



NEWS RELEASE

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STAGES ST. LOUIS PRESENTS JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

(St. Louis, MO) – Stages St. Louis will present the 2nd show of its 2008 season, ***Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*** at The Robert G. Reim Theater in Kirkwood from July 18 – August 17.

This biblical musical parable of a boy blessed with prophetic dreams who is sold into slavery only to find adventure and redemption in Egypt, marks the first time that an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical has been performed at Stages. Originally produced in 1968 as a 20-minute oratorio performed by children at a private school in London, ***Joseph*** was first performed as a full-scale production in London in 1973. It first premiered on Broadway in 1982 at the Royale Theater, where it ran for 747 performances and was nominated for 7 Tony Awards. Other recent productions have starred Donny Osmond in Toronto and Michael Damian in a Broadway revival, and a production for television was filmed in 1999 starring Donny Osmond and Maria Friedman.

Joseph features music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice. Appearing in the Stages cast are Christopher Kale Jones as Joseph, Jenna Coker-Jones as Narrator, Bill Lynch as Jacob/Potiphar, Rye Mullis as Pharaoh, Lindsey Bracco as Reuben's Wife/Mrs. Potiphar, Vernon Goodman as Judah, Ben Nordstrom as Levi, David Perlman as Naphthali/Baker, and Matthew Schneider as Reuben.

Other cast members include: Drew Nellesen, Timothy Wilson, Kristofer L. Stock, Tripp Pettigrew, Nic Thompson, Brandon Davidson, Zak Edwards, Meegan Midkiff, Allison Hoppe, Natalie Wisdom, Julie Kavanaugh, Rachel Kopf, Maria Tholl, Taylor Pietz, and Patrick Probst. The Teen Ensemble will feature Abby Eisen, Jeff Foster, Kelsie Johnson, Lauren Lenke, Savannah Light, Taylor Loudermann, Spencer Milford, P.J. Palmer, Alex Prakken, Parker Schultz, Olivia Threlkeld.

Direction and choreography for ***Joseph*** are by Stephen Bourneuf, who was part of the cast for the show's first Broadway run, with assistant choreographer Ellen Isom and musical direction by Lisa Campbell Albert. Completing the artistic team are scenic designer James Wolk, costume designer Lou Bird, lighting designer Matthew McCarthy, and orchestral designer Stuart M. Elmore.

Joseph will run for a total of five weeks. Week one performances are Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 4 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday at 8 p.m. The week two schedule is Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 4 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Weeks three, four and five will have additional performances on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. and Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Week five will also have an additional Sunday night performance at 7:30 p.m.

Joseph is sponsored by the Edward Chase Garvey Memorial Foundation. The 2008 Season is made possible with the support of the Regional Arts Commission. Financial Assistance has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and Stages is also funded in part by the Arts & Education Council.

Stages performs in the intimate, 384-seat Robert G. Reim Theater at the Kirkwood Civic Center, 111 South Geyer Road, 63122. The 2008 season will also Disney's *The Jungle Book* (August 6 – 17), and *The Music Man* (September 5 – October 5). Tickets are \$46.00, with numerous special single ticket and subscription rates available. For more information and to purchase tickets call 314-821-2407 or visit www.stagesstlouis.org.

The recipient of the 2008 Excellence in Arts Award from the Arts & Education Council and 8 Kevin Kline Awards, including Best Musical, in 2008, Stages St. Louis was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to producing the indigenous American art form of musical theater. The mission of Stages is to become the leading company for musical theater performance and education in the Midwest.

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