



## La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts

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# JAMBO, WATOTO! “Hello, Children!” Tales and Rhythms of Africa

La Mirada, CA, January 10, 2012 – **La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts** continues its 2011-12 **Programs for Young Audiences** series with Boxtale Theatre Company’s ***Jambo, Watoto!***. This innovative 60-minute play is recommended for audiences ages 4 and up. Performances are Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

***Jambo, Watoto!*** is a loving homage to the rich and wonderful cultures of Africa featuring stories and traditional rhythms from many different regions. The stories include the Akamba tale of *Brother Sun, Brother Moon and the Pretty Girl*, the Donso story of *The Hunterman and the Crocodile*, *The Lion’s Whiskers* from Ethiopia, and *How Ananse Gained a Kingdom of Knowledge from a Grain of Corn* from the Ashanti people. ***Jambo, Watoto!*** features traditional rhythms like The Czar, Adoonde, Mandjiani and Linjin (The Crane Dance) played on bells, djimbe and djoon djoon drums. Incredible masks (made by **Lindsay Rust**) and energetic movement (choreographed by world renowned theatre director **Eva Magyar**) accent this wonderful collection of stories and African music.

### About the Creative Team

**BOXTALES THEATRE COMPANY** is a storytelling theatre troupe, which uses masks, movement, storytelling and live music to present myths and folklore from around the world. Storyteller Michael Katz, actor Jeff Mills and musician Michael Andrews combine their diverse talents to create a professional, high energy, highly interactive theatrical experience for young audiences.

**EVA MAGYAR (Director)** is the founder of *The Shamans* and the choreographer of *The House of Deer*. She has received many prestigious awards for both her choreography and her performance work, included the Herald Angel Award (Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 1998), Best Female Performer (Crash International Theatre festival 1998), Best Director (Cairo International Festival, 1997), and Best Alternative Theatre Performance of the Year Award (Hungary, 1997).

**LINDSAY RUST (Mask Maker & Set Designer)** has a BA in Art History and Practice as well as a B.S. in Anthropology from Northwestern University. She spent 2 years in Niger, West Africa where she studied with traditional wood-workers, mask-makers, batik artists and silversmiths. Rust has collaborated with BOXTALES on numerous mask and theatre projects. In 2000, BOXTALES invited Rust to design the visual world for *Jambo Watoto* - a collection of East and West African tales. Much of the work that she completed for *Jambo Watoto* was influenced by her experiences living and working in Niger, West Africa from 1996 to 1998. Most recently, Rust collaborated with Boxtales on *Waters of the Earth: Multicultural Tales of the Sea*. Designed to depict various characters from seafaring mythologies around the world, this collection of masks and props reflects Rust's continually developing artistic style. Visit [www.lindsayrust.com](http://www.lindsayrust.com) to view a gallery of Rust's masks and other artwork.

**La Mirada Theatre's Programs for Young Audiences** is designed to give children exposure to a diverse mix of national and international touring stage acts.

All seats are \$8 for children and \$12 for adults. Subscriptions are available or \$24 for children and \$36 for adults. Tickets are available online at [www.lamiradatheatre.com](http://www.lamiradatheatre.com) or by calling the La Mirada Theatre Box Office at (562) 944-9801 or (714) 994-6310. The theatre is located at 14900 La Mirada Blvd. in La Mirada, CA. Parking is free. Wheelchair access and Hearing Assist devices available.

### CALENDAR LISTING

Please list under Children's Theatre, Kid's Stuff, Family Entertainment, or related category:

**Boxtales Theatre Company's *Jambo, Watoto!*** Part of La Mirada Theatre's **Programs for Young Audiences Series**. 2 shows only: 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Sunday, February 26, 2012 at La Mirada Theatre, 14900 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, CA. Tickets: Children \$8 – Adults \$12 online at [www.lamiradatheatre.com](http://www.lamiradatheatre.com) or call the Box Office at (562) 944-9801 or (714) 994-6310.