

**Press Contacts:  
  
Katie B. Watts**Press Manager  
(413) 448-8084 x15  
katieb@berkshiretheatregroup.org **Becky Brighenti**Director of Marketing & Public Relations  
(413) 448-8084 x11  
becky@berkshiretheatregroup.org  
**For immediate release, please: February 11**

**10x10 Upstreet Arts Festival**

**BTG PLAYS! 2019-2020 Touring Show:**

**Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon**

**At The Colonial on February 22**

**Book Signing with Award-Winning Author**

**Mary Pope Osborne Prior to Show**

**Pittsfield, MA–**Berkshire Theatre Group and Kate Maguire (Artistic Director, CEO) are

excited to announce BTG PLAYS! 2019-2020 Touring Show: **Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon**, based on the book *Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon* by **Mary Pope Osborne**, at The Colonial Theatre on **Saturday, February 22 at 2pm**, as part of the 10x10 Upstreet Arts Festival. There will be a book signing with Mary Pope Osborne from 1pm–1:45pm in The Colonial Theatre lobby prior to the performance.Books will be available for purchase, provided by The Bookstore in Lenox.

This musical features a book by **Jenny Laird** and **Will Osborne**, lyrics by **Randy Courts** and **Will Osborne** and music by **Randy Courts,** with direction by **Travis Daly**. BTG PLAYS! 2019-2020 Touring Show is sponsored by Lead Sponsor, Berkshire Bank and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

*Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon* is an adaptation of the fourth of Mary Pope Osborne's award-winning fantasy adventure books from the Magic Tree House book series, which has sold more than 100 million copies and is available in more than a hundred countries around the world.

The two siblings return to visit the magic tree house on a dreary, rainy day. They find a book where the sun is shining and the waves are crashing, so they wish to travel to this tropical place. They realize that they are in the eighteenth-century Caribbean—the time of pirates! The siblings meet Captain Bones, a mean old pirate who captures the two and forces them to help him find buried treasure. It's up to Jack and Annie to find their way back to the tree house and make their way home.

BTG PLAYS! Touring Show is a part of Berkshire Theatre Group’s year-round education

program, which reaches 13,000 school children annually. Beginning in October and

running through the school year, this production is appropriate for elementary and

middle school aged children and family audiences, and is designed to introduce

students to the excitement of live theatre. The tour travels to schools and venues all throughout Berkshire County and surrounding towns with a local company of artists, and a question and answer session with the actors follows each performance.

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**About Berkshire Theatre Group**

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through our Educational Program, serves over 13,000 Berkshire County schoolchildren annually. BTG's celebrated stages reflect the history of the American theatre; they represent a priceless cultural resource for the community.