



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Contact:
Francine M. Andersen
(305) 375-4634 / fran@miamidade.gov

SHADOW INTERPRETED THEATRE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
THE LOVE OF THREE ORANGES
MAY 20-21 AT THE PLAYGROUND THEATRE
PRESENTED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
AND THE PLAYGROUND THEATRE

MIAMI, FLORIDA – The [Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs](#), in partnership with [The PlayGround Theatre](#) and [VSA Arts of Florida](#), with funding from [The Children's Trust](#) and the [State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs](#), is pleased to announce for the first time in Florida, Shadow Interpreted Theatre for Children & Families. *The Love of Three Oranges* will be presented with shadow interpretation on May 20th (10:30am) and May 21st (10:30am and 7:30pm) at The PlayGround Theatre, 9806 NE 2nd Ave • Miami Shores.

Shadow Interpreted Theatre is a totally unique art form, which utilizes specially trained American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters to perform as “shadows” on stage alongside PlayGround Theatre company members. The Shadow Interpreters are integrated into the live performance by mirroring the voiced actors in ASL. Go to <http://terptheatre.com/shadowing.html> to see how Shadow Theatre works.

As if engaged in an intricate bilingual dance, Shadow Theatre marries sign language with choreographed movement, allowing the sign language to become a seamless part of the theatre experience. In this way, audience members who are deaf can simultaneously see and “hear” the complete theatre performance in the same way as hearing audiences. Otherwise, deaf audience members are forced to focus their attention on an off-stage interpreter, and invariably miss much of the action taking place on stage. Shadow Theatre is also enjoyed by hearing audiences as an innovative art form and educational opportunity. Similar to watching a film with subtitles, viewers benefit from a rich bilingual experience and gain an appreciation for another language.

(MORE)



Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

111 NW 1st Street - Suite 625 Miami, FL – P: (305) 375-4634 F: (305) 375-3068

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Shadow Theatre broadens accessibility for audiences with other types of disabilities as well. As the prevalence of autism and audio processing disorders continues to rise (according to the CDC, currently 1 in 110 children are being diagnosed with autism), a new potential audience of American Sign Language users is emerging. In Miami-Dade County, many non-verbal children with autism and audio-processing disorders are being taught ASL as a primary means of communication. The Shadow Interpreted Theatre Program will open up an entirely new cultural opportunity for these children to enjoy and participate alongside their typical peers.

“We are so proud to be presenting the *Shadow Interpreted Theatre Program for Children and Families* together with The PlayGround Theatre for the first time ever in the State of Florida,” said Adolfo Henriques, Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs’ 15-member volunteer advisory board. “It is our mission to help connect the children and families in our community with the full range of fantastic opportunities that the arts offer, and to make those experiences accessible to all. Generous funding from The Children’s Trust and The State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs has made this new program possible, and by working together with our wonderful community partners, we hope to make the “*Shadow Theatre Program*” a regular offering for all of our children in Miami-Dade County to experience,” Mr. Henriques continued.

“The thrill of Shadow Interpreted Theatre is experiencing the simultaneous translation of psychological, physical, and verbal languages - the creation of a cornucopia of vibrant expression,” said Stephanie Ansin, Artistic Director of The PlayGround Theatre.

For complete “*Shadow Interpreted Theatre – The Love of Three Oranges*” schedule and ticket information, please call The PlayGround Theatre at (305) 751-9550.

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The Shadow Interpreted Theatre Program for Children & Families is part of the “All Kids Included - Accessible Arts Experiences for Kids (AKI) program. AKI is an initiative of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, made possible through grant funding provided by The Children’s Trust. The Children’s Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County by making strategic investments in their futures. For more information about The Children’s Trust visit www.thechildrenstrust.org.



The Shadow Interpreted Theatre Program for Children & Families is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and its board, the Art in Public Places Trust, commissioning, curating, maintaining and promoting the County’s art collection. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County’s more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children’s Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Other support and services are provided by Ticketmaster for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council.



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