

For additional information, contact:

Laura Royal

[lroyal@childsplayaz.org](mailto:lroyal@childsplayaz.org)

480-921-5727

or

Rosemary Walsh

[rwalsh@childsplayaz.org](mailto:rwalsh@childsplayaz.org)

480-921-5703



## CHILDSPLAY PRESS RELEASE

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Visit [Childsplay's Media Room](#) for photos



### **Childsplay Participates in New Plays Festival**

Tempe, AZ – Childsplay, Arizona's award-winning professional theatre company for young audiences and families, is proud to present *Getting Near to Baby* as part of ***Imagination Begins with US: The US Airways New Plays Festival for Families.***

This national partnership between Childsplay, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, and People's Light & Theatre (Philadelphia) was created by US Airways to promote the production of new plays for young audiences.

Through the festival, Childsplay produced *A Tale of Two Cities*, adapted by Dwayne Hartford, in March 2008 and the play gets a second production at People's Light & Theatre, PA. Y York's adaptation of *Getting Near to Baby* will makes its Arizona debut

at the Tempe Center for the Arts on Oct. 25. *Getting Near to Baby* is based on the Newbery Honor book by Audrey Coulombis.

Childsplay's Artistic Director David Saar said he learned a lot from People's Light & Theatre's production of *Getting Near to Baby*.

"I talked with the director about design ideas and some choices that she made during the design process-- and then had second thoughts about after the production opened. We also talked about her process of working with young actors, because that's something that Childsplay doesn't do very often. It was a great source of learning and a model that we attempted to emulate," he said.

The 18-month festival provides more than 30,000 children, parents and grandparents with the opportunity to experience new and innovative plays of the highest artistic quality.

The Festival concept promotes both the creation of new works and the exchange of expertise between the partner theatres.

**Tempe Center for the Arts -- Studio**  
700 West Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, Arizona 85281  
Box office: 480-350-2822 or online at [www.childsplayaz.org/tca](http://www.childsplayaz.org/tca).

**Target Storybook Preview:** Sunday, October 19 at 4 p.m. (all tickets discounted at \$12)  
**Weekend Schedule: Saturday & Sunday afternoons through November 9, at 1 & 4 p.m.**  
**All other performances:** \$25 Adults; \$20 for students and seniors

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Childsplay, Inc. is a nonprofit theatre company of professional, adult artists who perform for and teach young audiences and their families. The mission of Childsplay is "to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content or both, that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, the hallmarks of childhood which are keys to the future." For information on Childsplay performances, classes or educational presentations please call 480-921-5700 or visit our website at [www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org).

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