



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ROANOKE CHILDREN'S THEATRE TO AWARD SARABETH HAMMOND SCHOLARSHIP

ROANOKE, VA – Artistic Director Pat Wilhelms, along with the staff and board of **Roanoke Children's Theatre (RCT)**, are pleased to announce that **Olivia Goodman** will receive the inaugural **Sarabeth Hammond Scholarship**.

The Sarabeth Hammond Scholarship was created in memory of RCT youth actor, Sarabeth Hammond, who's vibrant life was tragically cut short in December 2016. The Sarabeth Hammond Scholarship will be awarded annually to a young theatre artist in honor of the fearless spirit that Sarabeth exhibited when she participated with RCT in classes, productions, or in counseling special needs students. The yearly recipient will be allowed to enroll in as many RCT classes and camps as they desire for the upcoming season and also be guaranteed a role in an upcoming production.

"I'm thrilled that we get the opportunity to keep Sarabeth's memory alive through this scholarship," remarks Wilhelms. "Sarabeth was a vivacious theatre artist who had so much spirit, drive and dedication to the theatre. It is my pleasure to award this scholarship to Olivia Goodman as I feel that she exudes the exact same qualities. Olivia's love for theatre is contagious and I know Sarabeth would be proud."

Olivia Goodman has been in numerous RCT productions, most recently the RCT KIDS ON STAGE production of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* and the mainstage production of *SHREK, The Musical*. Her acting experiences include other Roanoke Children Theatre's productions of *Junie B. Jones*, *Pinkalicious*, *Wrecked*, *Little House Christmas* and *Madeline's Christmas*; Mill Mountain Theatre's productions of *Into The Woods*, *White Christmas*, *Annie Jr.*, *Pinnocchio*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *The*

Wizard of Oz and *Beauty and the Beast*. She has danced with Floyd Ward School of Dance since age 5. Olivia lives in Fincastle, VA and attends Central Academy Middle School.

ABOUT ROANOKE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Roanoke Children's Theatre: *Professional Theatre for Young Audiences* is an independently owned and operated 501(c)3 organization located in the Jefferson Center. RCT is dedicated to providing high quality theatre education and entertainment to families, schools and children with year-round programming; crafting new and exciting partnerships and programs that engage our youth in a world of communication, imagination, creativity, empowerment and learning.

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