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**BOSTON CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRESENTS  
LANDMARK PRODUCTION OF  
'TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD'**

***Mary Badham, Academy Award nominee for her role as 'Scout', to attend  
Opening Night performance on May 7, 2011  
Tickets On Sale Now!***

Boston, MA-- Boston Children's Theatre (BCT) is proud to kick off their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with a landmark production of **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**. Featuring a cast of 36 young actors and adults, this classic story will be brought to life on stage at the Wimberly Theatre in the Boston Center for the Arts for five public performances only May 7, 8, 14 and 15.

To honor both the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BCT and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, BCT has announced that Mary Badham, the film's original 'Scout,' will be attending the opening night performance and participating in a Talk Back session. "For so many generations of people, the role of 'Scout' has represented an unbiased, nonjudgmental window on the world and to welcome the actress who created that persona with us on Opening Night, is truly remarkable," said Burgess Clark, BCT Executive Artistic Producer and Director of **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**.

In 1962, Ms. Badham was the youngest person to be nominated for an Academy Award for her portrayal of the precocious and curious 'Scout' in the film starring Gregory Peck. Chosen from an open casting call at the age of 10, Ms. Badham had no prior acting experience, but according to Ms. Badham, that's exactly what the producers were looking for. "I was like a blank sheet of paper, and that's why they liked me," revealed Ms. Badham. "I had never acted before, but I found that I was very much like 'Scout.' I was a serious kid, with a lot of energy, who was brought up reading the newspaper with my father."

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## Mockingbird/BCT/Page 2

Asked about the relevancy of the themes to today's society, Ms. Badham commented, "The themes of social tension, tolerance, and compassion are not 1930's issues. They are as relevant today as they ever were. Ignorance continues to be the root of all evil and the key to freedom is education. I am always glad when people say TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD is their favorite book and they try to raise their family accordingly. That means a lot to me."

Adapted from the Pulitzer Prize winning novel by Harper Lee, **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD** looks closely at social tension, racism, morality and love through the eyes of a child. In the BCT production, the role of 'Scout' will be played by 11 year old Victoria Cargill of **Beverly Farms**, MA. Similar to Ms. Badham, Ms. Cargill was chosen from an open casting call that attracted over 200 young actresses.

In addition to Ms. Cargill as 'Scout,' the production features 35 performers from 30 communities. They include **Andover** resident Conrad Krendel-Clark; **Boston** residents Doug Bowen-Flynn, Ellen Soderberg, Rosie Cerulli, Emily White, and Joseph McKenna; **Braintree** resident Rachel Padell; Brockton resident Andy Jasmin; **Brookline** residents Alec Shiman and Jordan Underwood; **Canton** resident Helena Carrington; **Charlestown** resident Kevin Paquette; **Chestnut Hill** resident Charlotte McMahon; **East Walpole** resident Matthew Champagne; **Elliot, Maine** resident Kate Miller; **Holden** resident Todd Phipps; **Hull** resident Charlie Clinton; **Lowell** resident Baily Gillis; **Marblehead** resident Kim Pearson; **Melrose** resident Charley Matera; **Merrimac** resident Bryan Marden; **Needham** resident Jo D'Angelo; **Newton** residents Andrea Lyman and Jessica Dagg; **North Reading** resident William Goldstein; **Peabody** resident Karllee Hunt; **Reading** resident Alyson Grindall; **Rowley** resident Stephen Turner; **Scituate** resident Chris White; **Sherborn** resident Franci DuMar; **Tewksbury** resident Jacob Cofer; **Westford** resident Brianna Ryder; **Westwood** resident Katharine Nedder; and **Woburn** resident Tim Lawton.

**TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD** will be performed at The Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavillion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, Boston, MA on Saturday, May 7 at 7:30 pm with a post-show Talk Back session with Mary Badham; Sunday, May 8 at 2 pm and Saturday, May 14 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm and Sunday, May 15 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased by visiting the BCT website at [www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org](http://www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org) or by calling 617-424-6634, x222.

### About Boston Children's Theatre

Now in its 60<sup>th</sup> season, [Boston Children's Theatre](http://www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org) (BCT) was founded as a stand-alone, non-profit organization, dedicated exclusively to young people and the telling of their stories. One of the oldest children's theatrical organizations in the United States, Boston Children's Theatre provides unique opportunities for inner city and suburban kids to work together by offering year-round opportunities for young performers to be involved in a broad range of theatrical productions. BCT is committed to providing high quality, diverse and affordable shows designed specifically for teachers, children and their families.

Click the link below for hi-resolution production photos:

<http://bct.webprofitize.com/season/to-kill-a-mockingbird/to-kill-a-mockingbird-photos/>

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