

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Holiday Musical for the Whole Family!

Young People's Theatre presents
*Roald Dahl's **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory***
Canadian TYA Premiere
Directed by Thom Allison

November 12 – December 30, 2024

Toronto, Oct. 24, 2024 – This holiday season, [Young People's Theatre](#) (YPT) presents a delectable musical adaptation of *Roald Dahl's [Charlie and the Chocolate Factory](#)*. Based on the beloved novel, now celebrating its 60th anniversary, this fun-filled Canadian premiere for young audiences is directed by one of Canada's most celebrated performers, **Thom Allison** (Stratford Festival's *La Cage aux Folles* and *Rent*; YPT's *Mary Poppins*), and features **Breton Lalama** (*Really Happy Someday* – Official TIFF Selection) as Charlie Bucket and **Michael Therriault** (Ebenezer Scrooge in Shaw Festival's *A Christmas Carol*) as the iconic Willy Wonka. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* will be presented on the Ada Slight Stage from **November 12 to December 30, 2024** and is recommended for ages 6 and up.

Featuring all of the famous characters and songs from the 1971 film, a world of pure imagination awaits as Charlie, Grandpa Joe and four-golden ticket winners journey into Willy Wonka's world famous chocolate factory.

"I knew the original movie with the wonderful Gene Wilder," says **Allison**. "But it wasn't until I started to explore the show in depth that I was so moved by what the story offers. In today's often fractious and isolating world, this sweet, comical, cautionary tale offers us the idea that if we are thinking beyond ourselves, thinking about caring for the people around us and what goodness we can offer our fellow human beings, the world becomes kinder and friendlier."

This comically sweet musical is by **David Greig** (book), with an original score and lyrics by **Marc Shaiman** and **Scott Wittman**. The production features unforgettable classics by **Leslie Bricusse** and **Anthony Newley**, including "**Candy Man**", "**I've Got a Golden Ticket**", "**Oompa Loompa Song**" and "**Pure Imagination**".

"David Greig has done a really wonderful job of updating this tale for the stage while keeping all the best parts of the book," says **YPT Artistic Director Herbie Barnes**. "I love the story and the music — and I am truly looking forward to seeing this glorious and joyful piece come to life."

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory features performances by **Breton Lalama** (as Charlie Bucket), **Michael Therriault** (as Willy Wonka), **Ruth Acheampong**, **Nick Boegel**, **DeAnn deGruijter**, **Tiffany Deriveau**, **David Lopez**, **Caitlyn MacInnis**, **Jacob MacInnis**, **Larry Mannell**, **Zorana Sadiq** and **David Webb**.

Additional credits include Music Director: **Jeannie Wyse**; Choreographer: **Allison Plamondon**; Set Designer: **Brandon Kleiman**; Costume Designer: **Ming Wong**; Lighting Designer: **Jareth Li**; Sound Designer: **Brian Kenny**;

Projection Designer: **Laura Warren**; Dialect Coach: **Jane Gooderham**; Stage Manager: **Barry W. Cook**; Assistant Stage Manager: **Ferne Hudson**; Apprentice Stage Manager: **Brianna Unger**.

Roald Dahl's CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Book by David Greig, Music by Marc Shaiman, Lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman

Based on the novel by ROALD DAHL

Songs from the Motion Picture by LESLIE BRICUSSE and ANTHONY NEWLEY

Performances:

Preview: Nov. 12 at 10:15AM

Weekdays: Nov. 19, 21, 26, 28, Dec. 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 18 & 19 at 10:15AM & 1:00PM | Nov. 20, 22, 27, 29, Dec. 4, 6, 11, 13 at 10:30AM

Weekends: Nov. 16 at 2:00PM | Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 at 11:00AM & 2:00PM | Nov. 23, 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21, 27, 28, 29 & 30 at 1:00PM & 4:00PM

Recommended for ages 6 and up

Run Time: Approx. 75 mins.

Tickets: \$10-\$54 (plus HST & service charges) | **Online:** youngpeoplestheatre.org

Box Office: 416.862.2222

About Young People's Theatre

Young People's Theatre (YPT) is Canada's largest and oldest professional theatre for young audiences, co-led by Artistic Director Herbie Barnes and Executive Camilla Holland. The company produces and presents a full season of theatre and arts education programming, serving approximately 150,000 patrons annually. YPT's newly renovated historic theatre houses the 433-seat Ada Slight Stage and 115-seat Studio, with a brand new education centre, YPT 161 Studios, just across the street. United in vision, the two facilities anchor the corner of Front and Frederick Streets in Downtown Toronto, creating Canada's largest theatre complex for young people. Over the past 59 years, YPT has staged many of the most important plays that form the canon of work for youth in our country. YPT continues to develop new work and create partnerships with theatre companies across the country and around the world. The enriched learning experiences of YPT's Education & Participation Department, including its 55-year-old Drama School, provide young people with opportunities to develop their whole being. [Learn more.](#)

Connect with Young People's Theatre



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Photos: Login **yptmedia** | password **yptphotos**