

NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 23, 2011

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USM Theatre Offers a Christmas Present for the Entire Family with Classic 'Wizard of Oz'

7:30 p.m. Dec. 2 & 3, Xavier Theatre

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Join a cast of familiar characters—including Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion—as they follow the yellow brick road at the USM theatre program's presentation of timeless family classic *The Wizard of Oz* at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 3, in Xavier Theatre on the Saint Mary Leavenworth campus at 4100 South 4th Street.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and are available at the door. Call (913) 758-6152 or go to www.stmary.edu/tickets to purchase advance tickets.

The story of *The Wizard of Oz* needs no introduction. It's the classic tale of finding happiness in your own backyard told through the prism of a girl's journey in a magical land as she tries to escape the Wicked Witch and make her way home.

"We chose *Wizard of Oz* for this season because we haven't done it in many years, and wanted to revisit it," said Van Ibsen, director of USM's theatre program. "We thought the students would have great fun with the characters and that the community would enjoy something different for the holidays. The response has been phenomenal! And tickets are going fast."

For each year's holiday season play, USM also holds multiple matinees for the Leavenworth area grade schools and community groups like the Girl Scouts of the Greater Kansas City Metro Area. Matinee tickets are already largely sold out.

The production stars USM's Emily Nold as Dorothy, Warren King as the Tin Man, Patrick Peterson as the Cowardly Lion, Sadie Vetter as the Scarecrow, and Alyssa Dunning as the Wicked Witch of the West.

Call (913) 758-6152 for tickets or for more information.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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