



NEWS RELEASE

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Cleveland Play House Launches “Play Dates,” a New Program for Families

“Play Dates” Designed for Families to Enjoy Live Theatre Together

Cleveland, OH (August 12, 2011) – The Education department at Cleveland Play House is delighted to announce **Play Dates**, a new program designed to let entire families enjoy live theatre together. **Play Dates** is for parents, grandparents, caregivers, and their children. While the adults are watching a Cleveland Play House Mainstage performance, their children take part in a unique “playshop” that ties directly into the themes of the show. Three performances have been designated for **Play Dates**, each of them a Sunday matinee at 2:00 pm. The first is *The Life of Galileo*, September 18, 2011; second, *The Game’s Afoot*, November 27, 2011; and third, *Ten Chimneys*, January 15, 2012. With the purchase of each adult ticket at regular price, the cost per child for **Play Dates** is only \$15. Cleveland Play House performances take place in the Allen Theatre Complex at PlayhouseSquare, 1407 Euclid Avenue, downtown Cleveland. For more information, please call 216-795-7000 x270, email pdipasquale@clevelandplayhouse.com, or visit our website at <http://www.clevelandplayhouse.com/education/families-and-teens>.

“As the mother of two young children,” says **Pamela DiPasquale, Director of Education** at CPH, “I often find myself unable to attend the theatre because it would mean time away from them. **Play Dates** is just the kind of program that will allow me and my husband to not just attend theatre, but share an art experience with our children.”

On the day of the show, families arrive at Cleveland Play House 30 minutes prior to the performance to check in their children at the welcome table. There they will meet the education staff, complete a simple registration form, and obtain ID bracelets for the family. After the show, adults rejoin their children at the welcome table. The art experience continues at home when adults and their children leave with an “art is fun” kit with more activities for the family to enjoy together.

Founded in 1915, Cleveland Play House is America’s first professional regional theatre. More than 11 million people have attended over 1,200 productions at Cleveland Play House – including more than 100 American and/or World Premieres. Today, under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Bloom and Managing Director Kevin Moore, Cleveland Play House is an artist-driven theatre that serves the community by holding true to its mission: *To inspire, stimulate and entertain diverse audiences in Northeast Ohio by producing plays and theatre education programs of the highest professional standards.*

Cleveland Play House is funded through the generosity of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and The Ohio Arts Council helps to fund Cleveland Play House with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

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