



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*  
Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*  
Craig Noel, *Artistic Director*

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**SAN DIEGO'S BELOVED HOLIDAY TRADITION,**  
**DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!**  
**RETURNS TO GLOBE FOR EIGHTH INCREDIBLE YEAR**

***GRINCH FAMILY EXPERIENCE RAISES FUNDS FOR GLOBE EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS; PROVIDES HANDS-ON THEATRE ACTIVITIES FOR  
SAN DIEGO CHILDREN & FAMILIES***

***BROADWAY VET JOINS CAST AS NEW "GRINCH"***

The Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is pleased to present San Diego's premiere holiday event, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, directed by Globe Artistic Director Jack O'Brien, with book and lyrics by Timothy Mason and music by Mel Marvin, playing **November 19 through December 31, 2005** (opening night: **Friday, November 25 at 7:30pm**). Now in its eighth amazing year, this wonderful musical will once again jump right off the pages of the classic Dr. Seuss book and onto the Old Globe stage.

Launched in 1998, the Globe is pleased to bring back this family favorite year after year. "*How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* has become a San Diego tradition," said Globe Executive Director Louis G. Spisto. "We thank Audrey Geisel (a.k.a. "Mrs. Dr. Seuss") for her generous gift to the Globe and to the San Diego community of this timeless holiday classic."

The Globe is also pleased to announce that the *San Diego Union-Tribune* will return as a **Presenting Sponsor** of this delightful annual production, with additional sponsorship support from **Bank of America**.

*How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* has been hailed by critics: "This *Grinch* is a smash," wrote the *L.A. Times*, while the *San Diego Union-Tribune* raved, "Jack O'Brien scaled this Globe holiday show...to the heartfelt humanity of the season." As an added feature of this holiday celebration, the Globe again plans to feature many wonderful characters and graphic elements from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* in a mini *Who*-ville on the outdoor Copley Plaza throughout the run of the production.

Tickets for Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* are now on sale and can be purchased by calling the Old Globe's Ticket Services Department at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, by visiting the Globe box office in Balboa Park or on line at [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org). Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$29 for children 17 years of age and under; and \$39 to \$59 for adults.

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The Old Globe is also pleased to present the third annual **Grinch Family Experience**, a delightful family gala created to help raise money for the Globe's education and outreach programs, while offering an exciting day of hands-on theatre activities for children and families. The celebration takes place on **Sunday, December 4**, beginning at 11:00am in the Globe's rehearsal studios. The event includes a special buffet lunch, followed by a delightful performance by the children in the *Grinch* cast, as well as "Grinchy" crafting activities where children can make fun holiday items, such as a three-dimensional picture postcard of the Who Family Christmas, a Christmas tree hat, a tall novelty Grinch pencil and a personally designed gift bag. At 2:00 pm patrons attend a performance of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* in the Old Globe Theatre. In addition to priority theatre seating, VIP ticket holders also receive autographed *Grinch* memorabilia and be treated to an on-stage meet & greet with the cast. Tickets are \$100 for children and \$150 for adults. VIP tickets are \$175 for children and \$300 for adults.

Additionally, the Globe will host its annual **Seuss-abration** event, which brings 600 first-graders from several Title One San Diego schools to the Globe to attend Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* and launches the **Grinch Children's Reading Initiative**. This year's Seuss-abration will take place on **Wednesday, November 30, from 10:30am to 1:00pm** and includes lunch and a special performance of the Globe's annual holiday production. Participating school groups include: **Bayview Terrace School, King-Chavez Art Academies, Linda Vista Elementary, Lindbergh/Schweitzer School, Menitee Elementary and Mission Elementary.**

2005 marks the third year for the exciting Grinch Children's Reading Initiative, an ongoing literacy project involving the 600 children attending Seuss-abration. As part of the initiative, each participating classroom is invited to read six books before the day of the celebration on November 30 and provides a free book to every child who successfully completes his or her reading list. The Globe's Education Department also offers a free workshop, providing information, insight and additional resources to teachers involved in the matinee series and Seuss-abration, to help maximize the learning experience for their classes. The Reading Initiative has been expanded this year with the **Globe Readers** program, where Globe volunteers travel to San Diego-area schools throughout the spring semester to read stories to students, work with them on writing their own stories, and donate books to the school libraries.

The Seuss-abration tickets are part of a greater initiative by the Globe to provide 4,000 free tickets to *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* for underserved San Diego children, in order to share the magic of this wonderful holiday story with those who may not otherwise be able to attend. The tickets are distributed to several Title One San Diego Schools during a series of 10:30am matinees (the Grinch Children's Matinee Series) throughout the run of the show. In addition, all children's (ages 17 and under) tickets to *Grinch* performances are offered at a substantial discount off the regular adult price.

