



THE KIMMEL CENTER  
ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
MERRIAM THEATER



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**THE ENCHANTING WORLD OF *FINDING NEVERLAND*  
MAKES ITS PHILADELPHIA DEBUT  
ON THE KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS**



**ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
NOVEMBER 21–26, 2017**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, September 25, 2017) — The Kimmel Center is pleased to welcome *Finding Neverland* to the Academy of Music Tuesday, November 21 through Sunday, November 26, 2017. *Finding Neverland* is based on the Academy Award-winning Miramax motion picture by David Magee and the play *The Man Who Was Peter Pan* by Allan Knee.

The story follows the relationship between playwright J.M. Barrie and the family that inspired *Peter Pan*, or *The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up* – one of the most beloved stories of all time. This new musical is

directed by Tony® winner Diane Paulus (*Pippin, Hair*) with book by Olivier Award® nominee James Graham, music and lyrics by Gary Barlow (*Take That*) and Grammy Award® winner Eliot Kennedy, and choreography by Emmy Award® winner Mia Michaels (*So You Think You Can Dance*, Cirque du Soleil's *Delirium*). It is packed with mesmerizing visuals, irresistible songs, and plenty of laughs. *Finding Neverland* is a timeless story about the power of imagination and spectacular proof that you never really have to grow up.

“We welcome Philadelphia audiences into the enchanting world of *Neverland* for a perfect theatrical adventure,” said Anne Ewers, President & CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “The magical memories of childhood and the whimsical moments of make believe elevate this show to the top of the list for lighthearted fun.”

The production features scenic design by Tony Award® winner Scott Pask (*Pippin, Book of Mormon*), lighting design by Tony Award® winner Kenneth Posner (*The Coast of Utopia, Pippin*), costume design by Suttirat Larlarb (*Of Mice and Men*), sound design by Tony Award® nominee Jonathan Deans (*Pippin, La Cage aux Folles*), hair and make-up design by Richard Mawbey, projection design by Jon Driscoll, music supervision by Fred Lassen, musical direction by Ryan Cantwell, and casting by Stewart/Whitley.

*Finding Neverland* is produced by Weinstein Live Entertainment and NETworks Presentations.

## **FINDING NEVERLAND**

### **Academy of Music on the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus**

#### Dates and times:

*Tuesday, November 21, 2017, 7:30 p.m.*

*Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 7:30 p.m.*

*Friday, November 24, 2017, 2:00 p.m.*

*Friday, November 24, 2017, 8:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, November 25, 2017, 2:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, November 25, 2017, 8:00 p.m.*

*Sunday, November 26, 2017, 1:00 p.m.*

*Sunday, November 26, 2017, 6:30 p.m.*

#### **Tickets**

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$20.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-731-3333, online at [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org), or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org) for more information.

#### **The Shubert Organization**

For more than 100 years, The Shubert Organization has been in the forefront of the American theatre. Under the leadership of Philip J. Smith, Chairman, and Robert E. Wankel, President, the Shubert Organization owns and operates 17 Broadway theatres and six Off-Broadway venues, as well as the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. The company has produced and co-produced hundreds of plays and musicals, including the original Broadway production of *CATS*, *Dreamgirls*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Amadeus*, *The Real Thing*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Equus*, *The Elephant Man*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *School of Rock The Musical*, and *The Humans*. The Shubert Organization is proud of its ongoing refurbishment program

for its theatres, seeking to preserve the historic character while modernizing them to accommodate the needs of today's audiences.

### **The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org).

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For photography, please visit [www.kcpress.smugmug.com](http://www.kcpress.smugmug.com)

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