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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release 3/11/11

Milwaukee Public Theatre navigates fresh water issues with *FLOW: The Traveling Water Circus*

*Thousands of youth to explore environmental stewardship with underwriting
provided by A.O. Smith Corporation and Veolia Water*

March 11, 2011 – Since 1974, **Milwaukee Public Theatre** (MPT) has created hundreds of original stage works including ten productions which specifically address environmental issues. Beginning mid-April, 2011, MPT will introduce a new production: ***FLOW: The Traveling Water Circus***. ***FLOW*** will engage thousands of youth in learning about water origins, water footprint, usage, and management issues, conservation, and careers in the water industry. Using circus skills and highly visual, verbal, musical and kinetic theatrics, ***FLOW*** will feature a water-loving troupe of colorful characters who discover they must learn more about where fresh water comes from, how it's used and wasted, and what they can do to preserve this most valuable and irreplaceable, life sustaining resource.

Grants from **A.O. Smith Corporation** and **Veolia Water Milwaukee LLC** are supporting this production scheduled for April 13, 14 and 15 at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm daily. **Milwaukee/southeast Wisconsin area schools can take advantage of a greatly reduced school matinee ticket offer made possible by Veolia Water: for every \$5 student ticket purchased, schools will receive 2 complimentary tickets.** With additional corporate support from **Natural Resource Technology**, one evening performance has also been scheduled for 7:00 pm, Friday, April 15. All performances occur at Lincoln Center for the Arts at 820 E. Knapp St., Milwaukee, WI, 53202. Tickets are priced at \$5 for youth to age 17 and seniors; \$10 for adults. Discounts apply for purchases of 10 or more tickets. Free parking is available in a secure, lighted lot. To order tickets or for more information, call MPT at 414-347-1685.

For 36 years, Milwaukee Public Theatre has produced innovative original programming to engage hearts and minds about complex and sometimes divisive and difficult issues. "We know from over three decades of working with school children that theater can be very effective at showing how important issues affect our lives", offered ***FLOW*** producer/director Kathleen Stacy. "Theater can speak to diverse audiences of multiple learning styles, pose challenging problems and at the same time, help audiences imagine and explore solutions."

Using theater to enrich a science curriculum can be beneficial to both students and teachers. "MPT's production of ***FLOW*** is a terrific way for students to explore scientific concepts through theater," stated Lisa Martin, Milwaukee Public Schools Science Curriculum Specialist. "With support from Veolia Water, MPS has been able to make Veolia's Water Box training available to 5th grade science teachers and their classrooms and we feel the collaboration with Veolia and Milwaukee Public Theatre has been beneficial." MPS teachers interested in learning more about this collaborative project may call Lisa Martin at 414-777-7831.

(more)

Milwaukee Public Theatre is a member of the United Performing Arts Fund and receives ongoing support from Milwaukee Arts Board, Milwaukee County CAMPAC, National Endowment for the Arts, Wisconsin Arts Board, corporations, foundations, families and individuals.

“Water is crucial to life on earth, and nothing is more important than teaching children that important concept. We’re honored to be partnering with Milwaukee Public Theatre and Milwaukee Public Schools in the important mission of bringing **FLOW** – along with the Water Box – to as many schoolchildren as we can!” added Joyce Harms, Communications and Community Relations Manager, Veolia Water Milwaukee LLC. The Water Box is an educational tool unique to Veolia Water and contains more than 25 hands-on experiments and activities for students targeted to 5th grade science curriculum, and provides all necessary supplies for the experiments, a teacher’s manual and a companion CD loaded with information on the water cycle, water treatment, and the environment at large. Any Milwaukee area 5th grade science teacher may contact Veolia Water to learn about the training by calling 414-747-3849 or 414-292-8729.

Milwaukee Public Theatre is Wisconsin’s only full time, professional, education outreach non-profit company, producing and presenting over 1800 events in the visual, performing and healing arts annually and serving over 100,000 residents of all ages, cultures and abilities in the greater Milwaukee region. For more information about Milwaukee Public Theatre, call 414-347-1685 or visit www.milwaukeepublictheatre.org.

Additional Links

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