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FST BRINGS CLASSIC TALE SNOW WHITE TO SARASOTA

(Sarasota, FL)— Florida Studio Theatre (FST) presents *Snow White*, the third production of its Children's Theatre Series. After touring among Florida schools this fall, the production will call FST's Bowne's Lab Theatre home starting January 12, 2019. Adapted by Greg Banks, *Snow White* shares the story of how Snow White met the seven dwarfs. Performed with just two actors, *Snow White* transports children and families to a magical land where adventure lies beyond the forest's edge. Single tickets are now available for just \$10 at floridastudiotheatre.org, and through FST's Box Office at 941-366-9000.

"I couldn't resist Snow White," explained Caroline Kaiser, FST's Director of Children's Theatre. "Greg Banks, who also wrote the script for *Robin Hood* that kicked off last season, wrote a script that is so creative and entertaining. The fact that it is written for two actors to play all the roles really puts storytelling and ingenuity at the forefront."

Inspired by the timeless classic about the girl who is "the fairest of them all," Greg Banks' fresh adaptation of *Snow White* uses inspiring creativity and dynamic theatricality to bring the fairy tale to life. Only two actors portray over a dozen roles, including an evil queen, a huntsman, a magic mirror, and the legendary seven dwarfs. Learn how Snow White finds freedom outside the castle walls, wins over the seven dwarfs with her pure heart, and is saved by luck and love instead of a young prince's kiss.

Directing this exciting adventure is FST Associate Artist Jason Cannon, who also directed the FST Children's Theatre productions of *Peter Pan, Robin Hood, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe,* and *The Boy Who Liked Pulling Hair & Other Winning Plays.* Unlike many well-known versions of *Snow White,* this theatrical adaptation experiments with storytelling and has a contemporary edge. "There is a fun storyteller trope at play," explained Cannon. "Snow White and one of the dwarfs are actually telling the story directly to the audience, so there are opportunities for self-awareness and humor. We also were fortunate that one of our actors is a skilled guitarist, so we were able to add a lot of music and singing. The playwright also does a great job of updating the story to empower Snow White and young girls watching the show."

Two members of FST's company of Acting Apprentices will bring *Snow White* to life on stage—Jamie Molina and Liam Tanner, who were both recently seen is FST's celebration of the holidays, *Deck the Halls: Home for the Holidays*.

Starting January 12, *Snow White* will play on weekends for the general public as part of FST's Children's Theatre Season. Single tickets are now on sale at floridastudiotheatre.org or 941-366-9000.

ABOUT CHILDREN'S THEATRE

FST inspires young audiences both in the theatre and in the classroom through its weekend Children's Theatre Series and award-winning arts-in-education WRITE A PLAY program.

Children's Theatre Series

FST's weekend Children's Theatre Series is designed for children and families to explore the world of theatre arts. For less than the cost of a movie ticket, FST's Children's Theatre brings culturally enriching quality time to children and families throughout Sarasota, FL. Through pre-show activities and post-show talkbacks with the cast, young audiences have the opportunity to dive deeper into their theatre experience. Since its conception in 2016, series attendance has almost tripled, demonstrating the demand for high-quality family entertainment at an affordable cost.

WRITE A PLAY

Now celebrating its 28th year, FST's WRITE A PLAY program is a year-round arts-in-education initiative, providing students with the example, the inspiration, and the skills to write their own original plays. During the course of the academic year, traveling FST Teaching Artists lead in-class workshops in schools, teaching students in Kindergarten through 12th grade the fundamentals of playwriting: character, dialogue, conflict, and setting. FST Teaching Artists then lead students in developing their own original plays, which are submitted to FST's annual youth playwriting competition. FST receives over 3,000 submissions each year from all over the world, and about a dozen plays are selected for a full-scale production, presented as part FST's Annual Young Playwright's Festival. Since its conception in 1991, WRITE A PLAY has impacted over one million children throughout the state of Florida, nationally in New Jersey, and as far as Russia, Scotland, and Israel.

ABOUT FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE

Known as Sarasota's Contemporary Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre was founded in 1973 by Artist Jon Spelman. Starting out as a small touring company, FST traveled to places such as migrant camps and prisons. The company then acquired the former Woman's Club building, becoming its first permanent venue. Shortly after Producing Artistic Director Richard Hopkins arrived, the building was purchased and renamed The Keating Theatre.

In the years that followed, Florida Studio Theatre established itself as a major force in American Theatre, presenting contemporary theatre in its five venues: the Keating Theatre, the Gompertz Theatre, the Parisian style Goldstein Cabaret, the John C. Court Cabaret, and Bowne's Lab Theatre.

Even with its growth, Florida Studio Theatre remains firmly committed to making the arts accessible and affordable to a broad-based audience. FST develops theatre that speaks to our living, evolving, and dynamically changing world. As FST grows and expands, it continues to provide audiences with challenging, contemporary drama and innovative programs.