ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS • MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE



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ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE TO PROVIDE FREE HETTY FEATHER TICKETS FOR AREA YOUTH AND DISCOUNTED FAMILY TICKET PACKAGES

(SARASOTA, June 8, 2016) — Thanks to the generosity of Asolo Repertory Theatre's Board of Directors and Energy Today, the theatre has provided more than 360 complimentary tickets and transportation for area children to experience Asolo Rep's U.S. premiere of U.K. sensation *HETTY FEATHER*. Young people associated with Girls Inc., the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County, the Visible Men Academy, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast will attend performances throughout June. The Jewish Family & Children's Service of the Suncoast provided additional tickets for students from Booker Middle School. This initiative continues Asolo Rep's ongoing dedication to bring world class theatre to patrons of all ages and inspire a passion for theatre in younger generations.

In addition to this effort to provide a limited number of free tickets to partner social service groups, Asolo Rep is providing discounted family ticket packages throughout the run of *HETTY FEATHER*, made possible, in part, through the generosity of show sponsors SunTrust Foundation and Energy Today. Family packages can be purchased for a family of three or more at 15 percent off the total ticket price (two members of the family must be 18 and under). The *HETTY FEATHER* family discount is only available by phone or in person at the box office. Proof of age must be shown when picking up tickets.

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HETTY FEATHER, a wildly popular U.K. novel penned by Dame Jacqueline Wilson, tells the coming-of-age story of Hetty, a young orphan who is determined to find her family. Hetty's quest to find her true home takes her from the English countryside to the traveling circus to the mean streets of London, all by way of thrilling aerial and circus feats, live music and spectacular story-telling. A true celebration of the random nature of life, this is a must-see theatrical adventure for all ages. The production runs through June 26.

"This is such an amazing opportunity, and I am so honored, thrilled and humbled for Girls Inc. to be included in Asolo Rep's generosity," said Jamie Minton, Program Director of Girls Inc. "Words can simply not express how rare or special it is for our girls to have this experience in or out of Girls Inc. It will absolutely help to start our summer out right, and I am positive it will inspire girls to become more engaged and passionate around the arts."

"We at Asolo Rep truly believe in the power of live theatre to engage and inspire children with stories that stimulate their imaginations and increase their understanding of the world," said Linda DiGabriele, Managing Director of Asolo Rep. "It is important to share the gift of live theatre with young audiences, particularly when it is their first experience, and hopefully, encourage a lifelong love and curiosity for the arts."

To purchase a Family Ticket Package call the box office at 941.351.8000 or 800.361.8388, or visit the box office, located in the lobby of the theatre at 5555 N. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. For more information about Asolo Rep and *HETTY FEATHER*, visit www.asolorep.org.

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