



krannert center

YOUTH SERIES

CELEBRATING
35 YEARS

CAHOOTS NI

SHH!

WE HAVE
A PLAN





ABOUT THE ARTIST

Cahoots NI, based in Belfast, Northern Ireland, is at the forefront of Northern Irish theatre and is the leading professional theatre company producing work for children. Since beginning operations in November 2001, Cahoots NI has produced original, boldly innovative work for children, some staged in conventional theatre venues and some in purpose-designed sites or specific locations, including schools and healthcare settings. Its work concentrates on combining the visual potential of theatre with the age-old popularity of magic and illusion. For more information, please visit the company's website: www.CahootsNI.com

ABOUT THE SHOW

This magical and memorable troupe's latest show to hatch is the delightful *Shh! We Have a Plan*, based on Irish author Chris Haughton's book of the same name. Youngsters will be entranced by the journey of three intrepid and rather madcap characters who each have the perfect plan to capture a beautiful bird perched high in a tree. Where will it all end? Follow along on Cahoots NI's enchanting adventure—filled with music, pantomime, and puppetry—to see if perhaps freedom and kindness win out over getting what you want!

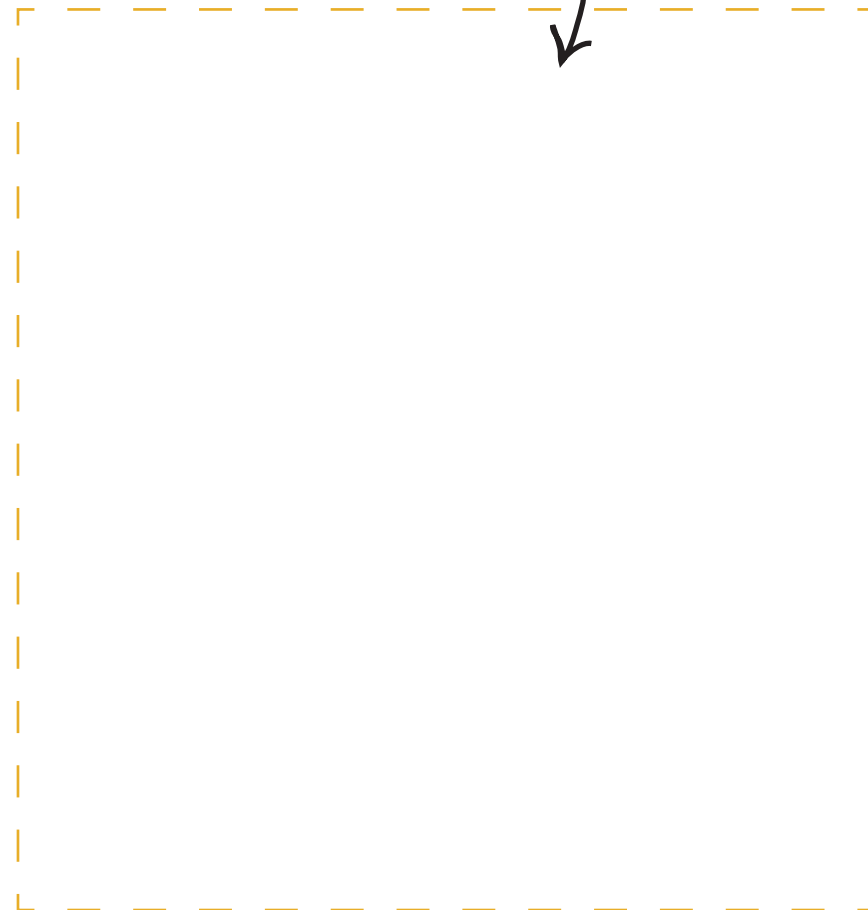
This season we invite school communities to explore the performing arts through a selection of topics that reveal the IMPACT of the Arts for Youth.

