



## PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Diana Wilson, Communications Director  
11701 Community Center Drive, Northglenn, CO 80233  
P: 303.450.8713 M: 303.931.0833  
dwilson@northglenn.org

# Northglenn Youth Theatre Sets the (Recycled) Stage for *The Little Mermaid* Nov. 15-24

**November 8, 2019, Northglenn, CO** – Northglenn Youth Theatre (NYT) presents *The Little Mermaid* Nov. 15-24, and is incorporating environmental awareness into the production. Artistic Director Kimberly Jongejan and NYT director Vicki Pace want to call attention to the discarded plastics polluting our oceans.

“This could have been a whale of a task for anyone, but because Northglenn has built such a fantastic family of people, everything has gone swimmingly,” said Pace. “I told them I wanted 90% of sets and costumes to be recycled or repurposed materials, and no one blinked an eye!”

Four Northglenn schools and city facilities collected recyclables for the sets and costumes. Technical Director and Resident Designer Christopher Waller worked to pull together all the donations and create the sets, with the help of youth participants’ family members. Plastic bottles will turn in to coral, a grandparent’s old deck is now a dock, and the parks department donated an old row boat to the cause.

“So far everything used for the set is recycled or repurposed, with the exception of nails and glue,” explained Waller.

Since 1994, NYT has provided youth the opportunity to perform in professional live theatrical shows. The mission of NYT is to strive to provide youth in our community the opportunity to explore the world of theatrical performance through professional instruction and hands-on experience, all the while encouraging children to expand their talents and cultivate a life-long love for the arts. NYT is also committed to providing family-friendly staged entertainment for our community. Over 1000 youth have participated in the program, and NYT has received numerous local and national awards.

### About the Show:

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends under the sea.

The cast of 40 is led by Alexa Rodriguez (Ariel) and Andrew Hensel (Prince Eric). Alexa is a senior at Mountain View High School and this is her seventh NYT production. Andrew Hensel is a senior at Horizon High School and this is his fourteenth NYT production.

For a full listing of show dates and ticket prices, visit [NorthglennArts.org](http://NorthglennArts.org).

Media may contact Michael Stricker, 303.450.8727, to make arrangements to interview cast and/or crew or for tickets.

###

*Northglenn Youth Theatre is a City of Northglenn cultural services program sponsored by the Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation (NAHF), SCFD, Colorado Creative Industries, and private donors. NAHF, founded in 1990, is a 501(c)3 organization that provides funding for quality youth theatre, public art, and other cultural endeavors in our community. The DL Parsons Theatre is a 302-seat venue owned and operated by the City of Northglenn located ½ mile south of 120th Ave. and Grant St. in Northglenn, Colorado.*

*Northglenn, CO, is a city of 38,905 residents located 13 miles north of downtown Denver. In the heart of the metro area, Northglenn is a place to call home and a forward-thinking community where families and businesses can thrive. Learn more by visiting [www.northglenn.org](http://www.northglenn.org). Like us on Facebook, @cityofnorthglenn, and follow us on Twitter, @northglennco.*