

CHILDSPLAY: TOMÁS AND THE LIBRARY LADY

Saturday, October 6, 2018; 1 pm



PHOTOS BY TIM TRUMBLE

Artistic Team

Book, Music and Lyrics by José Cruz González
Adapted from the book "Tomás and the Library Lady" by Pat Mora
Produced by Childsplay from Tempe, Arizona
Music Arranged and Performed by Adam Jacobson
Directed by David Saar
Scenic and Costume Designer: Holly Windingstad
Sound and Projection Designer: Anthony Runfola

The Story

Tomás loves stories. As the young son of migrant farm workers, he spends the summer with his family following the crops north from Texas to Iowa, passing long days in the fields listening to his grandfather tell stories. Before long, Tomás knows all of Papa Grande's tales by heart.... When a chance encounter brings him to the local Carnegie Library, he meets the "Library Lady" who recognizes his thirst for knowledge and encourages him to read. His delight in books is equaled by his pride in teaching Spanish to the Library Lady, trading knowledge and respect between generations and cultures. By the end of the summer, Tomás has great pride in becoming his family's new storyteller, the guidance of a colorful mentor, and a lifelong love of reading.

A bilingual musical based on the beloved book about the true story of the Mexican-American author and educator Tomás Rivera, who became the first minority Chancellor in the University of California system. This inspirational production shows how reading and education — and self esteem — can make anything possible.

About the Company

Past Tours: *Go, Dog, Go!*, *The Cat in the Hat*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, and *Rock the Presidents*

Since 1977, Childsplay has been committed to its mission: "To create theatre so strikingly original in form, content or both that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love, and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, those hallmarks of childhood that are the keys to the future."

Childsplay is a resident professional company of adult actors who teach and perform for young audiences and families. The internationally respected theatre company believes that young people deserve to experience theatre of the highest artistic quality. Childsplay has performed for more than 5 million children and adults and has grown to serve an average annual audience of 250,000 children, teachers and families. Childsplay's recent national tours include *Tomás and the Library Lady* in the 2007-2008 and 2013-2014 seasons, *Peter and the Wolf* in 2009-2010, *Ferdinand the Bull* in 2010-2011, *Rock the Presidents* in 2012- 2013, 2016-2017, *Schoolhouse Rock Live* in 2014-2015 and Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat* in 2015-2016, 2016-2017.

In addition to Childsplay's professional productions, it's educational programming has expanded dramatically in response to the needs of school partners. Over 1,500 young people attend classes each year in the Childsplay Theatre Academy and nearly 5,000 students experience drama directly in their classrooms through Childsplay's Education Outreach programs. These programs emphasize experiential learning, language acquisition and literacy competency — essential precursors to overall academic achievement and long-term success across all subject areas. Childsplay believes that by continuing to create strikingly original theatre and connecting to young people's learning potential, we can build a generation of creative learners, innovative thinkers and dynamic leaders.

