



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Syracuse Stage Announces Youth Auditions for *A Christmas Story* and *The Miracle Worker*

Seeking Boys and Girls Ages 7-12. All ethnicities.

(Syracuse, NY)—Syracuse Stage will be hosting local non-equity auditions for all children's roles in the 2010-2011 Season productions of *A Christmas Story* and *The Miracle Worker*. Auditions will be held September 14-15 and October 28-29, for *A Christmas Story* and *The Miracle Worker*. Auditions are by appointment only. To schedule a time, please contact Chris Botek at 315-443-4008 or cbotek@syr.edu.

The young actors chosen must be available for all rehearsals and performances. Children's rehearsals will be after school on weekdays and during the day on weekends. Performance schedules include both matinee and evening performances. *A Christmas Story*: rehearsals begin November 2. Show runs November 30 - December 30, 2010. *The Miracle Worker*: rehearsals begin February 22. Show runs from March 23 - April 23, 2011.

ROLES TO BE CAST:

A Christmas Story:

Ralphie Parker: Male age 9-12, lead boy who is often teased by bullies. Caucasian.

Randy: Male age 7-8, Ralphie's little brother. Caucasian.

Flick: Male age 9-12, Ralphie's friend. Any ethnicity.

Schwartz: Male age 9-12, Ralphie's friend. Any ethnicity.

Esther Jane Alberry: Female age 9-12, Ralphie's classmate. Any ethnicity.

Helen Weathers: Female age 9-12, Ralphie's classmate. Any ethnicity.

Scut Farkas: Male 9-12, bully. Also plays Black Bart. Any ethnicity.

The Miracle Worker

Helen: Female age 8-12, blind and deaf and acts and reacts as such—a single line, but is onstage almost the entire show. Caucasian.

Martha: Female age 8-12, daughter of a servant - playmate (of sorts) of Helen. African American.

Percy: male age 8-12, son of a servant - playmate of Helen. African American.

Blind Girls/Boys: Age 8-14, various ages of young girls and boys at the blind school.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

A smoking furnace, a bully named Farkus, a pack of thieving-baying hounds, a dingblang-fuzzle-whizzin-mouthed old man, a prized leg lamp that's more leg than lamp—and a bunny suit: Is this the stuff of Christmas? It is for Ralphie, and all he really wants is a legendary official Red Ryder 200-Shot Carbine Action Range Model Air Rifle with a compass and this thing which tells time built right into the stock. Brighten the holidays with this hilarious and critically acclaimed stage adaptation of Jean Shepherd's wry and witty tale of a special Christmas past and journey back to a time when we all had less and it felt like more.

THE MIRACLE WORKER

"Once I knew only darkness and stillness... my life was without past or future... but a little word from the fingers of another fell into my hand that clutched at emptiness, and my heart leaped to the rapture of living." In her own words, Helen Keller captures the inspirational heart of William Gibson's classic American play. Between the emptiness and the rapture, though, came a fierce struggle of wills, with Helen, in her darkness and stillness, on one side, and the determined Annie Sullivan on the other, a young woman who had endured a lifetime of pain in just twenty years. Gibson's text is unsparing and unflinching in its depiction of their confrontation and mutual triumph. The hearts that will be leaping will be ours.

SYRACUSE STAGE

Syracuse Stage is Central New York's premier professional theatre. Founded in 1974, Stage has produced more than 230 plays in 37 seasons including a number of world, American, and East Coast premieres. Each season 90,000 patrons enjoy an adventurous mix of new plays and bold interpretations of classics and musicals featuring the finest theatre artists. In addition, Stage maintains a vital educational outreach program that annually serves over 30,000 students from 24 counties. A solid core of subscribers and supporters helps keep Syracuse Stage a vibrant artistic presence in Central New York. Additional support comes from the government, foundations, corporations and Syracuse University. Syracuse Stage is a constituent of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, and a member of the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, the Arts and Cultural Leadership Alliance (ACLA), the University Hill Corporation and the East Genesee Regent Association. Syracuse Stage is a member of The League of Resident Theatres (LORT), the largest professional theatre association in the country.

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