



# News Release

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**“I AM YOUTH! I AM JOY! I AM FREEDOM!”**

## **KRUZ MALDONADO TAKES FLIGHT IN IN THE NEWLY-IMAGINED NATIONAL TOUR OF PETER PAN**



**ALL-NEW PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY LONNY PRICE, WITH ADDITIONAL BOOK BY  
LARISSA FASTHORSE AND CHOREOGRAPHY BY LORIN LATARRO  
ANNOUNCES NEW CASTING ON NATIONAL TOUR**

CLEVELAND, OH – NETworks Presentations is thrilled to announce updated casting for the all-new production of the Tony Award-winning Broadway classic, **PETER PAN**, as the national tour continues into its second year. The tour is coming to **Playhouse Square** April 9- 13, 2025.

Tickets are available now online at [playhousesquare.org](http://playhousesquare.org) or by phone at 216-241-6000. Group orders of 10 or more may be placed by calling 216-640-8600.

Beginning February 21st, award-winning actor, singer, and stage performer **Kruz Maldonado**, flies into the iconic title role of ‘Peter Pan’ at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts in Jacksonville, FL.

Originally from San Antonio, TX, Maldonado’s passion for theatre ignited at the age of 10, and he has since graced numerous stages, captivating audiences with his talent and dedication. He has earned multiple performance accolades, including the UIL Best Performer Award for roles in *All My Sons* and *Picnic*. Regional credits range from *Into the Woods* (Jack) to *Les Misérables* (Marius).

In 2024, Maldonado represented the Majestic Empire/Joci Awards and competed in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (also known as the “Jimmy Awards”) on Broadway. He has also caught the attention of the film industry with his breakthrough title role in the independent film, *Jack*, and then won the Best Actor Award at the Texas Indie Film Festival for his

role of 'Miguel' in the critically acclaimed film *Desolate*. Kruz serves as an inspiration to aspiring artists everywhere, demonstrating that dreams, with dedication and talent, can take flight.

Director Lonny Price is thrilled to introduce **Kruz Maldonado** as the high-flying 'Peter Pan.' "I'm so excited for the country to experience **PETER PAN** with Kruz Maldonado! He's funny, moving, utterly charismatic and the way he connects with an audience is a real pleasure to watch!. Kruz is 'Peter Pan!'"

**Cody Garcia** thrills on as 'Captain Hook.' They most recently starred as 'Willy Wonka' in the national tour of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and as 'Buddy' in *Elf*; Emerson College graduate **Hawa Kamara** delights audiences as 'Wendy'; **Bailey Frankenberg**, Choctaw and a Tribal Member of the Cherokee Nation is so proud to be a part of and witness the effects of this fresh version of Neverland as 'Tiger Lily.'

The full cast is completed by **Shefali Deshpande** as 'Mrs. Darling,' **Kurt Perry** as 'Smee,' **Levi Chrisopulos** as 'John,' **Camden Kwok** as 'Michael.' The ensemble includes **Jonah Barricklo**, **Ryan Behan**, **Christian A. Boyd**, **Eduardo Campirano III**, **Brandon Gille**, **Calista Jones**, **Brandon LaShai**, **Ernesto Olivas**, **Hannah Schmidt**, **Zanie Love Shaia**, **Aaron Stewart**, **Owen Suarez** and **James Douglas Vinson**. The swings are **Tony Collins**, **Leo Gallegos**, **Serenity Mariana** and **Cheyenne Omani**.

This high-flying musical has been thrilling audiences of all ages for close to 70 years and is now being brought back to life in a newly-imagined production directed by Emmy Award winner **Lonny Price** (*Sunset Boulevard*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*) with additional book by celebrated playwright **Larissa FastHorse** (*The Thanksgiving Play*, *What Would Crazy Horse Do?*) and choreography by **Lorin Latarro** (*Waitress*, *The Who's Tommy*).

For more information on tour dates, please visit [peterpanontour.com](http://peterpanontour.com).

"**PETER PAN** is one of the great treasures of the American Musical Theatre," said Lonny Price. "The show nurtures and inspires the imagination of its audience and reminds us to keep alive the child within us all."

"I am thrilled to be part of bringing **PETER PAN** to life for a new generation," said Larissa FastHorse. "If you loved this musical before, you will still see the show that enchanted you, while discovering a **PETER PAN** that everyone can enjoy, without harm, for many years to come."

Based on Sir James M. Barrie's classic tale and originally directed, choreographed and adapted by Broadway legend Jerome Robbins, **PETER PAN** features an iconic and unforgettable score by Morris (Moose) Charlap, lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, additional lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, and additional music by Jule Styne.

**PETER PAN** is directed by Lonny Price, with additional book by Larissa FastHorse, choreography by Lorin Latarro and flying sequence choreography by Paul Rubin, with music supervision, original adaptation and additional arrangements, fight music and dance arrangements by Andy Einhorn and fight music and dance arrangements by David Dabbon. The national tour has scenic design by Anna Louizos, costume design by Sarafina Bush, lighting design by Amith Chandrashaker, sound design by Kai Harada, projections by David Bengali, hair & make-up design by J. Jared Janas, fight direction by Rick Sordelet & Christian Kelly-Sordelet and "Tinker Bell" design by Paul Kieve. The Associate Director is Matt Cowart and the Associate Choreographer is Travis Waldschmidt, with casting by ARC/Duncan Stewart, CSA and additional casting by Michael Donovan Casting. The production is licensed by Music Theatre International. The tour is produced by NETworks Presentations, executive producer Trinity Wheeler.

