Performance Preview Guide for *Into the Woods*

**Performances:** July 19-27th at Village Theatre Second Stage, 2710 Wetmore Ave, Everett.

**Parents Note:** Only parents are qualified to determine what is appropriate for their children. This Production Guide is available on our website and at the Village Theatre Everett Box Office to help you make the decision that is right for you and your family.

**Versions available to preview:** A script is available at the Everett Performing Arts Center Box Office for you to read. Call (425) 257-8600 to arrange to read a copy at the theatre.

**Production length:** The show will run approximately two hours and 30 minutes, with one 15 minute intermission.

**Why did KIDSTAGE decide to produce *Into The Woods***?
Everyone loves a good fairytale. Filled with love, pain, and a few handsome princes, a storybook tale is something we all can enjoy. But, what is a fairytale? Does it require a perfect happy ending? Princesses in need of saving? Most will say yes. *Into the Woods* challenges these ideas. Love, forgiveness, regret and parenting are just a few of the key themes woven within the songs and dialogue in this Sondheim hit. *Into The Woods* brings forth a higher caliber of character development for our students to work through, not to mention the extremely difficult and complex musical score that comes with it. It is considered a staple in all musical theatre playhouses, and KIDSTAGE Everett couldn’t be happier to be producing it a second time.

**Synopsis:** Who knew Cinderella was so apathetic? Or that Little Red was so spiteful? In Stephen Sondheim’s Tony Award® winning *Into The Woods*, your favorite Brothers Grimm fairytales are flipped upside down…and given a hefty dose of reality to boot. You might think you know the real stories of Little Red, Cinderella, Jack, and Rapunzel, but when the Baker and his wife learn they have been cursed by a witch, their quest to break the spell will cause fairytale to collide. As expected, wishes are granted and dreams come true, but in this edgy, tongue-in-cheek musical ‘happily ever after’ is just the beginning.

**Script Content Details**
*Please note: the following contains plot spoilers.*

*Into the Woods* may not be suitable for children ages 10 and under. It is based on the original, mostly Brothers Grimm fairy tales of “Little Red Ridinghood,” “Cinderella,” “Jack and the Beanstalk,” and “Rapunzel.”

**Violence:** Rapunzel sings about being trapped at the top of the tower, in which she has been imprisoned by the Witch. Jack sings about the terrible qualities of Giants and how they *swallow you for lunch*. The Baker’s Wife pulls some of Rapunzel’s hair from her head. Little Red Ridinghood threatens Jack with a knife. Narrator describes Rapunzel’s Prince leaping from the tower and into a thicket of thorns which blind him. Florinda’s toe and Luncinda’s heel are cut off in an attempt to have the golden slipper fit their foot. It is described that birds peck out the eyes of Luncinda and Florinda. A giant walking through the Kingdom causes much destruction to the homes of the Baker and the Witch. Rapunzel describes being left in a desert to starve.
**Death:** Granny describes killing the Wolf in a detailed fashion. The Mysterious Man dies. Little Red Ridinghood mentions her mother’s death. The characters work together to kill the giant; in the processes they sacrifice the Narrator. The Giantess steps on Rapunzel. The Steward hits Jacks Mother over the head with a staff and kills her. The Baker’s Wife is crushed by a falling tree.

**Theft:** The Witch raps about the Bakers father stealing from her garden. The Mysterious Man temporarily steals the Baker’s money.

**Sexual Content:** The Witch implies the Baker and Baker’s Wife have fertility issues. The song *Hello Little Girl* contains sexual undertones. The song *Any Moment* also includes sexual undertones and implies that adultery was committed. Both Princes are pursuing women outside of their marriages. Cinderella’s Prince and the Baker’s Wife kiss.