

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“Stand back world — I fear nothing!”

**The Spirited Madeline Takes the Stage in World Premiere Musical
Co-Created by Children’s Theatre Company and Circus Juventas**

MADELINE AND THE GYPSIES opens Tuesday, September 16

Minneapolis, MN/August 19, 2008 – The circus comes to The Children’s Theatre Company (CTC) stage for the first time ever with the September world premiere musical of *MADELINE AND THE GYPSIES*, a spectacle of daring physical feats by Circus Juventas, compelling new music by composer Michael Koerner, and the rousing adventures of the fearless Madeline.

The musical, created in collaboration with Circus Juventas, begins previews Tuesday, September 16, with opening night Friday, September 19. The show plays through October 26 on the UnitedHealth Group Stage.

Based on the book by Ludwig Bemelmans, CTC’s *MADELINE AND THE GYPSIES* is adapted for the stage by award-winning playwright Barry Kornhauser, with music by Michael Koerner, stage direction by CTC Artistic Director Peter C. Brosius, and choreography by Joe Chvala.

Performed in verse, *MADELINE AND THE GYPSIES* opens against the backdrop of a carnival. When Madeline and her friend Pepito get lost and are carried away by gypsies, their wild and heroic adventures with a traveling circus begin. But their teacher, poor Miss Clavel, cannot rest until she brings them safely home!

“Madeline is one of the enduring, gutsy girls in children’s literature,” says Brosius. “She is beloved for being utterly fearless—able to stand down a lion! And while this show entertains us with its spectacle and its amazing heart, it also asks us to explore how we learn from our differences and what ‘going home’ really means.”

MADLINE AND THE GYPSIES features Francesca Dawis as Madeline, Jack Wyatt Jue as Pepito, and Marvette Knight as Miss Clavel, with company members Gerald Drake, Dean Holt, Autumn Ness and Reed Sigmund, and a cast nearly 30 other actors, circus performers, puppeteers and musicians.

Co-collaborator Circus Juventas is a St. Paul-based performing arts school offering circus arts training and performance opportunities for children and youth ages 3 to 21. Brosius says, “This organization’s multi-talented acrobats are the perfect partner for the colorful, outrageous and larger-than-life world of Madeline and the gypsy circus.”

Previews for MADLINE AND THE GYPSIES begin Tuesday, September 16, with opening night on Friday, September 19. The musical plays on the UnitedHealth Group Stage through October 26. (*A full performance schedule follows on page 3.*) The show is most enjoyed by ages 4 and older. Tickets range from \$20–\$35 for adults and \$14–\$29 for children (17 & under), students and seniors. Single tickets and subscription packages are now on sale at (612) 874-0400 or www.childrenstheatre.org.

About The Children's Theatre Company

The Children’s Theatre Company (CTC) creates extraordinary theatre experiences that educate, challenge and inspire. CTC is the first theatre for young people to win the coveted Tony® Award for Outstanding Regional Theater (2003). Founded in 1965, CTC serves over 300,000 people annually and is one of the 20 largest theater companies in the nation. The company is noted for defining worldwide standards for youth theatre with an innovative mix of classic tales, celebrated international productions and challenging new work.

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“The nation’s leading theatre for young audiences”

—*New York Times*

The Children's Theatre Company
MADELINE & THE GYPSIES

Performance Schedule

Tickets: (612) 874-0400 or www.childrenstheatre.org

Tue Sept 16	7pm (preview)	Thu Oct 9	7pm
Wed Sept 17	7pm (preview)	Fri Oct 10	7:30pm
Thu Sept 18	7pm (preview)	Sat Oct 11	11am & 2pm
Fri Sept 19	7:30pm (opening)	Sun Oct 12	2pm & 5pm
Sat Sept 20	2pm & 7:30pm	Wed Oct 15	7pm
Sun Sept 21	2pm & 5pm	Thu Oct 16	2pm & 7pm
Tue Sept 23	7pm	Fri Oct 17	7:30pm
Thu Sept 25	7pm	Sat Oct 18	2pm & 7:30pm
Fri Sept 26	7:30pm	Sun Oct 19	2pm & 5pm
Sat Sept 27	11am & 2pm	Tue Oct 21	7pm
Sun Sept 28	2pm & 5pm	Wed Oct 22	7pm
Tue Sept 30	7pm	Fri Oct 24	7:30pm (ASL/AD)
Thu Oct 2	7pm	Sat Oct 25	11am & 2pm
Sat Oct 4	11am & 2pm	Sun Oct 26	2pm
Sun Oct 5	2pm		