Grinch Children's Reading Initiative Sponsors include **The San Diego Union-Tribune, Wells Fargo, Starbucks, Union Bank of California, ResMed Foundation and NOKIA.**

The 2005 cast of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* features a new “Grinch” this year, to be played by **Leo Daignault** (Broadway’s *Avenue Q*, the national tours of *The Full Monty*, *Miss Saigon* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, among others). Reprising their roles this year are **Rusty Ross** as “Young Max,” **Ken Land** as “Old Max,” **Melinda Gilb** as “Mama Who,” **James Vasquez** as “J.P. Who,” and **Eileen Bowman** as “Grandma Who.” **Steve Gunderson**, who originated the role of “J.P. Who,” rejoins the cast as “Grandpa Seth Who.” The role of “Cindy Lou Who” will be shared by newcomers **Timyra-Joi Beatty** and **Mackenzie Holmes**. The Who children include **Ari Krasner** and **Ari Lerner** as “Boo Who” (on alternate performances), **Adam Faison** and **Corey Hable** as “Danny Who” (on alternate performances), **Anna Strickland** and **Janelle Wen** as “Annie Who” (on alternate performances), and **Caroline Hyatt** and **Anita Deshea Lewis** as “Betty Who” (on alternate performances).

The adult ensemble includes: Alex Apostolidis, Ryan Drummond, Danielle Forsgren, Ron Christopher Jones, Warren G. Nolan, Jr., and Jessa Watson. The ensemble also consists of ten local children, who will rotate into their roles every other performance. They include: Maddie Shea Baldwin, Halle Hoffman, Katheryne Penny, Austin Potts, Hannah Prater, Julianna Rose, Keilani Joy Spahn, Celia Tedde, Charlotte Wen and Nathan Wetter.

Jack O’Brien assembled an internationally-renowned creative team, including John Lee Beatty (scenic design), Globe Associate Artist Robert Morgan (costume design), Pat Collins (lighting design), and John DeLuca (choreography), who have given life to this incredible production. Their main artistic goal was to remain as faithful to the original book as possible. The production has been designed and built on-site in The Old Globe scene and costume shops in Balboa Park.

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*The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.*

*During this 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Summer Season, the Globe is presenting The Comedy of Errors, Macbeth and The Winter’s Tale playing in nightly rotation in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, and the world premiere production The Lady with All the Answers, in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage. The 2005/6 Season continues the celebration with two more world premieres, including Chita Rivera: The Dancer’s Life, an exciting musical biography of the acclaimed actress/singer/dancer, as well as a thrilling new work by Twyla Tharp set to the music of the legendary Bob Dylan. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O’Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.*

## THE OLD GLOBE FACT SHEET

### ***DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!***

- WHAT:** **Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!***  
Book and lyrics by Timothy Mason; music by Mel Marvin
- WHERE:** Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park
- WHEN:** November 19 through December 31, 2005 (Press Opening: **November 25 at 7:30pm**)
- CREW:** Director: Jack O'Brien                      Scenic Design: John Lee Beatty  
Lighting Design: Pat Collins                      Costume Design: Robert Morgan (Associate Artist)  
Sound Design: Paul Peterson                      Stage Managers: Leila Knox, Tracy Skoczelas  
Choreography: John DeLuca                      Musical Director: Phil Reno  
Associate Director: Brendon Fox                      Associate Musical Director/Conductor: Lisa LeMay
- CAST:** Timyra-Joi Beatty                      *Cindy Lou Who* (alternate performances)  
Eileen Bowman                      *Grandma Who*  
Leo Daignault                      *Grinch*  
Adam Faison                      *Danny Who* (alternate performances)  
Melinda Gilb                      *Mama Who*  
Steve Gunderson                      *Grandpa Seth Who*  
Corey Hable                      *Danny Who* (alternate performances)  
Mackenzie Holmes                      *Cindy Lou Who* (alternate performances)  
Caroline Hyatt                      *Betty Lou Who* (alternate performances)  
Ari Krasner                      *Boo Who* (alternate performances)  
Ken Land                      *Old Max*  
Ari Lerner                      *Boo Who* (alternate performances)  
Anita Deshea Lewis                      *Betty Lou Who* (alternate performances)  
Rusty Ross                      *Young Max*  
Anna Strickland                      *Annie Who* (alternate performances)  
Janelle Wen                      *Annie Who* (alternate performances)  
James Vasquez                      *J.P. Who*
- Adult Ensemble:                      Alex Apostolidis, Ryan Drummond, Danielle Forsgren,  
Ron Christopher Jones, Warren G. Nolan, Jessa Watson
- Child Ensemble:                      Maddie Shea Baldwin, Halle Hoffman, Katheryne Penny,  
Austin Potts, Hannah Prater, Julianna Rose, Keilani Joy Spahn,  
Celia Tedde, Charlotte Wen, Nathan Wetter
- TICKETS:** Adults: \$39-\$59  
Children (ages 3-17): \$19-\$29
- BOX OFFICE:** (619) 23-GLOBE or order tickets on-line at [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org)  
–Hours: Mondays: noon to 6pm; Tuesdays - Sundays: noon to 8:00pm  
–MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express accepted

**PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: See Attached Sheet**