- INTRODUCTION TO THE ARTS
- MEANING AND CULTURAL CONTEXT
- PRODUCTION
- ART-MAKING AND CREATIVITY
- CAREERS TRAINING

A IS FOR ART-MAKING AND CREATIVITY

There are many ways that artists begin the creative process and many different styles of performances that can be created. The performers of Cahoots NI often use "wordless" or "nonverbal" styles of storytelling. One example of this style of acting is called *mime*. The actors use their facial expressions and body language to convey emotions and the story itself. In small groups, choose a scenario and act it out for the class without relying on the use of voices. The remainder of the class can watch and take turns guessing the nature of the scenario being performed. These scenes could be taken directly from the show, the book *Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton, or could be from everyday life!

Draw the scene you are going to use here!



ACTIVITIES

Puppet Making

The birds in *Shh! We Have a Plan* are all puppets controlled by a puppeteer. Work together to create and perform a puppet show. Using cardboard, bags, paper, or even socks (make sure they're clean!) to make puppets, recreate your favorite moments from the show. Try using recyclable objects to make it eco-friendly or weave in music or other theatrical effects to see how emotion, personality, and a storyline can shine through.

Nature Walk

Take a walk outdoors just like the characters in the play. What wildlife can you see in the sky, on the ground, or even beneath the earth? Write it down or perhaps take a picture or video. When you get back to class, draw, paint, or recreate the animals you encountered on your adventure. Use natural resources from the walk such as leaves, sticks, stones, and more within the artwork!



Soundscape

Step outside and listen to the sounds around. What can you hear? Record or make a note of sounds, or perhaps imagine the type of creature that would make those noises. Back at the classroom, get into small groups and create a soundscape to share with the class. Using pace and volume to change the mood, recreate the sounds from outdoors with voices, musical instruments, or objects from around the classroom. The remainder of the class can close their eyes and visualize the world being created. Now try other environments like a tropical rainforest, a sandy beach, or a dark swampland. The possibilities are endless!



ON THE MAP

CAHOOTS NI COMES FROM ...

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

BELFAST CITY CENTRE



DUNCLUCE CASTLE



NORTHERN IRELAND COUNTRYSIDE FROM THE AIR



Cahoots NI: *Shh! We Have A Plan*

Created and directed by Paul Bosco McEaney
Music by Garth McConaghie

Shh! We Have a Plan Copyright © 2014 Chris Houghton. Licensed by Walker Books Ltd., London.

Cahoots NI appears by arrangement with Holden & Arts Associates Inc., www.holdenarts.org

**Thursday-Friday, April 26-27, 2018,
at 10am and 12:30pm**

Colwell Playhouse
Approximately 40 minutes
Recommended for grades PreK-3



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LIBRARY PARTNERSHIPS

Krannert Center has partnered with Champaign Public Library and The Urbana Free Library to help expand your students' Youth Series experience. Our local libraries have placed materials that relate to *Shh! We Have a Plan* on display, and librarians are prepared to help your students immerse themselves in the wide-ranging subject areas that are covered by the production. These resources will be available approximately two weeks before through two weeks following the performance.

www.champaign.org | www.urbanafreelibrary.org

We hope that you are able to take advantage of these exciting partnerships with our local libraries!

