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LAKE CONROE SPILASH

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Stage Right of Texas
presents

The Mizard

July 12 - 28 Historic Grighton Theatre

Theatre

by Carolyn Corsano Wong

Stage Right Presents Classic Musical, *The*Wizard of Oz July 12 - 28 in the Historic Crighton Theatre

Stage Right of Texas, resident theatre company at the historic Crighton Theatre, presents their most ambitious production to date - The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum with music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, adapted from the motion picture by John Kane. The show is directed by Tina Cafeo and will be at the Crighton for a three weekend run July 12 - 28, with Friday and Saturday performances at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m. We are so excited to share this spectacular production with you! With a cast of 50 including 25 Munchkins, simulated pyrotechnics, a high flying wicked witch, good witch, monkey, and wizard, eye-popping costumes, use of large screen projections, and Toto too, this is one show you will not want to miss!

This musical adventure is a direct adaptation of the classic family film that made Judy Garland a star for her heartfelt performance as Dorothy Gale, an orphaned young girl unhappy with her drab black-and-white existence on her aunt and uncle's dusty Kansas farm. Dorothy yearns to travel "over the rainbow" to a different world, and she gets her wish when a tornado whisks her and her little dog, Toto, to the magical land of Oz. Having offended the Wicked Witch of the West, Dorothy is protected from the witch's wrath by the ruby slippers that she wears. At the suggestion of Glinda, the Good Witch of the North, Dorothy heads down the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City, where dwells the all-powerful Wizard of Oz, who



Cossette Czarnopis portrays Dorothy, with Lizzy as Toto, in Stage Right's production of *The Wizard of Oz. Photo by Brad Meyer*

might be able to help the girl return to Kansas. En route, she befriends a Scarecrow, a Tin Man, and a Cowardly Lion. The Scarecrow would like to have some brains, the Tin Man craves a heart, and the Lion wants to attain courage; hoping that the Wizard will help them too, they join Dorothy on her odyssey to the Emerald City. With all the classic songs from the movie including "Over the Rainbow," "We're Off to See the Wizard," "If I Were King of the Forest" and "If I Only had a Brain", you'll be singing along as Dorothy and her friends travel down the yellow brick road!

In addition to enjoying this stunning production, we hope you'll also leave with some information about needs in our community. As it has been from our very first show, we feel every Stage Right show is an opportunity for us to recognize a need in the community and then throw a spotlight on a non-profit organization that is helping fill that need. We are 'spotlighting' three area non-profits during *The Wizard of Oz.* Our Toto is a former shelter resident now being fostered with the help of Operation Pets Alive. Operation Pets Alive (OPA) is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization striving to elevate Montgom-

ery County to a No-Kill community through innovative programs that raise community awareness, reduce the number of dogs and cats that enter our shelters and increase the number of dogs and cats that leave our shelters alive. We will have OPA volunteers in the lobby with information about their programs and how you can help OPA and Toto too (Toto is a sweet Yorkie girl named Lizzy, currently up for adoption)! Another organization we will have in the lobby during the show is Children's Safe Harbor. Children's Safe Harbor's mission is to protect and enhance the life of every child who has the courage to battle sexual and physical abuse. Last year during our production of Cinderella, we collected journal books for donation. It was such a success that we decided to do it again this year. We hope you'll bring a journal book that will help aid in the recovery of a child.

We are having a special group join us for a free performance. One of our cast members, Adam O'Connor, is a volunteer at New Horizons, Inc. in New Caney. New Horizons provides work training programs and independent living skills for adults with developmental disabilities (i.e. Downs Syndrome, Autism, CP, etc.). Adam's pals at New Horizons are coming to cheer him on in a special preview performance.

Get your tickets now; this is one show that will sell out! Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors and groups of 15 or more and \$15 for

kids 16 and under and senior groups. Group tickets can be purchased by calling the Crighton box office at 936-441-7469. Tickets can be purchased online at www. stage-right.org. The historic Crighton Theatre is located at 234 N. Main Street in downtown Conroe.

We hope you'll join us for this unforgettable trip over the rainbow!

Cover Photo: Cosette Czarnopis as Dorothy, Elizabeth Garrett Curtin as Glinda and Carolyn Corsano Wong as the Wicked Witch of the West in Stage Right's production of The Wizard of Oz.