



Contact:  
Robyn Murphy,  
Public Relations Manager  
410.986.4016  
[RMurphy@CenterStage.org](mailto:RMurphy@CenterStage.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Baltimore Center Stage Announces 2018/19 Family Series

*Expanded to Eight Performances Presented to Engage Younger Audiences*

**Baltimore, MD September 4, 2018**-----Baltimore Center Stage has announced the four shows that will comprise the 2018/19 Family Series. On the heels of last season's sell-out performances of *Junie B. Jones*, Center Stage has expanded the Family Series to include eight performances to take place on four Sundays throughout the season.

"We are thrilled to expand our family programming with this new four-part series," said Randi Benesch, Director of Advancement at Baltimore Center Stage. "As a part of our mission of Access for All, we are excited to have more opportunities to welcome young children into our historic building and introduce them to the fun and magic of live theater."

A one-hour adaptation of L. Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz* featuring Munchkin puppets and song and dance, will kick-off the 2018/19 Family Series with two performances on September 23. The long-running popular show *Pinkalicious The Musical* arrives on December 9 for two shows. *The Wizard of Oz* and *Pinkalicious The Musical* are produced by Vital Theatre Company. *Aesop Bops!*, a David Gonzalez production, is a fast-paced, funny presentation of classic Aesop's fables and will have two performances on January 23. Rounding out the 2018/19 Family Series are two performances of Lightwire Theatre's *The Ugly Duckling*, updated with a cutting-edge blend of puppetry, technology and dance. Designed to welcome all families, the shows are geared towards audiences in pre-school through third grade.

Baltimore Center Stage is committed to introducing the next generation of theatergoers to the joys of high-quality theater. In partnership with the Walter's Art Museum ([www.thewalters.org](http://www.thewalters.org)), families are also invited to pre-show arts and crafts with art educators. The Family Series media partner is (cool)Progeny ([www.coolprogeny.com](http://www.coolprogeny.com)), an online publication and resource guide for parents in the Baltimore area.

All Family Series shows will have an 11:00 am and 1:00 pm performance. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at [www.centerstage.org](http://www.centerstage.org) or by contacting the box office at 410.332.0033.

~~~

#### **About Baltimore Center Stage**

Baltimore Center Stage is a theater committed to artistic excellence. We engage, enrich, and broaden the perspectives of diverse audiences through entertaining and thought-provoking work and educational programs. Named the State Theater of Maryland in 1978, Baltimore Center Stage has steadily grown as a leader in the national regional theater scene. Under Executive Director Michael Ross and Artistic Director Stephanie Ybarra, Baltimore Center Stage is committed to creating and presenting a diverse array of world premieres and exhilarating interpretations of established works. Baltimore Center Stage believes in access for all—creating a welcoming environment for everyone who enters its doors and, at the same time, striving to meet audiences where they are. In addition to Mainstage and intimate, affordable Bernard Black Box productions in the historic Mount Vernon neighborhood, Baltimore Center Stage ignites conversations across Baltimore and beyond through the Mobile Unit, which brings high-quality theater to economically, culturally and geographically diverse communities. The theater also nurtures the next generation of artists and theatergoers through the Young Playwrights Festival, Student Matinee Series, and many other educational programs for students, families, and educators.