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Photos available at: <http://www.bairdphoto.net/deliver/jco/intw/>

J*COMPANY PRESENTS SONDHEIM'S
TONY AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
INTO THE WOODS

Not Your Grandmother's Fairytale!

SAN DIEGO – The award-winning J*Company Youth Theatre, a program of the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS, is pleased to announce its production of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's lively, fractured fairytale, *INTO THE WOODS*. The production runs **December 4-14, 2008**, at the David & Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla.

An ambivalent Cinderella? A blood-thirsty Little Red Riding Hood? A Prince Charming with a roving eye? They're all among the characters in the Tony Award-winning musical *INTO THE WOODS*. When a Baker and his Wife learn they've been cursed with childlessness by the Witch next door, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell, swindling, lying to and stealing from Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, and Jack (the one who climbed the beanstalk). Everyone's wish is granted at the end of Act One, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later, with disastrous results. What begins as a lively, irreverent fantasy in the style of "The Princess Bride" becomes a moving lesson about community responsibility and the stories we tell our children, and what happens after "happily ever after."

INTO THE WOODS debuted at The Old Globe in San Diego in 1986, and premiered on Broadway in 1987, where it won several Tony Awards, including Best Score, Best Book, and Best Actress in a

Musical (Joanna Gleason). The musical has been produced many times, with a 1988 national tour, a 1990 West End production, a 1991 television production, a 1997 tenth anniversary concert, a 2002 Los Angeles production and a 2002 Broadway revival.

“A dream come true! *INTO THE WOODS* is a dream show and I have a dream cast and dream designers working on this production,” said Joey Landwehr, Artistic Director of J* Company. “The young artists in this show have learned their music more quickly and with more expertise than professional productions of this show I have worked on.”

“Each young artist is voluntarily researching *Grimm’s Fairytale*s and will be bringing a distinctive voice to these wonderful, well-known characters,” said Landwehr. “This production will definitely not be the same ol’ viewing of *INTO THE WOODS*, but a wonderful, fresh eye has been cast onto their characters by these young people.”

Landwehr is directing *INTO THE WOODS*. He has worked extensively as an actor and director in New York City, both on and off Broadway, as well as in national tours and regional theatre. He has studied under such instructors as Betty Buckley, Marcel Marceau, Francis Sternhagen, F. Murray Abraham, and Twyla Tharpe, and has had the privilege of working with great performers such as Phyllis Diller, Sam Harris, Joel Grey, Kaye Ballard, Michael Feinstein and Howard Keel. Landwehr is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) and Actors’ Equity Association (AEA). Landwehr was honored in 2006 by *San Diego Metropolitan Magazine* as one of the 40 San Diego residents under the age of 40 who are making significant contributions to the community. Landwehr most recently directed *Pocahontas*, *Disney’s 101 Dalmatians Kids*, and Elton John & Tim Rice’s *AIDA* for J*Company.

True to J*Company’s educational mission, cast members of *INTO THE WOODS* will be working with the non-profit company TheseComeFromTrees.com, an organizations that produces washable stickers with the message “These Come From Trees.” The young artists will be placing hundreds of stickers (after receiving permission from business owners) on paper towel holders across San Diego County to help remind people to use only what is necessary when drying ones’ hands to help reduce waste.

Heading the cast are:

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|--------------------------|-------------------|----|---------------------------|---------------|
| Rapunzel | Naomi McPherson | 15 | High Tech High Interntl | State College |
| Narrator | Danny Stein | 17 | Patrick Henry High School | Del Cerro |
| Snow White | Kelsey Barnhill | 14 | Canyon Crest Academy | Carlsbad |
| Rapunzel’s Prince | Sam Jacobs | 13 | The Bishops School | La Jolla |
| Witch | Adriana Yedidsion | 17 | La Jolla High School | La Jolla |

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|------------------------------|-------------------|----|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Cinderella | Erica Malachowski | 13 | Correia Middle School | Point Loma |
| Baker | Daniel Myers | 15 | High Tech High Interntl | Old Town |
| Little Red Ridinghood | Rebecca Myers | 12 | High Tech Middle School | Old Town |
| Wolf | Trevor Bowles | 18 | N/A | Clairemont Mesa |
| Stepmother | Gabrielle Jarrett | 17 | University City High Sch. | La Jolla – UTC |
| Lucinda | Danielle Smotrich | 16 | High Tech High Interntl | La Jolla |
| Florinda | Danielle Levin | 14 | San Diego SCPA | Clairemont Mesa |
| Cinderella’s Prince | Michael Dashefsky | 16 | Torrey Pines High School | Carmel Valley |
| Jack | Jonathan Edzant | 14 | Canyon Crest Academy | Carmel Valley |
| Granny/The Giant | Maddie Houts | 14 | Canyon Crest Academy | Carmel Valley |
| Sleeping Beauty | Hannah Houts | 12 | Carmel Valley Middle Sch | Carmel Valley |
| Baker’s Wife | Ali Viterbi | 15 | San Diego Jewish Academy | Carmel Valley |

Production dates and times:

Thursday, December 4, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. (school show)
Saturday, December 6, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 7, 1:00 & 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. (school show)
Saturday, December 13, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 14, 1:00 & 4:30 p.m.

Press photos are available by following this link: <http://www.bairdphoto.net/deliver/jco/intw/>
Photos of cast members, organized by neighborhood of residence, are available upon request.

Tickets for *INTO THE WOODS* are \$13 for children and \$17 for adults and are available online at www.sdcjc.org/jcompany or by calling the JCC Box Office at **858-362-1348**. A complete listing of production dates and show times are online at www.sdcjc.org/jcompany.

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About the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture

The San Diego Center for Jewish Culture is the largest Jewish institution in San Diego dedicated solely to presenting high quality, nationally recognized programs which are unique to San Diego County. The mission of the SDCJC is to expand and enrich cultural life in San Diego by presenting the finest in Jewish artistic expression, encouraging the preservation of Jewish culture and heritage, and nurturing new creativity in the arts. A core belief of the SDCJC is to promote respect for diverse cultures and build community tolerance.

The SDCJC offers a wide variety of multi-disciplinary artistic programs that explore cultural identities and perspectives, promote cross cultural understanding, and highlight human themes of family, tolerance, compassion, and hope. These programs, including the San Diego Jewish Film Festival, the San Diego Jewish Book Fair, New Jewish Plays Project, the San Diego Jewish Music Festival, a Holocaust Education Program, and the J*Company Youth Theatre, foster ideas of cultural appreciation and respect. Its facilities feature a 500-seat theatre, a Judaica library, an art gallery, and a community Holocaust Memorial Garden. Approximately 40,000 tickets are sold or provided annually to residents, visitors, and students for San Diego Center for Jewish Culture events.

About the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS

The mission of the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS is to provide social, cultural, educational, and recreational programs to individuals and families of all ages, religions, races, and financial, physical and mental abilities. Likewise, the JCC provides equal opportunity employment to individuals of all religions and backgrounds. The JCC welcomes San Diego’s diverse Jewish community and the community at large. The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS is located at 4126 Executive Drive in La Jolla.



SAN DIEGO CENTER FOR JEWISH CULTURE

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS

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