

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors, Reviewers and Calendar Listings

Chance Theater, Autism By The Sea, My Day Counts, OC Asperger's Support Group, Peer 1-on-1, Poppy Life Care, and Reimagine are excited to host a special

**Neurodiverse Community Night for
“The Curious
Incident of the Dog
in the Night-Time”**

Come to the Bette Aitken Theater Arts Center on Friday, October 13th at 7PM for an evening that celebrates and honors members of our Neurodiverse community

ANAHEIM, CA: Chance Theater, Anaheim’s official resident theater company, is pleased to announce a special Neurodiverse Community Night for the Tony Award-winning play “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time,” a play by Simon Stephens based on the novel by Mark Haddon and directed by Darryl B. Hovis.

Presented in association with **Autism By The Sea, My Day Counts, OC Asperger's Support Group, Peer 1-on-1, Poppy Life Care, and Reimagine OC**, the event starts at 7:00 PM on Friday, October 13th at the Bette Aitken Theater Arts Center. The event will start with mingling and getting to know the community groups and fellow patrons in the Chance lobby over light bites and Happy Hour drink specials. Following the 8:00 p.m. performance of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” there will be a hosted discussion with the

artists and community partners. The evening will wrap up with a second round of bites and drinks. where audiences can further mingle with the artists and Neurodivergent organizations. The purpose of the event is to celebrate the Neurodiverse community, embracing acceptance and understanding. We are looking forward to providing and participating in an evening filled with love, resilience, and the triumph of the human spirit.

The performance of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” will be a “Relaxed Atmosphere Performance,” which is perfect for anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed environment. During the performance, there will be more allowance for noise and movement within the theater, re-entry when needed, and a chill-out space for any one who may need time away from the performance. This includes audience members with dementia, anxiety, Tourette’s, bowel and bladder conditions, an autism spectrum condition, or a learning disability. PLEASE NOTE: Relaxed Atmosphere performances have no adjustments made to the performance, include loud sound effects and strobing lights. They are not suitable for audience members with sensory sensitivities.

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 7:00 p.m. - Mingling in the Chance lobby over light bites and Happy Hour drinks. Be sure to meet our Community Partners.
- 8:00 p.m. - “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” begins! We can't wait for you to see this performance!
- 10:30 p.m. - Participate in a post-show conversation with the Cast and our Community Partners.
- 10:50 p.m. - Don't leave just yet! We have a second round of bites and drinks.
- 11:30 p.m. - Last call! The event comes to an end.

For more details about the event and to purchase tickets, visit ChanceTheater.com/neurodiverse

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Established in 2006, [Autism By the Sea](#) is an Orange County community resource for families with children on the Autism Spectrum. Their mission is to provide SUPPORT to families affected by Autism in positive and encouraging ways; to help EDUCATE those families and members in their community about the complicated field of Autism, and to provide AWARENESS campaigns that can be tailored for local organizations upon request.

[My Day Counts](#) offer life-changing programs that give participants with disabilities a path towards independence; whether they are taking their first steps with the assistance of a Gait Trainer (specialized

walker), stepping outside of their comfort zone and attempting to learn a new skill, completing a college class or getting their first job in the community, each of our programs provides individuals with the guidance and resources to move along their path to individual achievement.

[OC Asperger's Support Group](#) (OCASG) is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the quality of life for individuals with Asperger's, High-Functioning Autism and PDD-NOS and their families.

[Peer 1-on-1](#) is a non-profit organization which targets autism and other developmental disorders by allowing autistic children (ages five to eighteen) with opportunities to interact with our teen volunteers. Activities include watching movies together, going on hiking trips, playing sports together, attending major events for autism, and much more.

[Poppy Life Care](#) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is determined to provide and deliver easy access to affordable, holistic, integrative, and complementary health and wellness resources and services for individuals and families living with a wide spectrum of physical, mental, and behavioral health challenges. Our mission is to facilitate awareness and education while building innovative care programs, which we hope to accomplish alongside our local communities, its businesses and people. We believe in helping each other as part of an ecosystem of local business, healthcare groups, academic institutions and professionals alike.

At [Reimagine](#), we believe everyone has the right to explore new horizons, learn new skills and realize happier, more successful futures. We champion big dreams and new choices for our participants—from on-site activities that awaken the senses to classes at local community colleges—the possibilities are many.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Meet Christopher Francis Boone, a brilliant and neurodivergent 15-year-old boy standing in his neighbor Mrs. Shears' backyard in the middle of the night. She is screaming at Christopher because he is standing over the body of Wellington, her sweet dog who has been speared with a garden fork. When Christopher vows to find the murderer, he doesn't realize that there is more than one mystery to solve and he will be forced to take a perilous journey that will upend his world. Based on Mark Haddon's best-selling novel, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" is a thrilling and heartwarming adventure story featuring an unforgettable young hero.

Please Note: This production contains some moments of sensory intensity — including lighting, video, and sound effects — reflecting the content of the novel. There is also strong language, violent behavior and domestic violence, and smoke/haze effects.

To schedule press interviews, arrange for press comps, request press photos, or for any additional information regarding this production, please contact Casey Long, the Chance’s managing director, at (626) 523-7151 or casey@chancetheater.com.

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, CHANCE THEATER has received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for “nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.” The Chance recently won 14 OCTG Theatre Awards, including Outstanding Production of a Musical (“Next to Normal”) and Outstanding Production of a Play (“Cry It Out”). Previously, Chance Theater won eight OCTG Theatre Awards, including Outstanding Production of a Musical (“Fun Home”), eight Ovation Awards, including four for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre), and four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater “the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim” in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as “Outstanding Arts Organization.” Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, The Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles, and OC Theatre Guild, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: Neurodiverse Community Night for “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”

Join us for a momentous occasion as Chance Theater, Autism By The Sea, My Day Counts, OC Asperger's Support Group, Peer 1-on-1, Poppy Life Care, and Reimagine unite to celebrate the vibrant Neurodiverse community. The event will start with mingling and getting to know the community groups and patrons in the Chance lobby over light bites and Happy Hour drink specials. After the performance of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” there will be a hosted discussion with the artists and community partners. The evening will wrap up with a second round of bites and drinks. where audiences can further mingle with the artists and community organizations that specialize in neurodiversity affairs.

WHEN: Friday, October 13th, starting at 7 p.m.

Other performances: September 22-October 22, 2023

WHERE: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken Theater Arts Center on the Cripe Stage

5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

TICKETS: \$36

MORE INFO: www.ChanceTheater.com or call (888) 455-4212

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