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Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine's premiere season commences with "Dragon" auditions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Portland, ME (August 21st, 2009) – Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine will embark upon its first full theatrical season since the merger of the Children's Museum with the Children's Theatre last November. Auditions to cast young actors in the season's fall show, *Everyone Knows What a Dragon Looks Like*, will take place on Saturday, August 29th at 1pm. The Museum & Theatre will cast about ten children between the ages of nine and sixteen to perform the tale of an orphan boy and his unexpected ally who team up to save a city from wild horsemen.

Theatre Artistic Director Reba Short expects the audition turnout to be double what it was last year. "Since we made our permanent home here at the Museum, we've grown our presence in the community with strong productions, summer camps and workshops," explains Short, who was on staff at the Theatre prior to the merger. "Kids are seeking creative ways to explore who they are; parents are seeking enriching activities that don't require an overwhelming financial commitment. A lot of families are discovering that children's theatre is an activity that works for everyone."

Other shows in the 2009-2010 season will include *Cinderella*, *The Emperor's New Clothes* and *The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings*; all were selected to underscore the season's theme, "Things Are Not What They Seem." In response to audience requests for season tickets, CMTM has introduced a Season Flex Pass, offering families sixteen tickets at a discounted rate. Flex Pass tickets can be used for any show or combination of shows throughout the season.

For more information about auditions, ticketing and production schedules visit www.kitetails.org.

About Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine

The Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine (CMTM) exists to inspire discovery and imagination through exploration and play. The Museum & Theatre serves as an indispensable resource for families and educators, helping to create a broad community devoted to our children's development and learning. Offering 20 unique exhibits, dozens of theatre performances and thousands of hours of educational programs and activities, CMTM welcomes more than 100,000 visitors annually and has more than 1,700 member families. In 2002 the Children's Museum of Maine was voted 14th in the nation by Child Magazine. The organization became the Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine in November of 2008 when the Children's Museum and the Children's Theatre merged, broadening the scope of arts education and creative play in Greater Portland. As CMTM grows, its Board and staff remain dedicated to proactively addressing the evolving needs of the community. For more information, please visit www.kitetails.org.



Sarah Glidden played a hula hooping Juliet in the March 2009 show "The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet." Photo by Briget Ganske.