

PRESS RELEASE**For Immediate Release: November 12, 2025****Media Contact:**

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**Children's Theatre Company Announces Complete Cast and Creative Team for
Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!
 The Bilingual Musical Spectacle Based on P.D. Eastman's Classic Book**

January 20-February 22, 2026

Minneapolis—November 12, 2025 — Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is thrilled to announce the complete cast and creative team for *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!*, a bilingual musical adaptation of P.D. Eastman's beloved children's book *Go, Dog. Go!*. *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* will run from January 20-February 22, 2026, on the UnitedHealth Group Stage. Opening night is Friday, January 23, 2026, at 7pm. Adapted for the stage by Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz, *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* features music composed by Michael Koerner, arrangements by Robertson Witmer, and Spanish translations by Ana Maria Campoy. The lyrics for "Do You Like My Hat?" are by Michael Koerner. CTC's production of *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* is directed by Juliette Carrillo, with choreography by Erin Leigh Crites and music direction by Victor Zupanc.

"At Children's Theatre Company, we believe theatre should be a place where every child sees themselves — in the language they speak, the laughter they share, and the stories that ignite their imagination," said Rick Dildine, CTC Artistic Director. "*Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* celebrates that belief with pure joy — reminding us that play, connection, and understanding are universal."

"P.D. Eastman's iconic book has been reaching audiences in multiple languages for years," said playwrights Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz. "This project was born of our desire to see two of those languages braided together onstage, side-by-side, in a show that seeks to welcome, instruct, surprise, and delight. We're thrilled to share this joyful adaptation with CTC's eager audience."

"*Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* is nothing but fun and delight," said director Juliette Carrillo. "We're working on creating a production that is full of surprises and big laughs. I'm so excited for this show!"

P.D. Eastman's classic book lands onstage with roller-skating, bike-riding, and scoot-scooter dogs! Over here a dog plays baseball; over there a dog prances about in a funny hat; everywhere dogs swim underwater, drive race cars to fiestas en los árboles, and speak—in both Spanish and English! Soon, you'll be singing along with this bilingual spectacle that makes no sense (and TOTAL sense), all at the same time!

Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve! runs January 20-February 22, 2026, on the UnitedHealth Group Stage. The show is best enjoyed by younger audiences. Tickets may be purchased at childrenstheatre.org/dog or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. Ticket prices start at \$20.

The cast of *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* features **Kimberly Richardson*** as MC Dog, **Cooper Lajeunesse** as Blue Dog, **Zachary David Hodgkins** as Red Dog, **Anna M. Schloerb** (Member, CTC Acting Cohort) as Yellow Dog, **Julia Diaz** (Member, CTC Acting Cohort) as Green Dog, and **Eric Samuel Romero** as Hattie/Spotted Dog. The understudies for *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* include **Becca Claire Hart*** (MC Dog, Yellow Dog), **Keegan Robinson** (Blue Dog, Hattie/Spotted Dog), and CTC Acting

Company member **Janely Rodriguez*** (Red Dog, Green Dog). **Victor Zupanc‡** and **Joe Cruz‡** will provide live music onstage.

In addition to Allison Gregory, Steven Dietz, Michael Koerner, Robertson Witmer, Ana Maria Campoy, Juliette Carrillo†, Erin Leigh Crites, and Victor Zupanc, the creative team and production staff for *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* includes Sara Ryung Clement^ (Scenic Designer), Danielle Nieves^ (Costume Designer), Paul Whitaker^ (Lighting Designer), Jaime Lupercio (Sound Designer), Matthew Lytle (Assistant Director), Samantha Brown (Assistant Lighting Designer), Jenny R. Friend* (Stage Manager), Kenji Shoemaker* (Assistant Stage Manager), and Ashley Pupo (Stage Management Fellow).

**Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.*

†Member of SDC, the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

‡Member of the Twin Cities Musician Union, Local 30-73, AFM.

^Member of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829.

Ticket Information

Tickets may be purchased online at childrenstheatre.org/dog or by calling the Ticket Office at 612.874.0400. Ticket prices start at \$20.

School groups interested in attending *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* can contact schools@childrenstheatre.org for more information.

Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!! has a run time of 75 minutes with no intermission.

This production is best enjoyed by younger audiences. Lap passes are available for children 3 years and younger.

Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!!

Adapted for the Stage by Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz

Music Direction by Victor Zupanc

Choreography by Erin Leigh Crites

Directed by Juliette Carrillo†

Based on the Classic Book *Go, Dog, Go!* by P.D. Eastman

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Music Composed by Michael Koerner

Arrangements by Robertson Witmer

Spanish Translations by Ana Maria Campoy

"Do You Like My Hat?" Lyrics by Michael Koerner

January 20-February 22, 2026

UnitedHealth Group Stage

Best enjoyed by younger audiences

Originally commissioned by Seattle Children's Theatre in Seattle, WA

VE PERRO ¡VE! received its world-premiere production at Chicago Children's Theatre under Jacqueline Russell, Artistic Director

Produced by Special Arrangement with Plays for New Audiences

Proudly supported by PNC and James B. Linsmayer Foundation.

