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## **National Tour of *The Wizard of Oz* Announces Woodbury's 5 Star Dance Studio to Perform As Munchkins During Orpheum Run March 26-28**

**MINNEAPOLIS**—The national tour of *The Wizard of Oz*, touching down in Minneapolis for **five performances March 26-28 at Hennepin Theatre Trust's Orpheum Theatre**, announced today that the **5 Star Dance Studio in Woodbury has been selected to perform the roles of "Munchkins"** for all Minneapolis shows. The twelve children will learn choreography from *The Wizard of Oz* and sing the beloved classic "Ding Dong the Witch is Dead" as part of the upcoming production. The children from the 5 Star Dance Studio selected to perform in the Minneapolis engagement are Lucy Bailey, Steffine Bailey, Stephanie Bird, David Blong, Jessica Hoveland, Jessica Jugovich, Sierra Klein, Elizabeth Richmond, Lauren Simon, Marina Tipler, Olivia Tolkinen and Syrena Vanchena. *The Wizard of Oz* is presented by Hennepin Theatre Trust as a special addition to its 2009/10 Broadway Across America-Minneapolis Season. Tickets for *The Wizard of Oz* are on sale now. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org](http://www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org) or call 1.800.982.2787.

*The Wizard of Oz* features memorable songs composed by Harold Arlen including "Over the Rainbow" and "If I Only Had a Brain." The musical showcases Dorothy, Toto, the Cowardly Lion, Tin Man and Scarecrow in their adventures in Munchkin Land, the Haunted Forest and Emerald City. This new musical, called "a lavish stage production" by the New York Times, will transport audiences from the moment the tornado sweeps into Kansas. For more information on the tour visit [www.wizardofozontour.com](http://www.wizardofozontour.com).

**NETworks Presentations, LLC (Producer)** Founded in 1995 by Kenneth Gentry, Seth Wenig and Scott Jackson, NETworks has produced and managed over 70 national and international touring productions. Previous productions include *Oliver!*, *Little Women* starring Maureen McGovern, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*, *Cinderella* starring Eartha Kitt and Deborah Gibson, *Fosse* starring Ben Vereen and Ruthie Henshaw, *The Light in the Piazza*, *My Fair Lady* co-produced with Cameron Mackintosh, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma*, *Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, among many others. Joining returning hits *Annie*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Hairspray* and *The Wizard of Oz* this season are *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Young Frankenstein*, and the Lincoln Center's production of *Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific*. Future titles include Joyful Noise's production of *Handel's Messiah Rocks*, *Spring Awakening* and *Les Miserables*.

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