

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Portland Revels Introduces New Programming for Youngest Theatergoers**

**Portland, Oregon, October 3, 2016** – Portland Revels is introducing new programming to better serve our youngest community members and their families, including an exciting show targeted towards 2-7 year olds, *Commedia Bambini*.

*Commedia Bambini* is a one-hour production about the adventures of a troupe of misfit actors in Renaissance Italy trying to perform in the annual Solstice Festival (with the help of a friendly dragon). Sadly, they're just too silly and accident-prone to put together something themselves, and they can only succeed with the help of the children in the audience. *Commedia Bambini* is a spin-off of Portland Revels' 22 year old Christmas Revels – this year called *Commedia Italiana* - and will feature its musicians, actors and children's chorus.

"Our audience members have been asking for a show that is suitable for younger Revelers, and we think this performance will be a delicious, laughter and song -filled treat for families looking for something to do during that long week between Christmas and New Year's" says Portland Revels Executive Director, Jenny Stadler.

In addition, Portland Revels has introduced two more programs for younger artists this fall. Seven tween "apprentices" have been brought on board to work behind the scenes at the Christmas Revels, working with stage managers, the costume shop, the children's chorus, and front of house. These young adults will be given training and responsibilities, learning more of the craft that goes into a professional theater production.

Finally, Portland Revels has hired two teenaged musicians as interns who will be performing with our Christmas Revels band for the run of the show, gaining experience on stage and bringing a youthful touch to our 10-person instrumental ensemble.

Performances of *Commedia Bambini* will take place at the Portland5 Brunish Theater, and the *Christmas Revels: Commedia Italiana* will take place this year at St. Mary's Academy in downtown Portland.

Information on parking and local amenities can be found on the Portland Revels website at [portlandrevels.org](http://portlandrevels.org)

### **Performances & Tickets:**

The Christmas Revels: *Commedia Italiana*  
Friday-Wed., December 16-21st, 2016  
St. Mary's Academy  
1615 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR  
Tickets \$10-\$41

*Commedia Bambini*

Wed and Thursday, December 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Brunish Theater, Portland5

Antoinette Hatfield Hall

1111 SW Broadway Ave.

Portland, Oregon 97205

Tickets \$16-26

Details and tickets at [portlandrevels.org](http://portlandrevels.org)

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## **About Portland Revels**

Portland Revels was founded in December of 1994 under the leadership of Richard Lewis, when an audience of 200 attended the "Rose City Revels," a sampling of songs and dances from the original Cambridge Christmas Revels, performed at Mago Hunt Theatre at University of Portland. The following year, the first fully-staged Christmas Revels drew 1,500 to five performances at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall. Since then, Portland Revels has grown to include year-round programming reaching a diverse audience, and in 2015 the Christmas Revels was performed 8 times to patrons in excess of 5,000.

Portland Revels is committed to creating community through shared experiences of celebrating the seasons through cultural arts programs. Today, Portland Revels presents a number of richly historical and cultural public performances and events throughout the year, including the Christmas Revels, Pub Sings, Salons, and family-friendly special events. Revels' Preview show ticket giveaway program provides opportunities to lesser-served communities to experience the arts.

Portland Revels

[portlandrevels.org/](http://portlandrevels.org/)

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Images and press releases: <http://portlandrevels.org/news/>