

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Powerful Play with Music & A Brand New StoryBook Musical Hit the Stage this Fall at Studio East & StoryBook Theater

I Never Saw Another Butterfly October 13 – 29, 2017 – **Kirkland** (best for ages 9+)
The Tortoise & the Hare October – November, 2017 – **Renton, Bellevue,
Kirkland, Everett, Shoreline, Fremont** (best for ages 3+)

KIRKLAND, WA– Studio East and **StoryBook Theater** are celebrating their 25th and 20th seasons, beginning with two fall shows sure to delight a variety of theater goers. The youngest audiences and their parents will enjoy StoryBook Theater's *brand new*, 55-minute version of **The Tortoise & the Hare**. For older audiences, Studio East presents the powerful WW2 era play with music, **I Never Saw Another Butterfly**.

With adaptations from Lani Brockman and music & lyrics from Susan Bardsley, StoryBook Theater has captivated audiences for nearly two decades. For this 20th season, they have written a brand new show – **The Tortoise & the Hare**. This interactive musical will find our forest creatures in the race of a lifetime. Slow and steady wins the race, but the fleet-footed Hare and the flat-footed Tortoise will also learn the valuable lesson of being themselves and doing their best. Audiences will meet the confident Hare and the steadfast Tortoise, but they will also be enchanted by the Catfish, the Crow and the Treefrog.

Tickets to **The Tortoise & the Hare** are \$15 (including service fees) and can be purchased at www.storybooktheater.org or (425) 820-1800. Kirkland performances can be purchased at kpcenter.org or (425) 893-9900. The local, professional cast will perform at the following venues:

Renton Carco Theatre: Sunday, October 29 @ 11am, 1pm, & 3pm

Shoreline Conference Center: Saturday, November 4 @ 11am

Hales Palladium in Seattle-Fremont: Sunday, November 5 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm

Kirkland Performance Center: Saturday, November 11, 18* @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm, & Sunday, November 12, 19 @ 11am (Single tickets for Kirkland shows are only available from KPCenter.org.) *November 18th performances are ASL Interpreted for the Deaf

Everett PUD Auditorium: Sunday, November 26 @ 11am, & 1pm

Studio East is honored to be bring back **I Never Saw Another Butterfly** as the opening show of our 25th season. This powerful, emotional story from the Holocaust needs to be told now more than ever. Between 1942 and 1944, over 15,000 Jewish children passed through the Terezin concentration camp. Only about a hundred survived. These children left behind suitcases filled with poetry and artwork through which we can see not only the daily misery of these uprooted children, but also their courage, optimism and hope. Written by Celeste Raspanti with original music added by Sue Bardsley, this play is history as much as any play can be history, showing the best and the worst of which the human heart is capable.

"Studio East does this show every five years or so, because it's a story that needs to be told again and again so history doesn't repeat itself. I am so proud and honored to be able to bring this story to life." – Director, Lani Brockman

The show is recommended for ages 9+ and has a running time of approximately 2 hours with intermission. Adult tickets are \$19, while students and seniors are \$17, and they can be purchased at www.studio-east.org or (425) 820-1800. All performances are at the Studio East Mainstage Theater located at 11730 118th Ave NE in Kirkland. Performances run October 13 – October 29, 2017, with the following show times:

Friday, October 13 @ 7:30pm (GALA at 6:30pm)

Saturday, October 14 @ 2:30pm & 7:30pm (GALA at 6:30pm)

Sunday, October 15 @ 2:30pm

Friday, October 20 @ 7:30pm

Saturday, October 21 @ 2:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, October 22 @ 2:30pm

Friday, October 27 @ 7:30pm

Saturday, October 28 @ 2:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, October 29 @ 2:30pm

About Studio East and StoryBook Theater

Studio East Training for the Performing Arts was founded in 1992 to provide theater arts education for young people on the Eastside. It was founded on the belief that through the performing arts children can build confidence, and acquire leadership and teamwork skills while learning discipline, dedication and responsibility. Starting with one theater program for teens, Studio East has become one of the largest children's theater training programs in the Seattle area. Studio East also produces StoryBook Theater, an adult professional touring troupe that introduces young children to live theater at venues throughout the Puget Sound area.

Today, Studio East serves over 70,000 people annually with a comprehensive program of drama classes, theater arts camps, Mainstage productions and live performances for children from ages 3 through 19.