

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

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22 April 2011

Monterey Peninsula College Storybook Theatre presents
'PIXIES, KINGS, AND MAGICAL THINGS'
Based on the works of Hans Christen Andersen
May 5 – 22, 2011
Tickets on sale now

Monterey, CA – MPC's 2011 Storybook Theatre continues with a collection of Hans Christian Andersen tales, produced in association with Unicorn Theatre. **PIXIES, KINGS, AND MAGICAL THINGS** is a collection of four short pieces, creatively adapted for the stage by Ric Averill, strung together with narration by Hans Christen Andersen (Oliver Branham). Stories include, ***The Ugly Duckling***, ***The Emperor's New Clothes***, ***The Swineherd***, and ***The Pixie and the Grocer***. Tickets are on sale at the MPC Theatre Company box office (646-4213) and online at <https://www.TicketGuys.com>

Preview performance on Thursday May 5th at 7:00 PM. Regular performances are Friday & Saturday at 7:00 PM, and Saturday & Sunday at 3:00 PM, May 6th – 22nd in the Studio Theatre, on the Monterey Peninsula College campus. MPC is located at 980 Fremont Street, downtown Monterey. All four pieces are directed by creator & producer of Monterey's famed Unicorn Theatre, Carey Crockett, with Musical Direction by Joan Swartz. Previously Crockett directed the MPC Storybook Theatre productions WINNIE THE POOH AND FRIENDS (2007), TOAD OF TOAD HALL (2009), and last season's most popular offering PINOCCHIO, and we welcome him back for our sixth season.

[*The Emperor's New Clothes*](#) The classic tale of vanity is given a fun comic twist as the emperor (Bob Colter) is advised by his ill-advised ministers. The weaver (Sam Fife) weaves his invisible magic, and at the end of the play, the children are encouraged to join in stating that, "The emperor has no clothes!"

[*The Ugly Duckling*](#) Udrich (Tatum Tollner) is ugly—there is no question. But is she really an ugly DUCK? Follow this lonely lass as she searches for her identity and tries to become a turkey (John Affinito), a goose (Oliver Branham), a dog (Sam Fife), a cat (April Deutschle), a hen (Adriane Oglietti) and even a human child (April Deutschle). After a full year of danger and growth, the gentle Udrich finds her place and happiness.

The Swineherd A vain and "particular" princess (Adriane Oglietti) learns a lesson from a very clever Prince (Oliver Branham), who pretends to be a Swineherd, and who ultimately compares her behavior to that of the lowly animals that he tends.

The Pixie and the Grocer A pixie (April Deuschle) lives in the home of a grocer (John Affinito) and survives every day on the gruel he leaves out. Then the pixie overhears a student (Sadie White) reading her poetry. She is so enraptured that when the Grocer's house is engulfed by fire, the pixie chooses to run back and save the poetry book, rather than the grocer's gold--thus choosing "art over appetite." Of course her magic ultimately leads to a happy ending.

Please note: This production is the MPC Theatre Department's final offering on campus, before our theatre building is shutdown for an approximately 18 month long retrofit and renovation.

Preview performance at 7:00 PM on Thursday May 5th. Regular performances are at 7:00 PM Friday & Saturday (May 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21); and 3:00 PM Saturday & Sunday (May 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, and 22). Tickets are \$15 Adults; \$12 Young Adults (16-21), and \$9 Children 15 & under. Tickets may be purchased from the MPC Box Office (831-646-4213) Wednesday - Friday 3:00 – 7:00 PM & 2 hrs prior to any performance, or online at www.TicketGuys.com.

Storybook Theatre is 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.*

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