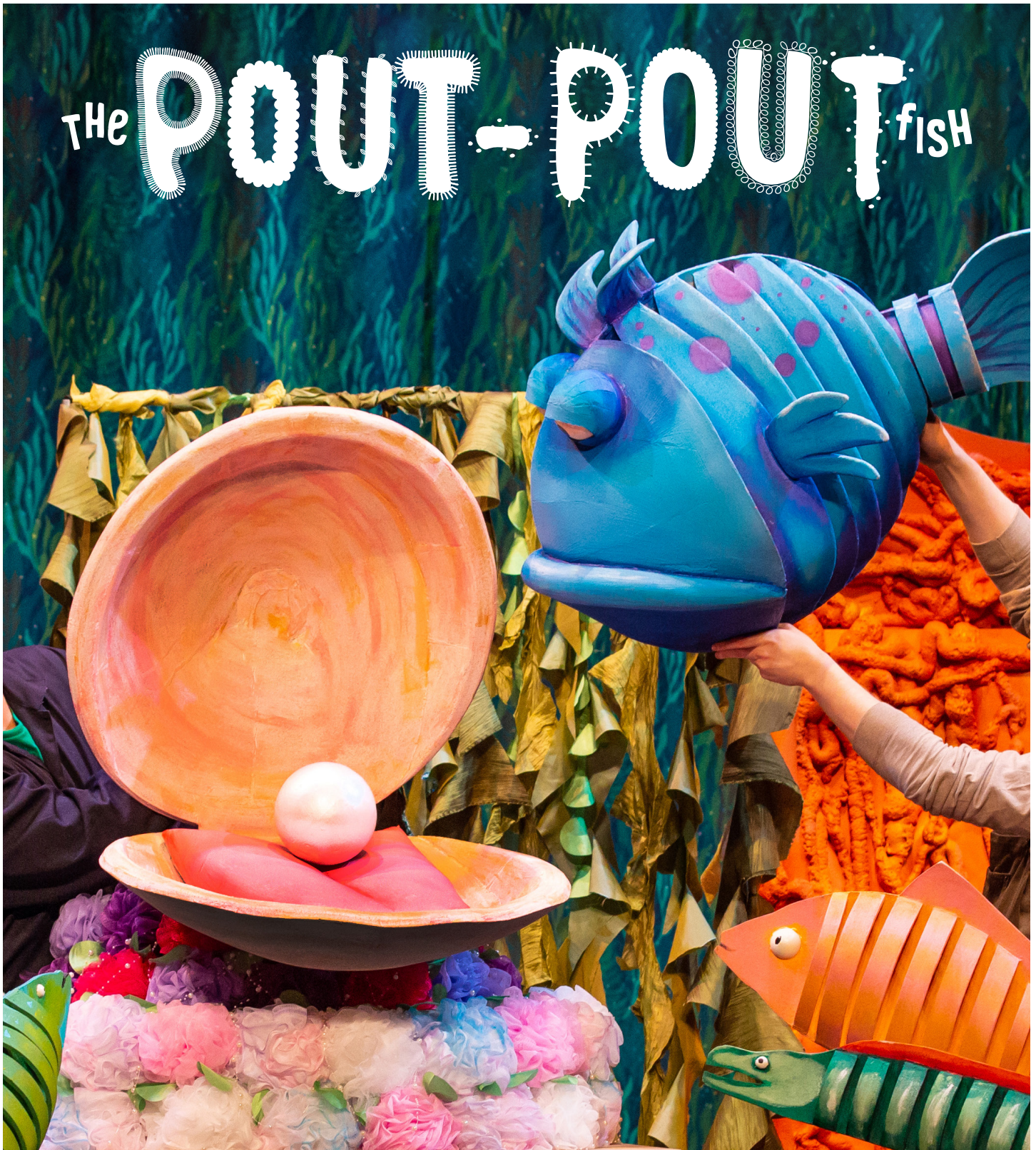


NEW VICTORY Sensory-Friendly Performance

CHARACTER AND STORY GUIDE



Photos: Jeremy Daniel

Theater can sometimes be a little scary!
If you're feeling scared, you can always:



Cover or close your eyes.



Hold your grown-up's hand.



Cover your ears with your hands or put on headphones.



Use a fidget tool.



Take a break from the show in the Jack and Lew Rudin Lobby.

There are nine main characters in *The Pout-Pout Fish*. Four of the characters are Storytellers—they will tell you what is happening in the story.

Five of the characters are puppets. The people who move the puppets are called puppeteers. The puppeteers are not the character, the puppets are the character. The gender of the puppeteers may not be the same as their puppets. For example, the Pout-Pout Fish will be moved around by a female puppeteer, even though the puppet and character is male.

Here are the main characters of *The Pout-Pout Fish*.

