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Photo Caption: Bob Baker's Nutcracker Photo Credit: Bob Baker Marionette Theatre

For Immediate Release

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Bob Baker's Nutcracker, Presented by Bob Baker Marionette Theatre and Sierra Madre Playhouse, Infuses the Holidays with Merriment and Wonder

Created in 1969, the recently renovated show has been transformed into a fanciful dreamscape with large-scale marionettes and intricate sets for this special yuletide presentation geared for the entire family.

50 Performances run from November 30, 2024, to January 5, 2025, at Sierra Madre Playhouse

(Sierra Madre, CA – October 31, 2024) *Bob Baker's Nutcracker*, Bob Baker Marionette Theater's (BBMT) delightful and spellbinding 1969 marionette adaptation of the beloved ballet classic, makes its highly anticipated Sierra Madre Playhouse debut this holiday with 50 performances running from November 30, 2024, through January 5, 2025. A perennial and beloved yuletide tradition for Angelenos of all ages, *Bob Baker's Nutcracker* has been carefully renovated for this special 2024 presentation at the Playhouse.

The show features more than 100 handcrafted puppets, including Clara and Fred, the Nutcracker, the Rat King, and the Suger Plum Fairy, alongside a number of other Bob Baker playful creations. NBC4 proclaims it "a panache-filled fantasia full of marionette-y merriment."

Bob's original *Nutcracker* show, created in 1969, was performed with hand-and-rod puppets, but over the years, BBMT's talented team of artisans and craftspeople transformed the adaptation of the ballet into a fanciful dreamscape with large-scale marionettes and intricate sets.

Broadway World decrees, "They are experts on creating shows that will mystify and captivate the attentions of infants while still delighting grown-ups. The performances are crafted with the audience so intrinsically in mind that the entire hour seems to fly by in an instant. The institution stands as a

reminder that, even children who have access to iPads are hushed with awe when a puppet is manipulated with strings and overwhelmed with delight when a puppet waves at them."

This project was funded in part by a grant from Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts.

Tickets and Information

Tickets to *Bob Baker's Nutcracker* (\$25) are on sale now. For tickets and information, please call 626.355.4318 or visit www.sierramadreplayhouse.org. Sierra Madre Playhouse is located at 87 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE, a vibrant Southern California cultural hub with a rich history spanning a century, energizes audiences and the community with distinctive theatrical productions and captivating live performances. Hailed as a "jewel" (*Pasadena Weekly*) and "a landmark theater" (*ABCT Los Angeles*), the performing arts center has garnered tremendous accolades for its varied repertoire and thought-provoking education and outreach programs curated with social impact in mind. The *Los Angeles Times* proclaims, "This is theater from the heart." As one of San Gabriel Valley's only performing arts center presenting a broad spectrum of performance genres, including theater, music, dance, film, comedy, and family-friendly productions featuring eminent local and national professional artists, the treasured artistic beacon draws audiences from across the Southland. The intimate 99-seat Sierra Madre Playhouse offers an up-close and personal connection to performances that resonate deeply, earning multiple Ovation Awards, NAACP Awards, and LA Times Critics' Choice honors. It is nestled into a historic building on the inviting Main Street of Sierra Madre, a charming village in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Retaining its distinctive movie theater façade and instantly recognizable marquee, the structure has undergone numerous transformations since opening in 1910, from furniture emporium to silent movie theatre to the artistic institution that now stands as a vibrant embodiment of the region's rich cultural legacy. The Sierra Madre Playhouse fosters creativity that aspires to bridge divides and spark dialogue, all while celebrating the rich tapestry of the American experience and the enduring pursuit of shared understanding.

EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents Family @ The Playhouse: Bob Baker's Nutcracker

WHEN:

50 shows run from November 30, 2024 - January 5, 2025

Saturday, Nov 30 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Sunday, Dec 1 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Saturday, Dec 7 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Sunday, Dec 8 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Saturday, Dec 14 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Sunday, Dec 15 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Monday, Dec 16 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Tuesday, Dec 17 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Wednesday, Dec 18 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Thursday, Dec 19 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Friday, Dec 20 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Saturday, Dec 21 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Sunday, Dec 22 (1:30 PM)

Monday, Dec 23 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Friday, Dec 27 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Saturday, Dec 28 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Sunday, Dec 29 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

Monday, Dec 30 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Thursday, Jan 2 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Friday, Jan 3 (4:30 PM, 7:00 PM)

Saturday, Jan 4 (10:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4:30 PM) Sunday, Jan 5 (1:30 PM, 4:30 PM)

WHERE:

Sierra Madre Playhouse 87 West Sierra Madre Boulevard Sierra Madre, CA 91024

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

Tickets: \$25 (626) 355-4318 www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

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