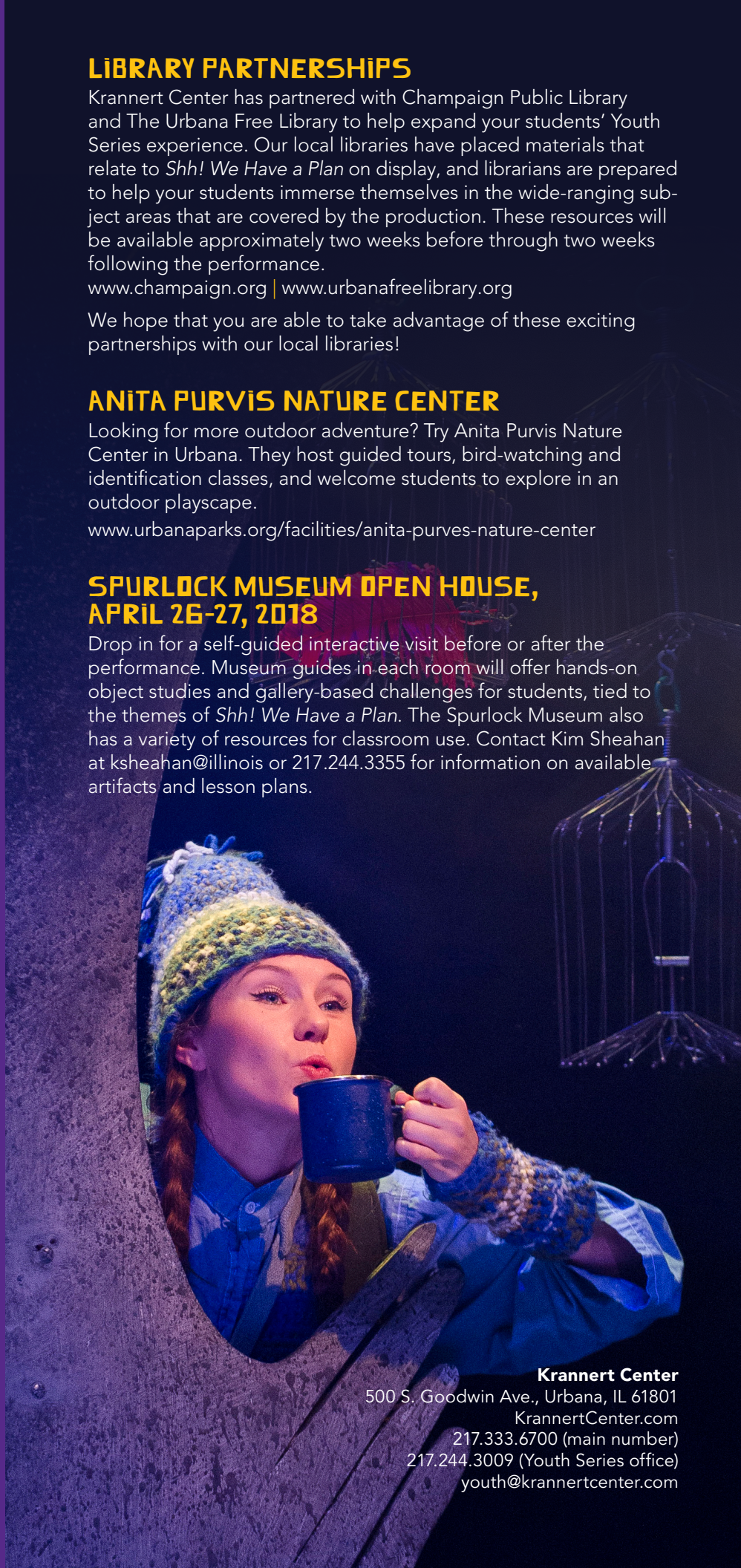
ANITA PURVIS NATURE CENTER

Looking for more outdoor adventure? Try Anita Purvis Nature Center in Urbana. They host guided tours, bird-watching and identification classes, and welcome students to explore in an outdoor playscape.

www.urbanaparks.org/facilities/anita-purves-nature-center

SPURLOCK MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE, APRIL 26-27, 2018

Drop in for a self-guided interactive visit before or after the performance. Museum guides in each room will offer hands-on object studies and gallery-based challenges for students, tied to the themes of *Shh! We Have a Plan*. The Spurlock Museum also has a variety of resources for classroom use. Contact Kim Sheahan at ksheahan@illinois or 217.244.3355 for information on available artifacts and lesson plans.



Krannert Center

500 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, IL 61801
KrannertCenter.com
217.333.6700 (main number)
217.244.3009 (Youth Series office)
youth@krannertcenter.com