The **PETER PAN** tour is conducted by Jonathan Marro. The stage management team is led by Megan Belgam with Kendall Stevens. The company management team is led by Luke Meyer with Tyler Pascucci.

The adventure begins when Peter Pan and his mischievous sidekick, Tinker Bell, visit the bedroom of the Darling children late one night. With a sprinkle of fairy dust and a few happy thoughts, the children are taken on a magical journey they will never forget. This extraordinary musical full of excitement and adventure features iconic and timeless songs including "I'm Flying", "I Gotta Crow", "I Won't Grow Up" and "Neverland". **PETER PAN** embraces the child in us all so go on a journey from the second star to the right and straight on 'til morning – your entire family will be Hooked!

Please follow the flight at:

[peterpanontour.com](http://peterpanontour.com)

Instagram: @PeterPantheMusical

Facebook: @PeterPanTheBroadwayMusical

TikTok: @PeterPantheMusical

#peterpanmusical

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BIOS:

**KRUZ MALDONADO** (*Peter Pan*). National Tour debut! Originally from San Antonio, TX, Kruz was awarded Best Lead Actor in a Musical (Joci Awards) for his role as “Pippin.” Regional credits: *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias), *A Bronx Tale* (Calogero). In 2024, Kruz competed in the Jimmy Awards on Broadway. Film: *Jack* (Jack), *Desolate* (Miguel, Best Actor - Texas Indie Film Festival). He owes everything to the people that surround him and guide him every day. Love to Mia, this one's for you! @Kruz320

**CODY GARCIA** (*Captain Hook*) is a tall and stereotypically indecisive Libra that never acted before but is excited to figure out how it works today. In their spare time, Cody enjoys being a wall flower at social gatherings, dancing like people are watching, and honking at chickens who are taking their sweet time crossing the road. Like most people, Cody lies awake at night wondering what life was like before they sliced bread. One would have to assume it was a pretty crazy time prior to that. Cody would like to dedicate their performance to all the pirates and none of the crocodiles—you know what you did. National tours: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Wonka), *Elf* (Buddy). Other credits: *Urinetown* (Officer Lockstock), *the Star Wars Ballet* (Darth Vader), and *Oklahoma* (Roustabout #3). Alma mater: Boston Conservatory.

**HAWA KAMARA** (*Wendy*) is absolutely delighted to be making her professional debut playing Wendy Darling in *Peter Pan*. She recently graduated from Emerson College with a BFA in Musical Theatre and is now based in New York City. Some of her favorite credits include *Jelly's Last Jam* (Anita), *Heathers: the Musical* (Veronica Sawyer) and *Spitfire Grill* (Hannah Ferguson). [Hawakamara.com](http://Hawakamara.com)

**BAILEY FRANKENBERG** (*Tiger Lily*, *Flight Captain*, *Fight Captain*). Osiyo! So honored to step into this revised, powerful TL! Formerly Swing and Curtain Call Croc! Bailey is Choctaw and an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation. She's an aerialist, specializes in stage violence, and really loves cats. Training: Collin College (Plano, Tx), CAP21 Conservatory (NYC). Credits: *9 to 5* (Doralee), Havoc Movement's *Dracula: The Failings of Men* (Lucy), *The Lost Colony* (Eleanor Dare), Tokyo Disney Resort (Singer), *Alvin and the Chipmunks Live!* Tour (Every Female Human in the Show). Instagram @baileyfrankenberg

**NETWORKS PRESENTATIONS** (*Producer*) is an industry-leading producer of touring theatrical productions, committed to delivering quality entertainment to audiences worldwide for more than 25 years. Current and upcoming productions include *A Beautiful Noise*, *Beetlejuice*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Come From Away*, *Elf*, *Funny Girl*, *Les Misérables*, *Life of Pi*, *Mean Girls*, *Peter Pan*, Cameron Mackintosh presents Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* and *The Wiz*. [networkstours.com](http://networkstours.com)

**Peter Pan** will play the Connor Palace at Playhouse Square for eight performances, April 9 – April 13, 2025. Show times are Wednesday - Friday at 7:00 p.m., Thursday at 12:30 p.m., Saturday at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at [playhousesquare.org](http://playhousesquare.org) or by calling 216-241-6000. Group orders of 15 or more may be placed by calling 216-640-8600.

Media Assets Available [HERE](#)

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Playhouse Square, home to the largest Broadway season ticket holder community in North America, is Northeast Ohio's destination for entertainment. A not-for-profit performing arts center, Playhouse Square is a champion of arts education and downtown Cleveland, and proud to be the home of The City Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland State University Department of Theatre and Dance, DANCECleveland, Great Lakes Theater and Tri-C JazzFest.