Creative Team and Production Staff

Scenic Designer | Sara Ryung Clement[^]
 Costume Designer | Danielle Nieves[^]
 Lighting Designer | Paul Whitaker[^]
 Sound Designer | Jaime Lupercio
 Assistant Director | Matthew Lytle
 Assistant Lighting Designer | Samantha Brown
 Stage Manager | Jenny R. Friend*
 Assistant Stage Manager | Kenji Shoemaker*
 Stage Management Fellow | Ashley Pupo

Cast

MC Dog | Kimberly Richardson*
 Blue Dog | Cooper Lajeunesse
 Red Dog | Zachary David Hodgkins
 Yellow Dog | Anna M. Schloerb (Member, CTC Acting Cohort)
 Green Dog | Julia Diaz (Member, CTC Acting Cohort)
 Hattie/Spotted Dog | Eric Samuel Romero
 Live Music | Joe Cruz[‡]
 Live Music | Victor Zupanc[‡]

Understudies

MC Dog, Yellow Dog | Becca Claire Hart*
 Blue Dog, Hattie/Spotted Dog | Keegan Robinson
 Red Dog, Green Dog | Janely Rodriguez* (Member, CTC Acting Company)

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CAST

MC Dog

Kimberly Richardson* is thrilled to return to Children's Theatre Company after previous roles in *Cinderella* and *A Special Trade*. In her 25-year career, she has worked as a dancer, choreographer, actor, teaching artist and theatre-maker with companies like Upstream Arts, Ten Thousand Things, Guthrie Theater, and Sod House Theater.

Blue Dog

Cooper Lajeunesse is thrilled to make their CTC debut after understudying *Treasure Island*. They have recently performed at the Guthrie Theater, Jungle Theater, Park Square Theatre, Artistry, and The Gray

Mallard Theater Co. They graduated from the U.M.N./Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program.

Red Dog

Zachary David Hodgkins (he/him) is thrilled to make his adult debut at CTC, having performed in *Peter Pan*, *Sneetches*, and *Abominables* as a student. He has also worked with the Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Opera, History Theatre, and more. ZDH holds a B.F.A. from the University of Minnesota. Thank you for coming!

Yellow Dog

Anna M. Schloerb (Member, CTC Acting Cohort) (she/they) is thrilled to be back at CTC! Local credits include: The Moving Company, Ten Thousand Things, Nautilus Music-Theater, and Open Eye Figure Theatre. Anna has studied at Dell'arte International and the Wesley Balk Opera/Music-Theater Institute, and she holds a B.A. in American Studies and in Theater & Dance from Macalester College.

Green Dog

Julia Diaz (Member, CTC Acting Cohort) (she/her) made her professional debut in *Something Happened In Our Town* at Children's Theatre Company in 2022. Since then, she has trained and performed with the Guthrie, Ordway, MN Opera, Theater Latté Da, Artistry, Ten Thousand Things, and more. Julia holds a B.A. in Sociology from University of Minnesota.

Hattie/Spotted Dog

Eric Samuel Romero is making his Children's Theatre Company debut in *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* Eric was last seen in *Grease* and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Chanhassen Dinner Theatres). Previous credits include *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Lyric Arts), *Xanadu* (Duluth Playhouse) *Stick Fly*, *Dance Works*, and *Maxa* (University of Minnesota Duluth).

Live Music

Joe Cruz† (he/him) has enjoyed working both on-stage (Musician 2) and off-stage (Props Artisan) for *Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!* Musician credits in theater include CTC, Theater Latté Da, Park Square, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Guthrie Theater. Props Artisan work has been part of numerous productions at both CTC and The Guthrie. www.joecruzmusic.com

UNDERSTUDIES

MC Dog, Yellow Dog

Becca Claire Hart* (she/her) welcomes you to the show! Hart's previous CTC credits include *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *An American Tail the Musical*, *Annie*, and *The Hobbit*. She has performed at the Guthrie Theater, Jungle Theater, Theater Latté Da, and other stages around the Twin Cities. ¡Bienvenidos los todos!

Blue Dog, Hattie/Spotted Dog

Keegan Robinson (he/they) is thrilled to be back at CTC after having written and starred in *Hamilton* on Broadway. You could Google that...or just let a sleeping dog lie. This is Keegan's 10th production with CTC. He has lived abroad in Argentina and Spain, and is thrilled to be bringing this bilingual show to Minnesota audiences.

