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**For Immediate Release**



## **INDIANAPOLIS ACTRESS ADIA DANT AND SELECT CAST OF ANNIE TO VISIT WINDING RIDGE ELEMENTARY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27 – 9:15-10:15 AM**

### **ANNIE PLAYS AT OLD NATION CENTRE THROUGH SUNDAY**

*Indianapolis, IN* – Broadway in Indianapolis is pleased to announce a school visit from select cast members of the national touring production of ANNIE, including 10 year-old Indianapolis actress Adia Dant, at **Winding Ridge Elementary School** (11825 E 46<sup>th</sup> Street) on **Friday, February 27 from 9:15-10:15 am**. A lucky group of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade drama students will have an opportunity to meet these professional actors and ask questions about acting, auditioning and life on the road. In addition to Miss Dant, Lynn Andrews (Miss Hannigan), Ashley Edler (Grace Farrell) and Jake Mills (Lt. Ward/Ensemble) will also be participating.

The new U.S. National Tour of ANNIE will play through this Sunday, March 1 at the Old National Centre. Directed by original lyricist and director **Martin Charnin** for the 19<sup>th</sup> time, this production of ANNIE will be a brand new physical incarnation of the iconic Tony Award®-winning original.

ANNIE has a book by **Thomas Meehan**, music by **Charles Strouse** and lyrics by **Martin Charnin**. All three authors received 1977 Tony Awards® for their work. Choreography is by **Liza Gennaro**, who will incorporate selections from her father Peter Gennaro's 1977 Tony Award®-winning choreography.

The original production of **ANNIE** opened April 21, 1977 at the Alvin Theatre and went on to win the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, seven Drama Desk Awards including Best Musical, the Grammy for Best Cast Show Album and seven Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, Best Book (**Thomas Meehan**) and Best Score (**Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin**). The show remains one of the biggest Broadway musical hits ever. It ran for 2,377 performances after it first opened, and has been performed in 28 languages and has been running somewhere around the world for 37 years.

The beloved score for **ANNIE** includes “Maybe,” “It’s the Hard Knock Life,” “You’re Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile,” “Easy Street,” “I Don’t Need Anything But You” and the eternal anthem of optimism, “Tomorrow.”

This brand new production features a 25 member company: in the title role of Annie is **Issie Swickle**, a 9-year-old actress from Davie, FL, making her tour debut. **Gilgamesh Taggett** will star as Oliver Warbucks. In the role of Miss Hannigan is **Lynn Andrews**. Also starring in the tour are **Ashley Edler** as Grace, **Garrett Deagon** as Rooster, **Lucy Werner** as Lily and **Allan Ray Baker** as FDR. **Sunny**, a 4-year-old rescue terrier mix, stars as Sandy.

The cast also includes Indianapolis native **Adia Dant** (Annie Alternate/Pepper). Adia is excited to make her national tour debut at age 9. When at home, she attends the 4<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Jude Catholic School. Adia trains with Musicality Arts under the direction of Lynne Mlott and with Julie Bandy at The Dance Refinery. She has appeared locally in “East Side Story” in Irvington, and “Peter Pan Jr.” at Roncalli, won a vocal talent contest at the Marion County Fair and placed second at the Indiana State Fair this past August. Adia is scheduled to play the role of Annie during the Indianapolis engagement at the Saturday, February 28 at 8 pm and Sunday, March 1 at 6:30 pm.

**ANNIE** will play in Indianapolis at the **Old National Centre February 24-March 1**. The performance schedule is Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 pm, Saturday matinee at 2:00 pm, Sunday matinee at 1:00 and Sunday evening at 6:30 pm. Tickets for **ANNIE** begin at \$28 and are available in person at the **Broadway Across America Box Office** downtown at 342 Massachusetts Avenue, **Clowes Memorial Hall, The Old National Centre** Ticket Office, online at [BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com](http://BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com), or by phone at **1-800-982-2787**. Groups of 10 or more can book now by calling 317-632-7469 x103.

For tickets and information, visit:

[www.anniethemusical.com](http://www.anniethemusical.com)  
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[www.facebook.com/AnnieTheMusical](https://www.facebook.com/AnnieTheMusical)

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