

Portland Center Stage at

THE **ARMORY**

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M E D I A R E L E A S E

David Sedaris' hilarious holiday hit *The Santaland Diaries* opens in the Ellyn Bye Studio starring Portland-favorite Darius Pierce
Previews Begin Nov. 26 | Opening Night is Dec. 2 | Closes Dec. 24
TICKETS STARTING AT \$25



November 2, 2016 – PORTLAND, OR. David Sedaris' hilarious tale of a disgruntled elf working in Macy's holiday wonderland will open at The Armory on December 2 and run through December 24, with preview performances beginning November 26. *The Santaland Diaries* is directed by Wendy Knox and stars Portland-favorite Darius Pierce as Crumpet, a role he has performed for sold-out houses in the Ellyn Bye Studio for the past four seasons.

Regular tickets start at \$25. Tickets may be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or in-person from the box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger can purchase \$30 tickets for all dates/times. Showtimes are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding December 24); and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding November 26 and 27, and December 3). Recommended for ages 14 and up; contains mature content and language, and the secret of Santa is exposed. Information at <https://www.pcs.org/santaland-2016>.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Based on the true chronicles of writer and commentator **David Sedaris'** experience working as a Christmas elf in a Macy's department store in New York City, *The Santaland Diaries* riffs on a few of Sedaris' truly odd encounters with his fellow man during the height of the holiday crunch. The tales helped launch the career of Sedaris back in 1992, when he performed excerpts from his essay *Santaland Diaries* for National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* a few days before Christmas. The essay was adapted into a one-man show by **Joe Mantello** and premiered at the Atlantic Theater Company in 1996. Since then, *The Santaland Diaries* has become one of the most-produced shows on American stages each holiday season.



DARIUS PIERCE

Darius Pierce most recently performed the role of Dev in *Stupid F**king Bird* at The Armory, a role he originated for the world premiere at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. Other credits include *The Gaming Table* and *Comedy of Errors* (Folger Theatre); *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* (Profile Theatre); *As You Like It* (Portland Shakespeare Project); *My Fair Lady* and *Les Misérables* (Broadway Rose Theatre Company); and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Portland Playhouse). Pierce is a company member at Third Rail Repertory Theatre and a co-founder of the Anonymous Theatre Company.

His screen credits include *The Librarians*, *Leverage*, *Portlandia*, *Grimm*, *Mock Trials*, *Thomas & the Trainmaster* and *Cell Count*. Photos of Darius Pierce in *The Santaland Diaries* are available for download on [flickr](#).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Director Wendy Knox (artistic director at Minneapolis' Frank Theatre) leads a creative team that includes **Scenic and Costume Designer Jessica Ford** (recent designs for The Long Wharf Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, Baltimore Center Stage and others), **Lighting Designer Don Crossley** (most recently at The Armory for *The People's Republic of Portland*) and **Sound Designer Sarah Pickett** (sound design and music composition instructor at Carnegie Mellon University).

TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

When: November 26* – December 24, 2016

*Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Preview Performances: November 26, 27, 29, 30, and December 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: In the Ellyn Bye Studio at [The Armory](#)

128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, Ore., 97209

To Purchase: Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$55. \$25 tickets are available on Tuesday night performances only, in select quantities, first-come, first-served. Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger may purchase premium seating areas for \$30 (available for all dates/times). Discounts for groups of 10+. *Prices vary by date, time and seating area, and are subject to change.*

Online: www.pcs.org

By Phone: 503.445.3700, 12–6 p.m.

In Person: The box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue

12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on performance days

12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on non-performance days

Groups: Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

More Info: <https://www.pcs.org/santaland-2016>

Showtimes: Showtimes are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding December 24); and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding November 26 and 27, and December 3).

Please Note: Recommended for ages 14 and up. Contains mature content and language, and the secret of Santa is exposed.

Accessibility: Learn about our accessibility options at <http://www.pcs.org/access/>.

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Portland Center Stage at The Armory

[Portland Center Stage at The Armory](#) is the largest theater company in Portland and among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May, 2000. Around 160,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classical, contemporary and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. 11 productions are offered each season, in addition to roughly 400 community events created — in partnership with 170+ local organizations and individuals — to serve the diverse populations in the city. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 21 world premieres and presents an annual new works festival, JAW: A Playwrights Festival. The Northwest Stories series was recently launched to develop and produce works about, or by artists from, the Northwest region. Home to two theaters, The Armory was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

2016-2017 SPONSORS

The [2016-2017 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from the Season Sponsors: Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation and Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner. Portland Center Stage at The Armory was selected as a participant of the Wallace Foundation's [Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative](#), a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

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