



Alliance Children's Theatre

For more than 70 years, the Alliance Children's Theatre has been a vibrant and creative force in the lives of Atlanta's young people. Performed with professional adult actors in fully staged productions, the Alliance Children's Theatre is a leader in adapting classics and creating new works for young audiences. The Alliance Children's Theatre strives to produce dramatic material that speaks to young people about their capacity to create, to understand and to build our future. Under the direction of The Sally G. Tomlinson Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth Rosemary Newcott, Artistic Director Susan V. Booth and Managing Director Tom Pechar, the Children's Theatre performs to more than 45,000 students and families each year.

The 2009-10 Season opens on the Alliance Stage with ***Middle School the Musical***, a company-developed improvisation based play, compiled by Rosemary Newcott. Inspired by the success of *The Second City*, this play will be a forum to explore life journeys of kids of middle school age everywhere as they struggle to break free of the "expected roles" and realize that "...we are all in this together." ***Mulan***, a musical based on the animated Disney® film *Mulan* and the story "Fa Mulan" by Robert D. San Souci, takes the stage in February. One little girl is about to discover the hero inside of her—and in doing so, save an empire. . .because heroes come in all shapes and sizes.

The recent years have seen many outstanding performances for young people including last season's ***Goodnight Moon*** and ***Class of 3000 LIVE; Degas' Little Dancer*** and ***Seussical the Musical; Disney's Aladdin*** and ***Go, Dog. Go!***; ***Einstein is a Dummy*** and ***The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales***; ***The Miracle Worker*** and ***The Little Baby Snoogle-Fleejer***; the critically acclaimed plays ***The Music Lesson*** and ***Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse***; the funky, hip-hop update of the classic ***Androcles the Lion***; the moving Holocaust story ***The Book of Ruth***; the audience participation wild west adventure ***The Legend of Pecos Bill*** by David H. Bell; the story of Sojourner Truth in ***A Woman Called Truth***; the 1999 production of ***Ananse, the African Spiderman***; Judy Blume's book ***Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing***; the 1994 production of Sandra Deer's ***The Snow Queen***; and the 1991 production of Deer's ***Club Magic***, an original play selected for a new play workshop at Robert Redford's Sundance Festival.

In 2001-02, the Alliance Children's Theatre broke new ground when ***The Book of Ruth*** was presented on the Hertz Stage. In years past, the Alliance Stage was the sole performance venue. By presenting this piece in an intimate space, the subject matter was explored in such a way that the experience for the audience was that much more personal and poignant. Also new that season was the Family Series, a subscription package including both Alliance Children's Theatre plays and ***A Christmas Carol***.

The Alliance Children's Theatre tours one production each year, sharing the joy of live professional theatre with young people around the state of Georgia and in the Southeast. Through plays and innovative theatre education programs, the Alliance Theatre makes a commitment to serving a diverse population in the city of Atlanta and throughout the region. Annual outreach throughout Georgia is more than 40,000 students in 420 schools in approximately 49 counties.

The Alliance Children's Theatre was launched in 1929 as the Atlanta Children's Theatre by the Junior League of Atlanta, who wanted school children to experience live theatre. In 1964 the Children's Theatre became a full professional company under the direction of Charles Doughty. In 1977 the Atlanta Children's Theatre and the Alliance Theatre merged, and a decade later, the Atlanta Children's Theatre changed its name to the Alliance Children's Theatre.