

For Immediate Release:

Arts On Stage celebrates its 25th Anniversary Season of helping students learn outside the classroom, including performances celebrating cultural diversity and eco-stewardship

Arts On Stage will kick off their 25th season on October 21st, 2015, with *An Enormous Dinosaur Adventure*, a returning favorite that brings dinosaurs to life through puppetry. American Indian Heritage Month will be honored on November 6th with a presentation of *Hiawatha*. Titles for several grade levels will be offered for the holiday season in December. African American History Month resources will kick off with *Arthur Ashe: A Champion of Honor* offered on January 28th, and continue in February with a performance by Maryland-based artists *Soul in Motion: African Dance and Drum*, as well as other cultural and history-centric titles. The Spring 2016 semester will feature several book-based shows for the preschool through 5th grade audience, including *Are You My Mother?* and *The Monster Who Ate My Peas*. All ages will be welcome to delight in the astonishing skill of *The Shanghai Chinese Acrobatic Circus* in March. Science curricula will receive a spotlight through the popular shows *Butterfly: The Story of a Lifecycle* and *Super Scientific Circus*. Spectacle and rich Latin culture will be offered as the *Calpulli Mexican Dancers* return to the Towson stage to celebrate Cinco de Mayo with student audiences. The anniversary season will conclude on May 19th, 2016, with *The Think Program* pioneered by Vocal Trash, an explosive Glee-meets-Stomp group who specialize in bringing eco-awareness to the stage and the classroom.

Arts On Stage, a non-profit, local organization, will celebrate its 25th anniversary season during the 2015/2016 school year. Over the past 24 years they have impacted an audience of 872,587 educators, parents, and students from pre-kindergarten through high school. Arts On Stage averages 55 shows a year. They offer some of the lowest-priced tickets in town for a one-hour performance, with tickets for parents and students ranging from \$8 to \$10, and teachers being free. School-wide state-funded schools are eligible for a \$1.00 discount per ticket. Arts On Stage has a huge home school following, and the family ticket price is the same as schools with no minimum. The no-minimum, no-deposits policy enables schools to plan affordable field trips for large groups of students.

This season will be led by Jamie Papas, Arts On Stage's new Executive Director. Mrs. Papas has served Arts On Stage for eleven years as Marketing and Community Outreach Director, is a passionate advocate for arts and education, and active in her community. She will be joined by Debbie Best, the organization's new Administrative Coordinator. Together with their usher staff and a Board of Directors, Mrs. Papas and Mrs. Best intend to carry on the legacy of Leslie Fowler, who founded Arts On Stage with one show and a vision to provide educational theatre field trips that would help enhance the classroom experience.

Arts On Stage presentations will be offered during the school day at 10:15am and 12 noon (please refer to www.artsonstage.org for dates and locations for specific titles). Their two venues are located so as to encourage access to schools in a broad region of the Greater Baltimore Metro area. Towson performances: Goucher College, 1021 Dulaney Valley Rd, Towson, Maryland 21204. Annapolis performances: Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, 801 Chase St., Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

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