



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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Are you ready to rock? @GuppiesOnTour are swimming through the @KimmelCenter 3/17 with all your #bubbleguppieslive friends! More info @KimmelCenter.org

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BUBBLE GUPPIES LIVE! READY TO ROCK MAKES ITS U.S. DEBUT IN PHILADELPHIA

***Hit preschool show teaches kindergarten readiness skills through musical
adventure at the Kimmel Center's Merriam Theater***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, January 17, 2018) – Put on your water wings and jump into a swimsational adventure! The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, VStar Entertainment Group, Nickelodeon, and Koba Entertainment present the U.S. debut of the live theatrical production *Bubble Guppies Live! Ready to Rock*. Based on Nickelodeon's hit preschool series *Bubble Guppies*, the show swims into the Merriam Theater on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"We are delighted to welcome the wildly popular Bubble Guppies to our stage as we continue to present programming that uses science, technology, engineering, arts, and math to teach our young audiences," said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "This season's Family Discovery Series is jam packed with entertaining and educational shows, ideal for children of all ages."

The Bubble Guppies are getting ready to rock 'n' roll with some totally fin-tastic tunes, but when a special band member goes missing, the show can't go on. With a little help from Mr. Grouper and giggly little fish, Molly, Gil, and the whole gang embark on an adventure as they search every corner of their underwater world for their missing friend. Featuring rockin' music, comedic high jinks, and audience participation, the Bubble Guppies will leave no stone left unturned and no bubble left unpopped in order to get the show on the road. Including a wave of playful characters, energetic song, dance, and theatrical magic, *Bubble Guppies Live! Ready to Rock* will have kids, parents and grandparents singing and dancing along with this rousing interactive show!

Bubble Guppies Live! Ready to Rock is based on Nickelodeon's Emmy Award-winning preschool series, *Bubble Guppies*. Created and executive produced by Jonny Belt and Robert Scull, and co-developed by Janice Burgess, the interactive CG-animated series set in a vibrant underwater environment follows a group of diverse preschoolers with colorful fish tails who go on adventures discovering their world. *Bubble Guppies* is set to a soundtrack of catchy, educational pop songs and features a curriculum that infuses the core elements of kindergarten readiness including: math, literacy, the arts, science, and socio-emotional development. *Bubble Guppies* currently airs on Nickelodeon.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***The Johnny Shortcake Show*** (January 27-28, 2018, SEI Innovation Studio), ***Mr. Popper's Penguins*** (February 10, 2018, Merriam Theater), ***Wild Kratts LIVE!*** (April 22, 2018, Merriam Theater), ***The Sound of Music*** (April 24-29, 2018, Merriam Theater), and ***Paw Patrol Live! The Great Pirate Adventure*** (May 4-6, 2018, Merriam Theater).

BUBBLE GUPPIES LIVE! READY TO ROCK

Merriam Theater

March 17, 2018, 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$25.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See www.kimmelcenter.org for more information.

VStar Entertainment Group is a leading entertainment company and producer of unforgettable live experiences for audiences in the U.S. and internationally. From concept through activation, VStar imagines and creates custom tours featuring original content and licensed, branded tours that provide highly engaging entertainment for fans of all ages. Our integrated entertainment platform allows us to deliver a complete solution for theatrical shows, interactive exhibits and experiential events, with expertise in production development and design, tour management, booking, ticketing, venue management, marketing, promotion and publicity. We specialize in bringing amazing location-based entertainment experiences to life that audiences will remember.

Over nearly four decades, VStar has presented 36,000+ performances worldwide in 40+ countries, reaching more than two million guests annually. Our productions include PAW Patrol Live!, two high-energy musical adventures based on the hit animated series that airs on Nickelodeon and is produced by Spin Master; *Cirque Dreams*, a series of productions that combine a cirque-style of performance artistry with Broadway theatrics and became part of our tour family when VStar acquired Cirque Productions in 2017; and *Dinosaur Time Trek: Shark Edition* and *Dinosaur Time Trek: Dragon Edition*, two hands-on

prehistoric-themed exhibits with attractions for the whole family. Previous VStar productions include the original *Sesame Street LIVE*, a series of Broadway-quality musical shows produced in cooperation with Sesame Workshop for 37 years, *Barney*, *Bear in the Big Blue House*, *Care Bears*, *Curious George*, *Dragon Tales*, *Hello Kitty*, *Kidz Bop* and *My Little Pony LIVE!* For more information, including current tours and a complete list of service offerings and capabilities, visit www.vstarentertainment.com.

Koba Entertainment

A prominent producer of original family musicals, Koba Entertainment has been captivating audiences throughout the world with celebrated characters from literature, television, and pop culture. Koba Entertainment productions have enchanted people of all ages in more than 165 North American cities, 12 countries and 4 continents. Production credits for young audiences include: *Max and Ruby*, *The Backyardigans*, *Toopy & Binoo*, *the Doodlebops*, *Strawberry Shortcake*, *Caillou* and *Franklin*. More information can be found at www.koba-entertainment.com.

Nickelodeon, now in its 38th year, is the number-one entertainment brand for kids. It has built a diverse, global business by putting kids first in everything it does. The company includes television programming and production in the United States and around the world, plus consumer products, digital, recreation, books and feature films. Nickelodeon's U.S. television network is seen in more than 90 million households and has been the number-one-rated kids' basic cable network for 22 consecutive years. For more information or artwork, visit <http://www.nickpress.com>. Nickelodeon and all related titles, characters and logos are trademarks of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIAB).

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit www.kimmelcenter.org.

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