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# NEWS RELEASE

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## *James & the Giant Peach Opens New Season of Mainstreet Theatre Company Productions*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2008

**Rancho Cucamonga, California** – Rancho Cucamonga's MainStreet Theatre Company presents *James & the Giant Peach*, opening October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Lewis Family Playhouse at the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center, 12505 Cultural Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga. *James & the Giant Peach*, for ages 5 and up, is the first in a full season of professional productions for young audiences produced by the MainStreet Theatre Company.

Adapted by David Wood, Roald Dahl's classic tale of James and his insect friends is an inventive story of their amazing adventure from England to New York inside of a giant peach! When young James accidentally spills a bag of powerful magic by an old peach tree near the home of his mean aunts, the most wonderful thing happens and he and his new friends—a centipede, earthworm, grasshopper, ladybird and spider—take an incredible journey to New York City.

*James & the Giant Peach* is directed by Mark Rucker and stars well-known Los Angeles actors Alison Blanchard as the spider, John-David Keller as the earthworm, Ann Marie Lee as the ladybug, Michael Manuel as the centipede, Eric Jorgensen as the violin-playing old-green grasshopper, and Brian Watkins as James. Several hand-and-rod puppets will also make appearances. Sets are designed by Andrew Hammer, costumes by Ann Closs-Farley, lights by Brian Gale, and sound and original music by John Zalewski. The MainStreet Theatre Company productions are produced by Mireya (Murry) Hepner.

**-More-**

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*James & the Giant Peach* opens October 18<sup>th</sup> and runs through November 1<sup>st</sup>, with Saturday showings at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and one Sunday matinee on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. London-based playwright David Wood will be joining the cast for post-show discussions with the audience after both performances on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The City also runs special weekday matinees for school children. Tickets are \$16.50 for General Admission, \$14.50 for Seniors, and \$13.50 for Youth up to age twelve. To purchase tickets, please call the Lewis Family Playhouse Box Office at (909) 477-2752 or (877) 858-8422, or visit [www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com](http://www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com).

An intimate, 536-seat venue, the Lewis Family Playhouse is the crown jewel of the three-acre, 89,000-square-foot Victoria Gardens Cultural Center. The complex is conveniently located off the I-15 at Foothill Boulevard, as a major anchor of Victoria Gardens. The Box Office is open Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday from noon to 6:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with free parking available.

The MainStreet Theatre Company's season also includes *A Year with Frog and Toad*, January 31 – February 14, 2009 and *Ferdinand the Bull*, April 18 – May 2, 2009.

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