

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**MARYLAND ENSEMBLE THEATRE**

**Presents**

***Winnie the Pooh***

**By A.A. Milne**

**May 19 - June 10**

FREDERICK, MD (May 9, 2018) - **Maryland Ensemble Theatre’s (MET)** family theatre, **The Fun Company** is proud to present *Winnie the Pooh.* From the stories of A.A. Milne, *Winnie the Pooh* welcomes you to the Hundred Acre Wood, where A.A. Milne’s beloved bear of very little brain is happily singing “Isn’t it funny how a bear likes honey,” when the terrible trouble begins.

Join Piglet, Rabbit, and Owl as they try to figure out what to do! With Kanga’s soap for baths and spoonful’s of strengthening medicine, Winnie the Pooh learns that anything is possible with a team of friends.

Since 1926, Winnie the Pooh and his friends have stood the test of time as the unforgettable creations of A.A. Milne, who wrote the book for his son, Christopher Robin, based on some of his imaginary friends and Ernest H. Shepard, who lovingly gave Pooh and his companions shape. These characters and their stories are timeless treasures that continue to speak to children spanning generations and will continue to do so for years to come.

Director **Bethanie Herman** is thrilled to bring this play to life. “I am so excited to be directing *Winnie the Pooh,*” Herman says. “Like many children, *Winnie the Pooh* held a very special place in my heart. This production has given me a glimpse back to some of the happiest memories from my childhood. It’s pretty fantastic that I now have the opportunity to bring a new vision to this script and offer it up to new generations. I’m honored to present a childhood classic that will hopefully warm hearts and inspire young minds.”

The *Winnie the Pooh* crew includes: director **Bethanie Herman**, assistant director **Mari Barchi**, scenic design by **Cody Gilliam**, costume design and choreography by **Julie Herber**, music direction by **Jennie Huntoon**, **Steve Knapp** on lighting design, **Doug Grove** on sound design, and **Emily Raines** on props design. The production stage manager is **Madeline Reinhold**.

The cast bringing this play to life includes **Katie Rey Bogdan** as Winnie the Pooh, **Sean Byrne** (Saturday performances) and **Mathew Crawford** (Sunday performances)as Christopher Robin/Rabbit, **Lizzy Andrew** as Piglet/Roo/Owl and **Christine Jacobs** as Kanga/Eeyore.

*Winnie the Pooh* opens on **Saturday, May 19th** and runs until **Sunday, June 10th every Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 p.m.** Tickets are **$10**. Tickets may be purchased by phone at (301) 694-4744, online at [marylandensemble.org](http://marylandensemble.org) or in person at the MET box office. Come get hooked on an adventure of a lifetime.

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**RATING/AGE APPROPRIATE/WARNINGS:** Family Friendly, ages 3+.

**HOW IT BEGAN:** Winnie the Pooh first appeared in A.A. Milne’s book of poetry *When We Were Very Young* first named Mr. Edward Bear. *Winnie the Pooh*, the small cast musical version, was dramatized by le Clanché du Rand, music by Allan Jay Friedman, lyrics by A.A. Milne and Kristin Sergel, additional lyrics by le Clanché du Rand, Dramatic Publishing Company in 1992.

**PRODUCTION TEAM**

DIRECTOR: Bethanie Herman

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Mari Barchi

STAGE MANAGER: Madeline Reinhold

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Jennie Huntoon

SET DESIGN: Cody Gilliam

COSTUME DESIGN: Julie Herber

COREOGRAPHY: Julie Herber

LIGHTING DESIGN: Steve Knapp

SOUND DESIGN: Doug Grove

PROP DESIGN: Emily Raines

**CAST**

Winnie the Pooh: Katie Rey Bogdan

Christopher Robin/Rabbit: Sean Byrne (Saturdays) & Matthew Crawford (Sundays)

Piglet/Roo/Owl: Lizzy Andrew

Kanga/Eeyore: Christine Jacobs

**MARYLAND ENSEMBLE THEATRE MISSION:** Maryland Ensemble Theatre (MET) is dedicated to the creation and production of extraordinary theatre art through the combined voices of a diverse ensemble of professional resident artists who are influential leaders in the community and visionaries in the art of theatre.

To learn more about MET, visit [www.marylandensembletheater.org](http://www.marylandensembletheater.org).

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