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The Little Red Hen Theatre announces “Season 2021: Live, Love, Laugh!”

WAKEFIELD, NEB. January 22, 2021 – The Little Red Hen Theatre of Wakefield, Nebraska, is thrilled to announce Season 2021: Live, Love, Laugh! Following a year of only offering virtual experiences the Little Red Hen is moving forward with season of live performances that aim to bring people together with laughter. The adventure kicks off in April with the boy-wizard-themed parody “PUFFS – or seven increasingly eventful years at a certain school of magic & magic” which wizard and muggle-born theater goers alike will enjoy. In July, the Little Red Hen goes on a magical romp in the swamp with the popular Broadway show “SHREK the Musical. In December, the theatre promises some stocking-stuffer action with the hilariously irreverent “A Very Die-Hard Christmas”. The theatre will also treat audiences to the funk & soul sounds of Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal in a live music performance for their annual patron special in November.

Presented April 15 – 18, “PUFFS” takes a familiar story and turns it on its head. The story centers around a certain boy wizard who went to a certain Wizard School for seven years and conquered evil. This play, however, is not his story. This is the story of the Puffs... the other students who just happened to be there, too! PUFFS is a tale for anyone who has never been destined to save the world. The show promises to be a laugh out loud experience from start to finish and a “must see” show for every wizard and muggle.

Magic, music, and mayhem will reign with the family - friendly “Shrek the Musical”, presented July 15 – 18. A Broadway musical re-telling of the classic film, Shrek is the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. “Shrek the Musical” is a Tony Award-winning fairy tale adventure and brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage.

“A Very Die-Hard Christmas” explodes onto the stage December 9 – 11. High above the city of L.A., a team of terrorists has seized a building, taken hostages, and declared war, but one off-duty cop has managed to escape. He’s alone, tired...and he doesn’t like Christmas. Much more than a stage version of the holiday classic, “A Very Die-Hard Christmas” is holiday cheer with a hefty side of action. This irreverent comedy features squirt-gun wielding terrorists, comedic musical numbers, and a “santa-claus-sack” full of laughs. Yippee-Ki-Yay, Father Christmas!

Season 2021: Live, Love, Laugh! also features a special presentation of Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal, a classic rock group who mixes in a heavy dose of soul, funk, and blues. Josh Hoyer was featured as a contestant on NBC's The Voice in 2017 and the band recently completed a 27-city stint European tour capped with a live album release from their show in Brussels, Belgium. According to reviews, “*Soul Colossal delivers a sound so big, so funky, so wring-the-sweat-out-of-you energetic that it reaches*

through the speakers and shakes you until you start moving to its groove." Josh Hoyer and Soul Colossal will bring their energetic show to the Theatre on November 5.

In addition to their mainstage productions and patron special the Little Red Hen Theatre has several other live events planned as well. On March 13, the theatre will present "Magic Show", a family friendly event featuring award-winning Omaha magician David Arch and a few of his friends. Dave will present an engaging and interactive show that also speaks to his personal experiences as a man of faith. In early October, the Little Red Hen theatre will ask audiences to brush up their sleuthing skills as they present a Murder Mystery Dinner experience at the new Wakefield Civic Center.

The theatre will also be creating several experiences for the community through their educational offerings. In May Little Red Hen Theatre regulars will take their turn in the directing chair for Director's Fest, An Evening of Scenes. Young participants will get their chance to shine at the theatre's DRAMA CAMP June 14 -19. In September participants of all ages can help bring the words of William Shakespeare to life through staged readings at Shakespeare Outdoors.

Managing Director T. Adam Goos says that his is looking forward to the new year what it has in store for the community. "After such a challenging 2020 we wanted to plan a season of shows and activities that inspired everyone to come together and laugh. What better way re-affirm our lives than through laughter"? The Little Red Hen is committed to providing in-person shows in a safe and responsible manner. This includes reducing seating capacity and adding additional performances, requiring audience to wear masks, instituting a strict sanitation protocol for the theatre, and relying upon technology to provide additional access for patrons. Goos says that "Although we are excited for live audiences to return, we also want to be sure to include those who aren't able to join us in person. Because of this we are planning to provide live streams of performances when possible".

Individual tickets are not on sale yet for individual shows, but the Little Red Hen theatre does offer patronages that can be purchased in 1, 2, or 4 ticket packages. Patrons are guaranteed reserved seats at the three mainstage productions and patron special and can purchase additional tickets and/or reserve seats in advance of the general public for all offerings. According to Goos, "Patrons are the first to get seats and the first to hear about everything we are doing at the Little Red Hen. Being a patron is the best way to make sure you get to experience everything we have to offer". Those interested in becoming a patron of the Little Red Hen theatre should call 402.287.2818 or visit www.littleredhentheatre.com.

the Little Red Hen theatre provides quality arts experiences for Northeast Nebraska through participation in live theatrical productions, educational opportunities, and other cultural and community offerings. For information about upcoming events call 402.287.2818 or visit www.littleredhentheatre.com

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