Nebraska Arts Council, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Special opening night activities are sponsored by Kiewit Companies.

About The Rose

The Rose Theater is one of the largest and most accomplished children's theaters in the nation, with a reputation for enriching the lives of children and families through top-quality professional productions and arts education. In 2016, *American Theatre* magazine named The Rose one of the 20 top children's theaters in the United States. The Rose is committed to making the arts accessible to all children, providing opportunities for thousands of children throughout the community to attend shows and participate in classes each year. Over the course of a year, approximately 70,000 people attend the public performances held at the theater, and nearly 30,000 students attend field trip shows annually. The theater strives to introduce young people to a mix of both traditional favorites and ground-breaking original productions. A number of plays and musicals have made their world premiere on The Rose stage, including *Pete the Cat: The Musical*, *Sherlock Holmes & the First Baker Street Irregular*, *Zen Ties*, *Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band*, and *The Grocer's Goblin & The Little Mermaid*. We take pride knowing that The Rose is the place where children of all ages experience theater for the first time, and we are dedicated to helping them appreciate theater for a lifetime.

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