

PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Christmas Magic Returns to Moody Gardens Hotel

Encore Performances of *Imagine Christmas* Dec. 15 - 27

Galveston, Texas – Experience a little Christmas magic this holiday season with the return of *Imagine Christmas*, a magical and mesmerizing Dinner & Show that captures the wonder of God’s miraculous gift to mankind.

Imagine Christmas combines inspiring music, beautiful dance, windless kite flying and imaginative aerial acrobatics to tell the story of Christ’s birth in a way that evokes child-like wonder, awe and amazement. Audiences will enjoy an enhanced production for the 2011 show with the addition of a state-of-the-art light show and video production complimenting the dynamic onstage theatrics.

Imagine Christmas is a show you not only see, you experience! The moment the show begins, you know you are in for a special treat as musicians, dancers and acrobats take to the stage. What unfolds is a biblically-sound narrative that combines fast-paced scenes with fresh arrangements of traditional Christmas music into a contemporary and uniquely visual retelling of the birth of Jesus that is best described as somewhere between memory and imagination.

Imagine Christmas returns under the direction of Mark Stonebarger, a stage veteran who has appeared in or directed over 100 productions. Mark has been teaching for 17 years and presently serves as the drama director at Clear Springs High School in the Clear Creek, Texas, school district. Mark’s shows have received several nominations and awards in both musical theater and UIL One Act Play contests. With this year’s encore performances at the Moody Gardens Convention Center in Galveston, Texas, Mark is continuing to improve upon what has already become one of his all-time favorite productions. “This is such a special show and a unique visual experience for the audience. We have an outstanding cast and we’re all very excited about the new addition of Psophonia Dance Company to this year’s production.”

Psophonia Dance Company is a non-profit arts organization dedicated to enriching the lives of our communities by creating and presenting dances for audiences of all ages. Their collaboration with Mark for this year’s production of *Imagine Christmas* has brought a fresh element of intrigue, delight and heightened entertainment to the choreography.

Imagine Christmas runs from Dec. 15-18 & Dec. 20-27 with nightly dinner show performances at 7 pm. Enjoy a sumptuous Holiday Buffet Dinner and then sit back in amazement as the story of Christ’s birth is told in a way you’ve never seen before.

Imagine Christmas Dinner Show tickets range from \$49-\$79 for adults, \$29-\$39 for children and \$14-\$39 for infants. Special group rates are available. In addition to the live show and buffet dinner, each *Imagine Christmas* ticket includes admission to Moody Gardens’ Festival of Lights, all taxes and gratuities, and complimentary parking.

Tickets can be purchased online at islandstarlive.com, by phone at **409-683-4186** or toll free at **1-800-582-4673 ext 4186**.

Special ***Imagine Christmas Hotel packages*** are also available from \$209 per night for couples and \$259 per night for a family of four. Packages include overnight accommodations in the beautiful Moody Gardens Hotel, tickets to Imagine Christmas Dinner & Show, tickets to the Festival of Lights, complimentary valet parking and a special holiday amenity. For reservations, call 888-388-8484.

Imagine Christmas is made possible in part through the generous support of local hotel and motel tax dollars from the city of Galveston generated to encourage tourism and to further promote arts and entertainment on the Island.

QUICK FACTS

WHAT: Imagine Christmas Dinner & Show

WHEN: December 15 - 27 (no performance Dec. 19)

Nightly Performances at 7pm

WHERE: Moody Gardens Convention Center

TICKETS: \$49-\$79/Adult, \$29-\$39/Child, \$14-\$39/Infant, Group Rates Available

- Ticket prices include:
- The Holiday Dinner Buffet and Performance
- A Ticket to Moody Garden's Festival of Lights
- All Taxes and Gratuities
- Complimentary Parking

Tickets can be purchased online at islandstarlive.com, by phone at 409-683-4186 or toll free 1-800-582-4673 ext 4186. General questions should be directed to the Imagine Christmas hotline at 409-683-4186.

###