

Children's Theatre Company

SUMMER | 2019

BEHIND THE CURTAIN BEYOND THE STAGE

Photo of Emily Gunyou Halbas in Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical by Dan Norman

All Because of You

Your support of CTC means your community can experience the gift of theatre.

The 2018 - 2019 Season was remarkable, all because of you! As a CTC donor, you give young people and their communities extraordinary theatre, inspiring moments, and unforgettable experiences. Without you, we can't produce the shows on our stages, create exciting learning opportunities in our classrooms, or offer discounted tickets and tuition to low-income families. On behalf of all those who experience the joy of theatre because you give, **thank you for your generosity!**

Every year, we hear from people who had meaningful experiences at CTC. In celebration of our 2018 - 2019 Season, read what some of our audience members had to say about what your support makes possible!



Photo of Reed Samund in Dr. Seuss's How The Grinch Stole Christmas by Dan Norman

"My youngest daughter ... was so engaged in the experience. It was fun watching both my kids experience it."
- Dr. Seuss's How The Grinch Stole Christmas! Patron



Photo of Monica Nash, Susanna Jennings, Christopher Finn, and Richard Holt in Mr. Popper's Penguins by Dan Norman

"It was so wonderful and CREATIVE!! Thanks for the fun!"
- Mr. Popper's Penguins Patron



Photo of Kaitlyn Kneeling and Kaitlyn Kneeling in Last Stop on Market Street by Dan Norman

"[Last Stop on Market Street had] a strong message about both recognition and acceptance of our differences in a very child-friendly package. It made me teary-eyed!"
- Last Stop on Market Street Patron



Photo of Adam Kneeling, Dean Holt, and Becca Kneeling in The Hobbit by Dan Norman

"The actors were the best ever. So much great action on the stage. Every minute I was mesmerized by what was going on."
- The Hobbit Patron



Photo of Luca La Hoz Calasara and Aysette Muñoz in I Come From Arizona by Dan Norman

"[I loved] that the play was about current events that impact the people of our country. Thank you for not being afraid to produce this piece."
- I Come From Arizona Patron

Welcome Rajané!

A new dedicated actor joins the ranks of CTC's most talented crew this season.



New and returning audiences alike are adoring fans of CTC's Acting Company. These dedicated actors perform in several CTC productions each season, and play integral roles in other areas of the theatre, including developing new works, associate directing CTC shows, and teaching Theatre Arts Training classes. Their tenure and familiarity with CTC allows them to serve as mentors for new actors and strong advocates for the high-quality, family-friendly theatre you've come to love.

This September, Rajané Katurah will join fan-favorites Autumn Ness, Reed Sigmund, Dean Holt, and Gerald Drake as the newest Acting Company member.

Rajané's first appearance on CTC's stage was as a Performing Apprentice (PA) during the 2017 - 2018 Season. Every year, CTC selects up to two actors as PAs. They receive mentorship from artistic leadership, and have access to an array of performance and educational opportunities. During the 2017 - 2018 Season, you saw Rajané in multiple productions, including *The Wiz* and *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax*. Rajané isn't the only Acting Company member to get their CTC start as a PA—Autumn Ness and Reed Sigmund started their careers at CTC as PAs, too!

"I learned so much about myself as an artist and individual," says Rajané about her time as a PA. "I always tell people that I love the way CTC puts so much trust in their PAs... I'm still in shock, yet super grateful." CTC is thrilled to welcome Rajané to our Acting Company.

Acting companies like the one we maintain at CTC are rare. We are proud to be able to support these exceptional artists and to bring you high-quality theatre. As a CTC donor, your gifts support our Acting Company and our one-of-a-kind Performing Apprentice program. Thank you for supporting artistic excellence on our stages today and preserving it for the future.

"It means the world to me to be an Acting Company Member at CTC"

– Rajané Katurah



Photo of Rajané Katurah, Autumn Ness, and ensemble in *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax* by Dan Norman



The Value of Perspectives

Your gifts help passionate Pre-Professional students make connections with the world and each other.

Three years ago, four talented high school students embarked on an exciting theatrical journey at CTC when they became the inaugural cohort of Theatre Arts Training's Pre-Professional Institute. Thanks to donors like you, local students are able to cultivate their acting skills, invest in their love of theatre, and develop meaningful friendships with like-minded peers.

With a new cohort formed every year, students audition as freshmen for the chance to participate in this intensive, four-year program of high-quality theatre classes and professional development.

Theatre is no doubt an important part of these students' lives and how they see the world. Many take additional Theatre Arts Training classes while participating in the Institute, and some have even lent their talents to CTC's professional productions. They choose to spend hours at CTC because theatre helps them share different perspectives, embrace their imaginations, and grow as individuals.

As the first class of Pre-Professional Institute students are about to start their fourth and final year of the program, we took a moment to hear from these passionate students about why theatre matters to them.

"Theatre helps us see the world from others' perspectives by teleporting you into a character's world. It can teach incredible life lessons," says Madison N., class of 2020. Symphonie W., class of 2022 adds, "The value of theatre for me is being able to inspire other people and also receive inspiration." Donors like you help foster a community of driven and thoughtful high school students who support and teach one another. "Institute is what I look forward to most during the week, and it's what I miss most during our breaks," says Izzy S., class of 2021.

Thank you for believing in the potential of these driven students and for providing them with a supportive space to learn, grow, and practice creativity. With your support, CTC is also able to expand access to this competitive program by offering TAT scholarships.

Stay tuned: We'll be featuring members of the first-ever graduating Institute class throughout the year in following issues of our newsletter!

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