

WIND IN THE WILLOWS

Based on the book by Kenneth Grahame

Produced by Theatre Heroes

From Austin, Texas

Journey into the Wild Wood on this multi-media adventure based on Kenneth Grahame's beloved children's novel. *Wind in the Willows* mixes classic storytelling with projected illustrations to tell the trials of Mole and Rat on an all-night race against time as they venture through the hidden wonders of the forest to find the young Otter before it's too late.

From the team who brought us *Call of the Wild: Illustrated Edition*, the production uses 180-degree projection that surrounds the performer and provides scenic elements throughout the show, while underscoring music and soundscapes set the mood. Experience the magic and mystery as award winning actor Noel Gaulin plays all the fabled characters in this new adaptation of this classic story.

The world premiere occurred in October 2024 in Austin, TX at the State Theatre and was performed in front of over 1,000 students. "From the beautifully rendered projections to the immersive sound design and energetic performance from Noel Gaulin, audiences will be captivated."
- Brian C. Fahey, Senior Education Director, Paramount & State Theatres.

This company is on the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster for 2024-2026– so funding is available for presenters in Mid America (AR, KS, MO, NE, OK) and Texas! Learn more about the Mid America Arts Alliance Regional Touring Program [here](#) and the [TCA Touring Roster here](#).

Best for: Grades 3rd+

Audience Size: Small, Medium, & Large Venues

Artistic Team

Based the book by Kenneth Grahame

Adapted by Greg Romero

Performed by Noel Gaulin

Sound Design by K. Elliot Hayes

Illustrations by Annie Bradley McCall

Costumes by Kelli Bland

Media Design by Chris Owen

Lighting By Stephen Pruitt

Music by Mike Vernusky

Movement Consultation by Kelly Hasandras and Olivia O'Hare

Siku Pan Flute by Adrienne Inglis
Tongue Drum by Carolyn Trowbridge

Critical Acclaim

"*Wind in the Willows* is a complete sensory experience that all ages will enjoy. From the beautifully rendered projections to the immersive sound design and energetic performance from Noel Gaulin, audiences will be captivated. We were honored to present the world premiere at the State Theatre in Austin, TX." - Brian C. Fahey; Senior Director of Education; Paramount & State Theatres

Teacher feedback:

- "(Our students) loved his ability to be multiple characters as well as how he made so many different sounds with his voice and his expressions."
- "(Our students) enjoyed the quality of the acting and the projections."
- "(Our students enjoyed) how engaging Noel was in his performance. His noises. His facial expressions."
- "(Our students enjoyed) Noel's ability to create so many different characters, the script, sound effects and projections."

Critical Acclaim for Theatre Heroes' past work *Call of the Wild*:

" Noel Gaulin is such a gifted storyteller; You simply cannot help but fall in love and experience a little heartbreak. The projections are truly stunning, adding to the company's concept... and the music captivated from the beginning. I believe this piece has the power to draw schools and public audiences in droves and will leave lasting impact" - Jenn Luck, Presenter at the Paramount, Austin, Texas (about *Call of the Wild*).

"We got incredible feedback from students and teachers about Noel's performance, both from the student matinee and the evening family friendly performance, the workshop at the middle school was excellent and thought provoking. As always, we remain impressed by Theatre Heroes! - Katie Carrol, Presenter at Strings Music, Steamboat Springs, Colorado (about *Call of the Wild*).

"I loved how language arts and history were integrated. The kids were blown away by how many different characters the actor played." - Teacher (about *Call of the Wild*).

Curriculum Connections

- Fine Arts: Dramatic Performance, Performance & Technology
- Language Arts: Page to Stage – Adapting a Novel into a Play, Narrative, Reading, Comprehension, Writing, Vocabulary
- Science: Animals & the Environment,
- Emotional/Social Development: Adapting to new circumstances, Resilience, Endurance, Survival