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## **Interactive Free Theater for Kids to Play in St. Charles and Waukegan**

*Kidworks Touring Theatre Co. presents "Global Warming: What's a Kid to Do?"*

Chicago, IL, Dec. 3, 2009 – A fun, free theatrical experience for children ages 4-12 will explore the world in make-believe to help kids learn about climate change and how they can do something about it. The audience-participation performances are coming to Public Libraries in St. Charles and Waukegan.

"To witness 200 grade school students enthralled for 45 minutes about climate change was as dreamy as a fluffy white cumulus cloud high in a deep blue sky. I could have sworn that Kidworks cast a magic spell on our third through eighth graders. The high-energy creative performance invited audience participation throughout and was as entertaining as education can be! Teachers told me they'd be following up on this 'lesson' in the classrooms. Thank you Burnham Centennial for giving the Gail Borden Public Library District students this opportunity" said Miriam Lytle, Assistant Director of Communications and Program Coordinator for the Gail Borden Public Library District, which held the program on November 30.

Featured on WBBM Newsradio78, Kidworks Touring Theatre Co.'s interactive performance of "Global Warming: What's a Kid to Do?" is presented as a concluding event of the Burnham Plan Centennial, a year-long future-focused commemoration of the 1909 publication of the *Plan of Chicago* by Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett.

With audience volunteers dressing up in costumes, the hands-on Kidworks production explores the facts and myths of climate change from the perspective of endangered plants and animals. Children ride a melting glacier with a polar bear, journey to the Amazon rainforest on a monkey, and save a coral reef in Australia. Children ages 4 and 5 should be accompanied by an adult.

"What's a Kid to Do?" is being staged throughout the region at select public libraries presenting the Burnham Plan Centennial's *Make Big Plans* exhibit, curated and designed by the Newberry Library, Chicago. Children may also be invited to participate in a scavenger hunt of *Make Big Plans*' 10 exhibit panels.

"Global Warming: What's a Kid to Do?" will be performed at the St. Charles Public Library, at 4:00 -5:00 p.m., December 7, and at the Waukegan Public Library, at 7:00 -8:00 p.m., December 16. Reservations are not necessary.

**About The Burnham Plan Centennial**

The Burnham Plan Centennial includes more than 250 program partners from the three-state region spanning from Kenosha, Wis., through DeKalb, Ill., to Michigan City, Ind. In honor of Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett's 1909 *Plan of Chicago*, this Centennial year is stirring a region-wide community to action, working to build the best quality of life. Support for "Make Big Plans" was made possible through the generous sponsorship of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund, Deloitte LLP, and Marsh & McLennan Companies. Our region's community foundation, The Chicago Community Trust, provided leadership funding for the Burnham Plan Centennial, and is joined by the Elizabeth Morse and Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trusts as founding sponsors. Organizational and staff support for the Burnham Plan Centennial Committee is provided by Chicago Metropolis 2020. For more information visit [www.burnhamplan100.org](http://www.burnhamplan100.org).

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