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CHILDSPLAY MEDIA ADVISORY

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Seussical Poetry Slam Finalists Announced!

Tempe, AZ -- In honor of the 50th Anniversary of *The Cat in the Hat* and of the production of *Seussical*, Childsplay is proud to announce 13 Seussical Poetry Slam contest finalists out of a whopping 130 ENTRIES!

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Finalist</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
A (ages 8-11)	Sarah Persely Powell	Cave Creek
	Matthew Young	Gilbert
	Elena Selthun	Phoenix
	Statten Tinker	Gilbert
	Kimberly Norris	Chandler
	Danielle Gravatt	Phoenix
	Kenny Bernatz	Gilbert
B (ages 12-16)	Miranda Lane	Mesa
	Julianne Ballon	Mesa
	Katie Yarborough	Mesa
C (ages 16+)	Carol Persely Powell	Cave Creek
D (class)	Kathy Knowler/Robin Kvitka	Desert View Learning Center, Phoenix
E (family)	Shohan Family	Scottsdale

Slam Information

Jon Gentry, who plays the Cat in the Hat in *Seussical*, will be the Master of Ceremonies and will read all the finalists' poems in the lobby of the Tempe Center for the Arts on **Saturday, December 1st starting at 12:15 pm**, prior to the 1 pm performance of *Seussical*. Prizes will be awarded to all finalists and a Grand Prize Winner will be announced after the reading. All finalists have been invited to attend *Seussical* with their families after the Slam.

The Judges

Karina Bland, *The Arizona Republic*; **Shelley Cohn**, former Executive Director of the Arizona Commission on the Arts; **Lisa Hobson**, Principal of Bustoz Elementary School; **Mick Parsons**, Poet and ASU Department of English Instructor; and **David Saar**, Childsplay's Artistic Director. The panel of volunteer judges read all qualified entries and met on Monday, Nov. 19 to choose finalists.

*For more information about *Seussical* or any other Childsplay production, please visit www.childsplayaz.org

*The Seussical Poetry Slam is sponsored by Borders Book Stores.
 Childsplay's 2007-08 Media Sponsor is KTVK and My Sweet Connection.com*

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 480-350-8101 or visit our website at www.childsplayaz.org.

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