

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland comes to the California State Library for the Holidays**

Sacramento – December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – *Food For Thought: Thinking and Talking at the California State Library* presents El Dorado Musical Theatre's main cast of *Alice and Wonderland, Jr.* Wednesday, December 21. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. with light refreshments, and the performance begins at 6:00 p.m. After the performance, children & families will have the opportunity to be photographed with the cast.

900 N Street, Sacramento.

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, better known as Lewis Carroll, wrote *Alice in Wonderland* in 1865. More than 100 editions of the book have been published. In addition, there have been countless adaptations in art, theatre, and film. The book has never been out of print and is available in over 97 languages.

During a rowboat trip with three young sisters - Lorina Charlotte Liddell, Alice Pleasance Liddell, and Edith Mary Liddell - Reverend Dodgson told the girls a story that featuring a bored little girl named Alice who goes looking for an adventure. The girls loved it and Alice Liddell asked Dodgson to write it down for her.

On 26 November 1864, he gave Alice the handwritten manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, with illustrations by Dodgson himself, dedicating it as "A Christmas Gift to a Dear Child in Memory of a Summer's Day". He eventually approached Sir John Tenniel to illustrate the book for publication.

Our State Librarian, Stacey A. Aldrich's love of the novel inspired our holiday window exhibit. Our festive window features four examples of the wood engraved illustrations Sir John Tenniel drew for the first published version of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Also featured is a selection English and foreign language editions of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* from our Special Collections exhibit in the rotunda.

Our special guest El Dorado Musical Theatre's cast will perform a selection of the fun songs from their *Alice in Wonderland, Jr.* production. Alice will also read from the novel that so many children have enjoyed.

El Dorado Musical Theatre is an award winning regional theater company featuring performers aged 6-20. EDMT was founded in 2001 and is a Non-Profit Organization, producing five major productions per year including an annual training show for performer's ages 5-9, no experience is required.

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