



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**NINE O'CLOCK PLAYERS TO CLOSE 2018-19 SEASON WITH**  
***James and the Giant Peach***  
**Opening Day - Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

Los Angeles, FEBRUARY 7, 2019 – The multi-award winning **NINE O'CLOCK PLAYERS** begin their 90th year bringing extraordinary family theatre to Southern California with a magical musical look at the fantastical story of Roald Dahl's ***James and the Giant Peach*** with words and music by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, book by Timothy Allen McDonald, musical direction by Andy Gladbach, set design by Nick Acciani, lighting design by Brandon Baruch, Choreography by Steven W. Nielsen and direction by Julia Holland.

Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* features a wickedly tuneful score by the Tony & Academy Award-winning team of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (*Dear Evan Hansen*, *La La Land*, *The Greatest Showman*) and a curiously quirky book by Timothy Allen McDonald. Critics rave: *James and the Giant Peach* is a "masterpeach!" When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that results in a tremendous peach... and launches a journey of enormous proportions. Suddenly, James finds himself in the center of the gigantic peach, among human-sized insects with equally oversized personalities, but after it falls from the tree and rolls into the ocean, the group faces hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements.

The **Opening Performance** will take place on **Sunday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm**. Other performances are on **Sundays, Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>**. **All performances are at 2pm. Ticket prices are \$15.** Special group and birthday party rates are available.

For tickets please call **(323) 545-6153** or visit [www.nineoclockplayers.com](http://www.nineoclockplayers.com) to purchase tickets online. The Assistance League Theatre is located in Hollywood at **1367 N. St. Andrews Place**.

Director **Julia Holland** received the "2011 Music Educator of the Year" award from the Malibu Music Awards, and has received a NAACP nomination for best director of a musical. Julia is also the creator and executive director of the Eco Hero Kids, a pop vocal group gaining national attention.

**The Nine O'Clock Players (NOP)** has been producing plays since 1929, and is the oldest children's theatre company in Southern California. The award-winning NOP stages performances throughout the school year – providing live theatre for thousands of Title 1 LAUSD students. Productions are offered to school groups during the week, and to the public on weekends. Revenue from weekend performances support the NOP to offer shows and bus transportation at no cost to economically and physically-challenged children throughout LAUSD. Built in 1938, the Assistance League Theatre is the oldest barn theatre west of the Mississippi River.

**Assistance League® of Los Angeles** was formed in 1919, when a group of 13 women organized to provide food and clothing for families adversely impacted by World War I. For nearly 100 years, the League has continued to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged youth in Los Angeles. The League's programs remove barriers to education for thousands of underserved and impoverished Los Angeles youth, providing education, shoes, clothing, books and an introduction to the arts. For more information, visit: [www.assistanceleaguela.org](http://www.assistanceleaguela.org).