Red Dog, Green Dog

Janely Rodriguez* (Member, CTC Acting Company) (she/they/he) hails from Miami, FL and holds a B. F. A in Musical Theatre from Brenau University. She has enjoyed roles in *Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, Disney's *Frozen The Broadway Musical*, *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *Annie* at Children's Theatre Company. They've also had the pleasure of working with other organizations

throughout the Twin Cities including the Guthrie Theater (*Cabaret*), Trademark Theater (*The Reunion*), Theater Latté Da (*Hello, Dolly!*), Ten Thousand Things (*Iphigenia at Aulis*), and Artistry Theater (*Shrek the Musical, Songs for a New World*).

CREATIVE TEAM AND PRODUCTION STAFF

Playwright

Allison Gregory's work has been produced nationally and internationally for multi-generational audiences. She has received commissions and development from The Kennedy Center, the Playwright's Center, the Skirball-Kenis Foundation, and The National New Play Network (NNPN). Her innovative plays for young audiences include *Go Dog. Go!*, adapted from the P.D. Eastman book and co-written with Steven Dietz; *Ronia, the Robber's Daughter*, adapted from the Astrid Lindgren novel; a contemporary reimagining of *Red Riding Hood*; and *Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!*; *Junie B. is Not A Crook*; *Junie B., Toothless Wonder*; and *Junie B. in BOO...and I MEAN it!*, all adapted from the beloved book series by Barbara Park. Allison has been recognized by TYA USA as "One of the 10 Most Produced TYA Playwrights". Her plays are published by Dramatic Publishing, Playscripts, Concord Theatricals, Smith & Krauss.

Playwright

Steven Dietz's forty-plus plays and adaptations have been seen at over one hundred regional theatres, as well as Off-Broadway and in twenty-five countries internationally. For the '24-'25 season, Dietz was once again named one of the "Twenty Most Produced Playwrights in America" by American Theatre Magazine. Dietz co-adapted his play, *Shooting Star*, into the Meg Ryan movie, "What Happens Later." Recent premieres include *Gaslight* (from Patrick Hamilton), two comic mysteries from Agatha Christie (*Murder on the Links, Peril in the Alps*), and a new thriller, *Vineland Place*. Dietz was awarded the Steinberg New Play Citation for *Bloomsday*, the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays Award for both *Fiction* and *Still Life with Iris*, the PEN USA-West Award in Drama for *Lonely Planet*, and an Edgar® Award for *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*. His first play, *Brothers and Sisters*, was produced by CTC in 1981.

Composer

Michael Koerner is a composer, music director and musician who lives in Minneapolis. Since 1983, he composed and musical directed over 20 productions at Children's Theatre Company. In a 25-year association with Theatre de la Jeune Lune, he composed the music and musical directed 25 productions including *Cyrano*, *Yang Zen Froggs*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *The Kitchen*, *Circus*, and many others.

Director

Juliette Carrillo† (she/her) has directed mostly grown-up plays at theatres such as the Mark Taper Forum, Seattle Repertory, and Arena Stage. In Minneapolis, she directed *Blood Wedding* for Ten Thousand Things. She's directed two children's musicals by Karen Zacarias: *Jane of the Jungle* (South Coast Repertory), and *Oliverio* (Kennedy Center).

Music Director/Live Music

Victor Zupanc‡ grew up in Victoria, British Columbia. Since 1989, Victor has been the resident music director/composer at Children's Theatre Company composing music and conducting orchestras for many of your favorite productions. He has worked on over 300 plays at countless theatres across the country. He also composes for orchestras, choirs, and films, and his music has been performed in over a dozen countries around the world. victorzupanc.com

Choreographer

Erin Leigh Crites (she/they) is an international theatre artist, specializing in positive embodied presence and ensemble dynamics. Institutional collaborative highlights include: Clowns Without BordersUSA, Center Theatre Group, Idyllwild Arts Academy, Google, VICE, World Expo Milan, Accademia dell Arte, The Paolo Grassi School, Dell'Arte International, University of Louisville, Plaza de la Raza, Hospital Juarez, and Risaterapia.

Spanish Translations

Ana María Campoy (she/her/ella) is a Chicana theatre artist based in Seattle. Theatre work: The 5th Avenue Theatre, Chicago Children's Theatre, Lexington Children's Theatre, Seattle Rep, Seattle Children's Theatre, Key City Public Theatre, New Mexico Shakespeare Festival, OSF's FUERTE, and The Kennedy Center's Family Theatre. Outside theatre, she organizes with WashMasks Mutual Aid.

