

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Studio East Presents Three One Act Plays and a
Shakespearean Tragedy this Winter, while StoryBook
Theater presents a new musical in partnership with
AAA Washington**

***International One Acts* January 25 – February 2, 2019 – in Kirkland
(best for ages 8+)**

**AAA presents *The Little Engine That Could* January 26 – March 16, 2019 – in
Renton, Kirkland, Shoreline, Fremont, Everett (best for ages 3+)**

***Romeo & Juliet* March 1-3, 2019 – in Kirkland (best for ages 9+)**

KIRKLAND, WA– This winter, **Studio East** presents International One Acts, three unique one act plays each presented by a different director and cast, and *Romeo & Juliet*, the classic tragedy but set in the late 19th century, while **StoryBook Theater** debuts a new musical, *The Little Engine That Could* in partnership with AAA Washington.

Studio East's **International One Acts** includes *The Falcon*, *A Thousand Cranes* and *The Masque of Beauty & the Beast*. Each one act features a small cast and a meaningful story. *The Falcon* is a Russian Cinderella story empowering young people to make choices and follow their dreams. *A Thousand Cranes* is the true story about a girl in Hiroshima whose fight to live has taught children world-wide about hope, the power of family and peace. *The Masque of Beauty & the Beast* is a rich and complex fairytale told in verse and brought to life through mask work and physical storytelling.

International One Acts is recommended for ages 8+ and has a running time of 90 minutes, plus an intermission. Adult tickets are \$19, while students and seniors are \$17. Tickets can be purchased at www.studio-east.org. All performances are at the Studio East Mainstage Theater located at 11730 118th Ave NE in Kirkland. Performances run January 25 – February 2, on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30pm.

Studio East presents the Bard's famous play, ***Romeo & Juliet***, in March. Studio East's version, directed by Simon Pringle, is set in West Virginia in the 1870s. In a Hatfield & McCoy

version of the classic tragedy, we see the same themes of revenge, love, a secret marriage and a long feud between the Montague and Capulet families, all with a 19th century twist.

Romeo & Juliet 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. Tickets can be purchased at www.studio-east.org. All performances are at the Studio East Mainstage Theater located at 11730 118th Ave NE in Kirkland. Performances run March 1-3, with the following show times: March 1 @ 7:30pm, March 2 @ 2:30pm & 7:30pm, and March 3 @ 2:30pm.

Finally, StoryBook Theater debuts a new musical, ***The Little Engine That Could***, in partnership with AAA Washington. This show follows a broken-down engine struggling to deliver her toys to the children on the other side of the mountain. There are many trains who are willing to help, but they all seem to have more important things on their minds. The focus of Little Engine is *believing in yourself*, and the musical also weaves in messages about traffic safety and distracted driving.

The Little Engine That Could is recommended for ages 3+ and has a running time of 55 minutes. Tickets are \$15 (including service fees) and can be purchased at www.storybooktheater.org or (425) 820-1800. Tickets for 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: January 26 @ 11am & 1:30pm*, January 27 @ 11am & 1pm
Kirkland Performance Center: February 2 @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm; February 3 @ 11am, 1pm & 3:30pm*; February 9 @ 11am & 1pm; February 10** @ 11am, 1pm & 3pm (Single tickets for Kirkland shows are only available from KPCenter.org.) **February 10 shows are ASL interpreted. **Everett PUD Auditorium:** March 3 @ 11am, 1pm & 3:30pm* **Hales Palladium in Seattle-Fremont:** March 10 @ 11am, 1pm, 3pm **Shoreline Conference Center:** March 16 @ 11am & 1:30pm* (*Sensory-friendly performances)

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.