

## GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE INTRODUCES KIDS TO ROMEO AND JULIET

*Will & Co. Revamps the Shakespearean Standard for Saturday Scene on Feb 12*

LOS ANGELES, February 11, 2011 – Geffen Playhouse teams up with educational theater company Will & Co. to present *Romeo and Juliet* at the Geffen Playhouse on **February 12 at 11am**. By combining original text with modern language, Will & Co. re-imagines this age old tale of star-crossed lovers for younger audiences while staying true to Shakespeare's original play.

"Will & Co. stresses the importance of students seeing Shakespeare performed in addition to just reading his plays, and *Romeo and Juliet* is a great introduction to Shakespeare for young people," said Geffen Playhouse's education director Debra Pasquerette.

Will & Co. is a not-for-profit theater company that is based in Los Angeles and tours the nation. Founded in 1988, Will & Co. began primarily as a troupe dedicated to making Shakespeare accessible to under-represented communities. Over the years, its work has extended to include contemporary works which blend educational and historical material with entertainment. Based in the most multicultural city of Los Angeles, their casting choices are not "color blind," but rather "color-full", creating an artistic utopia whereby the best actor for each part is cast regardless of ethnicity or gender.

Saturday Scene performances are on select Saturday mornings at 11:00 a.m. on the Geffen Playhouse's main stage and are followed by complimentary snacks donated by Gelson's Market. Tickets for individual shows are \$10 for children or \$15 for adults and subscriptions (which package four or more shows) begin at \$40. All tickets for Saturday Scene can be purchased through the Geffen Playhouse box office and online at [www.geffenplayhouse.com](http://www.geffenplayhouse.com).

### **ABOUT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE'S EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

The Geffen Playhouse's education and outreach programs seek to make the cultural resources of the theater available to all of Los Angeles' diverse communities. The wide range of programs focuses on serving populations in need from ages 3 to 100 through programs such as Saturday Scene, Story Pirates, School Tours, Student Matinees, Golden Ticket and the theater's award-winning CREATE program. For more information, please visit [geffenplayhouse.com/education](http://geffenplayhouse.com/education).

### **EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

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