Scenic Designer

Sara Ryung Clement^ (she/her) designs sets and costumes for theatres around the country. Recently, she has worked at the Guthrie, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Mark Taper Forum, Arena Stage, Geffen Playhouse, and other fun places. Sara graduated from Princeton University and Yale School of Drama, and she currently teaches at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Costume Designer

Danielle Nieves^ is honored to be making her CTC debut. Regional: Old Globe, 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle Rep, Dallas Theater Center, South Coast Rep, Goodman Theatre, St. Louis Shakespeare Festival, Writers Theatre, ACT Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Village Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and Cleveland Playhouse. Off-Broadway: PTP/NYC at the Atlantic Stage 2. www.daniellenieves.com

Lighting Designer

Paul Whitaker^ (he/him): CTC Credits: *Drawing Lessons*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress*, *Carmela Full of Whishes*, *I Come From Arizona*, *The Snowy Day and Other Stories by Ezra Jack Keats*, *Cinderella*, *Seedfolks*, *Annie*, and *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, among others. Paul is a Partner at Schuler Shook, a theatre planning, AV, and architectural lighting firm.

Sound Designer

Jaime Lupercio (they/he) is the head of sound at Ohio University. Jaime was a sound designer and composer in Minneapolis. Their credits include *Valour* at the Guthrie, and *Dinner for One* at the Jungle. This is Jaime's first show at Children's Theatre Company.

Assistant Lighting Designer

Samantha Brown (she/her) is excited to return to CTC! She has been involved in several productions in Duluth and the Twin Cities, but most recently was the lighting designer for *Clue: The Musical* (Buffalo Community Theater). She holds a B.F.A. from the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Assistant Director

Matthew Lytle (he/him) is "dog"gone thrilled to be working on his first show at CTC. He has worked with theatres including Trinity Repertory Company, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Repertory Theatre of STL, and Florida Repertory Theatre. He holds his B.F.A. from Boston University and his M.F.A. from Brown/Trinity Rep.

Stage Manager

Jenny R. Friend* (she/her) For 20 years as the Production Stage Manager, CTC has given her the gift of seeing the world with wonder through a child's eyes. She learned her craft at Stephens College and the Yale School of Drama. She has travelled the country and the world organizing and nurturing theatre from San Jose to Santa Fe to San Diego, from Okoboji, Iowa to Nagoya, Japan to Cape Town, South Africa. When

not in a dark theatre, she's out with her own sweet big dogs, Reuben and Helga, trying to find just the right hat.

Assistant Stage Manager

Kenji Shoemaker* (he/they) is a Minneapolis-based stage manager and props designer last seen at CTC for *Milo Imagines the World*. Other recent non-CTC credits include: American Players Theatre, Ten Thousand Things, Theater Mu, and Stages Theatre Company, among others. When not at CTC, Kenji also works in various prop shops around town, was a 2024 Art in This Present Moment recipient artist, and has taught at Macalester College.

Stage Management Fellow

Ashley Pupo (she/her) is excited to be the stage management fellow for Children's Theatre Company's 2025-2026 Season. Past technical credits include *Paw Patrol Live! The Great Pirate Adventure*. Stage management credits include *Beauty and The Beast*, *Sweeney Todd: School Edition*, and *Elf Jr.*

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Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire more than 200,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the Special Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony nominations (for its production of *A Year With Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC is the most significant provider of theatre education opportunities in the region. Every year, thousands of children experience theatre for the first time at CTC. Our student matinees and education programs demonstrably benefit the community, from the intergenerational conversations sparked by our world premieres, to the sequential skill-building that happens in our Theatre Arts Training, to the pre-K focus of our Early Childhood Initiative. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. childrenstheatre.org

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT

Go, Dog. Go! • Ve Perro ¡Ve!!

Adapted for the Stage by Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz

Music Direction by Victor Zupanc

Choreography by Erin Leigh Crites

Directed by Juliette Carrillo†

Based on the Classic Book *Go, Dog, Go!* by P.D. Eastman

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Best enjoyed by younger audiences

Originally commissioned by Seattle Children’s Theatre in Seattle, WA

VE PERRO ¡VE! received its world-premiere production at Chicago Children’s Theatre under Jacqueline Russell, Artistic Director

Produced by Special Arrangement with Plays for New Audiences

WHEN: January 20-February 22, 2026 (Opening Night is Friday, January 23, 2026 at 7pm)

WHERE: CTC’s UnitedHealth Group Stage (2400 Third Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55404)

AGE RECOMMENDATION: This production is best enjoyed by younger audiences. Lap passes are available for children 3 years and younger.

RUNNING TIME: 75 minutes with no intermission.

TICKETS: Starting at \$20 and available at childrenstheatre.org/dog by calling the Ticket Office at 612.874.0400.

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