



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONS PARTNER WITH CONAGRA FOODS  
TO SUPPORT FOOD BANK FOR THE HEARTLAND**

*ConAgra Foods Arts for the Holidays Celebration Continues in 2011*

**Omaha, Neb. – October 25, 2011** – Omaha Performing Arts, the Omaha Symphony and Opera Omaha are proud to partner with ConAgra Foods again this holiday season for *ConAgra Foods Arts for the Holidays Celebration*. New to the partnership this year is Omaha Community Playhouse, who is happy to join this initiative to support ConAgra's *Shine the Light on Hunger* program. This collaborative event, which begins on November 1, is sponsored by ConAgra Foods and features a food drive at three venues: the Holland Performing Arts Center, the Orpheum Theater and the Omaha Community Playhouse. Patrons are encouraged to bring canned food and other non-perishable items to each venue when attending any performance November 1 through December 31, 2011. All donations collected will support the Food Bank for the Heartland. Last year, the performing arts organizations collected more than 1,200 pounds of food, which resulted in more than 1,370 meals.

"Hunger is an issue that affects millions of Americans across the country, and that includes right here in Douglas County where more than 26,000 children are at risk of hunger," said Kori Reed, vice president Foundation and Causes at ConAgra Foods. "As part of our *Shine the Light on Hunger* campaign, during Omaha's Holiday Lights Festival, we are proud to collaborate with our community arts organizations to raise more food and funds for the Food Bank for the Heartland, ultimately making a difference in the fight against hunger."

In addition to the collection of canned food and other non-perishable items, informational exhibits promoting awareness about child hunger and nutrition will also be displayed at the Omaha Community Playhouse and at both of Omaha Performing Arts' venues, the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater.

The following performances are part of the *ConAgra Foods Arts for the Holidays Celebration*:

Omaha Performing Arts Presents  
**Monty Python's SPAMALOT**  
November 4 – 5, 2011 at the Orpheum Theater

Omaha Symphony, Masterworks Series  
**Daphnis & Chloe**  
November 11 – 12, 2011 at the Holland Center

Omaha Community Playhouse  
**Flyin' West**  
October 21 – November 20, 2011 in the Howard Drew Theatre

Omaha Community Playhouse  
**A Christmas Carol**  
November 18 – December 23, 2011 in the Howard and Rhonda Hawks Mainstage Theatre

Omaha Performing Arts Presents  
**Chris Botti**  
December 3, 2011 at the Holland Performing Arts Center

Omaha Community Playhouse  
**Yesterday and Today**  
December 2 – 31, 2011 in the Howard Drew Theatre

Omaha Performing Arts Presents  
**Aspen Santa Fe Ballet *The Nutcracker***  
December 9 – 11, 2011 at the Orpheum Theater

Omaha Symphony, Pops Series  
**Christmas with the Symphony!**  
December 16 – 18, 2011 at the Holland Center

Donations will be accepted at all Omaha Performing Arts, Omaha Symphony and Opera Omaha performances taking place at the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater as well as performances at the Omaha Community Playhouse during the months of November and December. For a complete listing of performances, visit [www.TicketOmaha.com](http://www.TicketOmaha.com).

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#### **Omaha Performing Arts**

Omaha Performing Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing world-class performances to the Omaha metropolitan area. Omaha Performing Arts' commitment to the arts extends into its own series, Omaha Performing Arts *Presents*, as well as education and community involvement programs that help ensure the arts have a far-reaching impact. In partnership with Broadway Across America, Omaha Performing Arts also brings the finest in touring Broadway productions to Omaha.

Core to its mission, Omaha Performing Arts manages two landmark venues, the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater – the former, which includes the acoustically acclaimed Kiewit Concert Hall and Scott Recital Hall and the latter, which includes Slosburg Hall, a proscenium theater. Omaha Performing Arts also provides comprehensive ticketing services for cultural and performing arts within the region through Ticket Omaha ([www.TicketOmaha.com](http://www.TicketOmaha.com)).

Omaha Performing Arts' performances are supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Omaha and the Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund. For more information on Omaha Performing Arts visit [www.OmahaPerformingArts.org](http://www.OmahaPerformingArts.org).

### **Omaha Symphony**

The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization that aims to enrich people's lives through the exhilarating experience of live orchestral music. The orchestra presents more than 200 live performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, Chamber, Sights and Sounds, and Family series concerts, the Omaha Symphony's nationally recognized education programs touch the lives of more than 37,000 schoolchildren in Nebraska and Iowa each year.

Omaha Symphony performances are supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, National Endowment for the Arts, the Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund and several other generous supporting organizations and corporations.

### **Opera Omaha**

Opera Omaha, the only professional opera company in Nebraska, began in 1958 as the Omaha Civic Opera Society, a volunteer association, and with tremendous community support became fully professional by 1970. Opera Omaha produces a season of original main stage productions, presented at the historic Orpheum Theater, and smaller productions and musical events throughout the community. Opera Omaha is internationally known for its productions of eight world premieres and four American premieres of classical masterpieces, and is highly regarded regionally for an extensive education and outreach program that annually reaches as many as 15,000 people from elementary school through adulthood.

### **Omaha Community Playhouse**



Established in 1924, the Omaha Community Playhouse is the largest community theatre in the United States based on memberships sold and facility size, among other factors. The organization is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The Omaha Community Playhouse is supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment and the Douglas County Board of Commissioners.

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