

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Theatre Manager:	Sky A. Rappoport	SRappoport@mpc.edu	831-649-4495
Theatre Arts Chairman:	Gary Bolen	GBolen@mpc.edu	831-646-4085
Director:	Susanne Burns	SBurns@hartnell.edu	831-261-0102
Box Office:	www.mpctheatre.com	mpcboxoffice@mpc.edu	831-646-4213

11 January 2012

**Monterey Peninsula College Storybook Theatre presents
'THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER'
Adapted by Rob Dearborn - Based on Aesop's Fables
February 2 - 19, 2012
Tickets on sale now**

Monterey, CA - MPC Theatre Company's 2012 season will open with **THE ANT AND GRASSHOPPER**, based on Aesop's Fables, and adapted for the stage by Rob Dearborn.

It's a classic fable that the entire family will enjoy! While the Grasshopper (*Anna Schumacher*) enjoys herself in the warm summer sunshine, singing and hopping about, the hard-working Ant (*Pat Stadille*) toils away, preparing for the coming winter. The Grasshopper pleads with the industrious Ant to play with him, begging him to take a break and enjoy himself, as the winter seems so very far away. Sooner than expected, however, the bitter chill of winter arrives, covering the ground in a thick, cold, blanket of snow. With no food available and nothing at all stored up for the frozen winter, where shall the hungry Grasshopper turn? A funny, updated version that Aesop himself would enjoy!

With this production we welcome a new director to our company, although not new to theatre on the peninsula. For many she will be a familiar face as Susanne is currently in her 5th year as The Western Stages' Young Company & Outreach Coordinator. She is also resident actor and director for TWS. Acting credits include; Mrs. Lovett in Sweeney Todd, Lillie Vanessi in Kiss Me Kate and Agnes Gooch in Mame. Directing credits include; The Hostage, Rabbit Hole and Real Women have Curves. For the Young Company, Susanne has directed A Thousand Cranes, Heaven Help the Po'Taters, Animal Farm and A YC Odyssey. She is also an adjunct faculty member with Hartnell College teaching Beginning Acting, Intro to Theatre and History of Theatre. This past 2011 T W S season she Co-Directed & Choreographer Little Shop of Horrors and also got back on stage after a two year break and performed in Curtains. Susanne is thrilled to be directing for MPC almost feeling like she is coming home. She was last seen on the MPC stage as Miss Hannigan in Annie.



The creative team includes **Susanne Burns** (*Director*), **D. Thomas Beck** (Technical Director), **Carey Crockett** (Scenic Designer), **Dustin Burns** (*Lighting & Sound Design*), **Gloria C. Mattos Hughes** (*Costume Designer*), and **Ana Warner** (Props Design).

Tickets on sale at the MPC Box Office (646-4213) and online at <https://www.TicketGuys.com/mpc>

Preview performance on Thursday February 2nd at 7:00 PM. Regular performances are Friday & Saturday at 7:00 PM (February 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18) and Saturday & Sunday at 3:00 PM (February 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19) at the Carmel Middle School (4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923). MPC Box Office is located at 980 Fremont Street, downtown Monterey. Tickets are \$15 Adults; \$12 Young Adults (16-21) & Military, and \$9 Children 15 & under. Tickets may be purchased from the MPC Box Office (831-646-4213) Wednesdays from 3:00 - 7:00 PM, Thursdays & Fridays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, at the performance venue 90 minutes prior to any performance, or online at www.TicketGuys.com

Storybook Theatre productions are made possible in part by grants from, *The Monterey Peninsula Volunteer Services*, *The Yellow Brick Road Benefit Shop*, *The S.T.A.R. Foundation*, *The Jim Tunney Youth Foundation*, and our Fairy God Parents.

Thr., Feb 2 - 7:00 p.m. - Preview
Fri., Feb. 3 - 7:00 p.m. - Opening
Sat., Feb. 4 - 3:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 4 - 7:00 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 5 - 3:00 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 10 - 7:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 11 - 3:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 11- 7:00 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 12 - 3:00 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 17 - 7:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb 18 - 3:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 18 - 7:00 p.m.
Sun., Feb 19 - 3:00 p.m. - Closing

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