Storyteller 1

Storyteller 2

Storyteller 3

Storyteller 4

Mr. Pout-Pout Fish

Shimmerfish

Ms. Clam

Octopus

Bully-Bully Shark

The photos included in this guide show puppeteers that are no longer in the show. All of the puppets are the same!

The Pout-Pout Fish is a musical based on a popular book series also called *The Pout-Pout Fish*. Not everything from the books will appear here. Many things will happen on the stage today that never occurred in the books!

This **Story Guide** will help you follow along!

The musical begins with four Storytellers singing a song to welcome the audience to the ocean. They are here to tell you the Pout-Pout Fish's story. Make sure to listen to what they say!

Suddenly, the Pout-Pout Fish appears. From now on, this guide will call him Pout-Pout. The Storytellers introduce him, and ask why he's so sad all the time! Pout-Pout tells them that he will never be happy.



Pout-Pout's friend Shimmerfish swims by. Shimmerfish found the Big, Big Dark and wants to show it to Pout-Pout. The Big, Big Dark is a spooky place right outside of their neighborhood. Although Pout-Pout does not want to go, Shimmerfish sings a cheerful song and convinces him to follow along.

They swim through the ocean and arrive at the Big, Big Dark. The Big, Big Dark frightens Pout-Pout. Pout-Pout wants to go home and Shimmerfish agrees. Shimmerfish is a good friend, so they begin to swim back.

On their trip back from the Big, Big Dark, Pout-Pout and Shimmerfish see Ms. Clam. She is their friend! Ms. Clam is carrying a pearl with her. When someone looks at this pearl, the pearl reveals who they really are on the inside. Ms. Clam leaves. Shimmerfish and Pout-Pout wonder what they would see in the pearl if they got to take a look.



Shimmerfish and Pout-Pout reach their neighborhood. It's time for bed, but Pout-Pout can't fall asleep. Pout-Pout can only think of what the pearl would show him! Pout-Pout hopes it would show him as a happy fish.

Pout-Pout sneaks into Ms. Clam's house to look at the pearl. After Ms. Clam falls asleep, Pout-Pout holds the pearl and looks very closely. Pout-Pout wants to see himself as a happy fish, but the pearl still shows Pout-Pout as a sad fish. This upsets Pout-Pout.

Pout-Pout sings a song about what he would do to be a happy fish. The pearl floats away while Pout-Pout sings. Pout-Pout tries to catch it, but both the pearl and Pout-Pout are swept away by the ocean.



In the morning, Pout-Pout wakes up all alone next to the pearl. There is no one else around. Pout-Pout imagines that Ms. Clam is so heartbroken over her missing pearl that the whole reef is overcome with sadness. This scene is not really happening, it is just Pout-Pout's imagination! Pout-Pout is horrified. Pout-Pout must find his way home before he upsets the whole reef.

Pout-Pout meets a group of worms. The worms try to tell him how to get home, but Pout-Pout does not trust them. The worms think the pearl is a volleyball and begin to throw the pearl back and forth.

A mysterious red tentacle comes out of nowhere and sucks the pearl into the seaweed forest. The worms tell Pout-Pout that the Bully-Bully Shark lives in the seaweed forest.

Pout-Pout chases the pearl, even though he is afraid. Pout-Pout swims through the scary seaweed forest and finds the Octopus. The Octopus stole the pearl! The Octopus gives Pout-Pout three chances at a guessing game to win the pearl back.



Pout-Pout loses each game. The Octopus swims away with the pearl, but Pout-Pout doesn't give up! Pout-Pout follows the Octopus to get the pearl back. Pout-Pout is so focused on chasing the Octopus that he runs into the Bully-Bully Shark. Pout-Pout and the Bully-Bully Shark both scream and swim away.

There is a big chase. The Octopus escapes with the pearl because Pout-Pout is hiding from the Bully-Bully Shark. The Bully-Bully Shark tells Pout-Pout that he was trying to help. He never wanted to eat Pout-Pout! Even though the Bully-Bully Shark looks mean, he is really nice!

The Bully-Bully Shark sings a song about how a moss covered marble could even be a pearl if you look hard enough. This song makes Pout-Pout feel better and Bully-Bully Shark points Pout-Pout in the right direction to find the pearl.



The newly-confident Pout-Pout finds the Octopus and challenges him to another game to win the pearl. Pout-Pout wins, but the Octopus refuses to give up the pearl. Pout-Pout convinces the Octopus that the moss covered marble is another pearl and asks to trade. The Octopus agrees and, before the Octopus can realize Pout-Pout's trick, Pout-Pout swims off through the Big, Big Dark to go back home.

Pout-Pout makes it back home with the pearl. None of the other fish were worried about the pearl, they were only worried about Pout-Pout! Their sadness was only in Pout-Pout's imagination. Pout-Pout apologizes to Ms. Clam and they all sing one last song.



THE END