

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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## **Studio East Presents its 18<sup>th</sup> Year of *'Twas the Night & StoryBook Theater Debuts New Winter Solstice Musical***

***'Twas the Night...* December 1 - 23, 2018 – Kirkland (best for ages 4+)**  
***Syd the Solstice Kid* December 2 - 22, 2018 – Renton, Kirkland, Shoreline, Fremont (best for ages 3+)**

**KIRKLAND, WA– Studio East** brings back *'Twas the Night...* for its 18<sup>th</sup> season, while **StoryBook Theater** debuts new musical *Syd the Solstice Kid*, which focuses on sharing cultural solstice traditions. Audiences of all ages will enjoy both of these live theater musicals that help usher in the spirit of the winter season.

An annual tradition for many Eastside families, ***'Twas the Night*** promises to be as hilarious and entertaining as ever. We all know the familiar holiday poem, but this show takes a whole new spin with reindeer dressed like cheerleaders, singing mice, and a troupe of Victorian carolers. There's even an audience sing-a-long to keep everyone on their toes, and of course Santa Claus himself makes an appearance. Every year, Studio East adds more surprises, more hilarity and more mischief that the whole family will enjoy.

***'Twas the Night*** is recommended for ages 4+ and has a running time of 90 minutes, plus an intermission. All tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at [www.studio-east.org](http://www.studio-east.org). All performances are at the Studio East Mainstage Theater located at 11730 118<sup>th</sup> Ave NE in Kirkland. Performances run December 1 - 23, Sat/Sun @ 11am, 2pm, and 5pm.

StoryBook Theater's brand new show, *Syd the Solstice Kid*, is a delightful original musical that focuses on how cultures across the world have celebrated the end of long, dark days and the return of light. Syd will explore winter solstice traditions from Scandinavia, northern Alaska and Greenland, China, and Africa. Audience members will learn about why the days are so short in December, where the sun goes, and how other cultures view this winter season.

***Syd the Solstice Kid*** is recommended for ages 3+ and has a running time of 55 minutes. Tickets are \$18 (including service fees) and can be purchased at [www.storybooktheater.org](http://www.storybooktheater.org)

or (425) 820-1800. Kirkland performances can be purchased at [kpcenter.org](http://kpcenter.org) or (425) 893-9900. The local, professional cast will perform at the following venues:

**Hales Palladium in Seattle-Fremont:** Sunday, December 2 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm

**Shoreline Conference Center:** Saturday, December 8 @ 11am

**Renton Carco Theatre:** Sunday, December 9 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm

**Kirkland Performance Center:** Saturday, December 15 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm; Sunday, December 16\* @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm; Saturday, December 22 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm (Single tickets for Kirkland shows are only available from [KPCenter.org](http://KPCenter.org).) \*December 16th shows are ASL interpreted.

### **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.