

## For Immediate Release

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### ***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular* puts new twist on old detective stories at The Rose Theater**

(OMAHA, Nebr.) It's no mystery that Sherlock Holmes is the world's greatest detective. The Rose Theater will put a new spin on the sleuth's stories with ***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular***, a new adaptation for young audiences written by Brian Guehring making its debut on The Rose stage, Nov. 6-22. The show delves into the back story of some of Holmes' key assistants: a group of street urchins who serve as a network of spy kids, known as the Baker Street Irregulars.

***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** is based on the classic characters and mysteries of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle including *The Red Headed League* and *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*, but with a twist.

"Being a huge mystery fan and a person who loves origin stories, I decided I wanted to write an original Sherlock Holmes story," says Rose playwright-in-residence Brian Guehring. "I was intrigued by the homeless children that Sherlock Holmes used as a spy network to help with some of his cases. I felt that if one of those orphans told the story of Sherlock Holmes, it would engage young audiences into their classic stories and give them a great introduction to classic literature."

***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** builds on two pieces of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's writing: *The Red Headed League* and *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*. Throughout the production. It also includes moments and details from *A Study in Scarlet* and *The Sign of Four*.

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the  
**Rose**  
Performing Arts  
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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### **The Rose Theater**

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The play opens on a busy London street where a group of young street urchins has gathered. On a dare from the other children, fourteen year-old Wiggins tries to pickpocket a strange old man. Not only is Wiggins unsuccessful, but the old man manages to take the gold ring that was in Wiggins' pocket. When Wiggins goes to 221B Baker Street to retrieve the ring, she is shocked to find out how much Sherlock Holmes knows about her based on a quick observation. After Wiggins sees Sherlock use the gold ring to solve a case, Wiggins proposes to work as Sherlock's assistant. Intrigued by her potential, Sherlock agrees to begin training Wiggins on a trial basis. Wiggins and Sherlock must learn to trust each other as Wiggins and the group of street youth help Sherlock Holmes solve two dangerous mysteries.

Led by director Kevin Ehrhart, ***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** promises to give some insight into the detective's thought process and deductive reasoning. "Sherlock Holmes is a genius at detecting the reasons behind things that happen," says Ehrhart. "He sees potential in Wiggins. I feel that this resembles our mission at The Rose. We see potential in young people and we do what we can to help them realize that potential. It is one of the reason I am so excited about this show."

Audiences will actually get to see Holmes' thought processes unfold through a series of projections that will show how the various clues link together to arrive at their logical conclusion. These designs, as well as the set, have been designed by Brad Carlson. The set itself gives a sprawling view of London and utilizes the front apron of the stage to represent the Baker Street Irregulars' hideout in the sewers of the city. Costume designer Erin Bragg has developed period pieces that mesh Victorian London with a nod to a steampunk aesthetic. Lighting designs by Kyle Toth lend a vintage ambiance to the overall production.

"This is just a fantastic cast and a fantastic crew coming together to tell a really great story. I am very excited to be leading this team and to be sharing this show with Omaha," says Ehrhart.

The team comes together to produce a thrilling production filled with head-scratching puzzles solved with dazzling deduction. ***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** runs Nov. 6-22, with performances on Fridays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Interpretation for audience members who are deaf or hard of hearing will be offered at the 2 p.m. show on Saturday, Nov. 14.

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The 5 p.m. show on Saturday, Nov. 14 has been designated as an autism-friendly show, which means special accommodations will be made for families attending with a child who has autism spectrum disorder. Accommodations will include a private room for congregating before the show, a special reserved seating area, a private post-show question and answer period, a social story to help prepare children for their experience at The Rose, and reduced ticket prices. For information, please contact The Rose Box Office at (402) 345-4849.

***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** is recommended for families with children ages 8 and up, and is 75 minutes long without an intermission.

Tickets are \$18 per person. Discount ticket vouchers are available at all area Hy-Vee stores for \$14 each. Members of The Rose receive four free tickets to the production.

***Sherlock Holmes & The First Baker Street Irregular*** is sponsored by Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Nebraska Furniture Mart, Security National Bank, the Nebraska Arts Council, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Special opening night activities are sponsored by Kiewit Companies.

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**About The Rose**

The Rose Theater is one of the largest and most accomplished children's theaters in the nation, with a reputation for enriching the lives of children and families through top-quality professional productions and arts education. The Rose is committed to making the arts accessible to all children, providing opportunities for thousands of children throughout the community to attend shows and participate in classes each year. For additional information, visit [www.rosetheater.org](http://www.rosetheater.org).

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