



## Princess Cruises Unveils Industry-First Partnership with Oscar-Winning Composer Stephen Schwartz

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### Four New Shows to Debut in Collaboration with Composer of Broadway-Hit Musicals *Wicked*, *Pippin* and *Godspell*

SANTA CLARITA, Calif., March 12, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- [Princess Cruises](#) today announced a first-of-its-kind cruise industry partnership with three-time Oscar winner and composer of *Wicked*, *Pippin* and *Godspell* [Stephen Schwartz](#). The cruise line's new relationship with such a major creative talent from Broadway and Hollywood includes a multi-year agreement to oversee the creative development of four new musicals to debut across the fleet over the next several years.

During his 40-year career, Schwartz has won four Grammys, three Academy Awards for "Best Song" and "Best Score" for *Pocahontas* and "Best Song" for *The Prince of Egypt* and has been nominated for six Tony Awards. He is the only songwriter in Broadway history to ever have three shows run more than 1,900 performances.

His first musical for Princess Cruises will celebrate Schwartz's lifelong fascination with magic. Called *Magic to Do*, the show will combine thrilling magic with some of Schwartz's most famous songs and a brand new song written exclusively for Princess. The show will debut aboard [Crown Princess](#) in the fall.

"Stephen is hands down one of the most talented and accomplished Broadway composers of all time and we couldn't be more honored to partner with him to ideate and bring fresh talent together to create memorable entertainment experiences for our guests," said Jan Swartz, Princess Cruises president. "Princess is known for introducing product innovations and we're thrilled to embark on this extraordinary new live-show entertainment, unlike anything any cruise line has ever before offered."

"I'm excited about the possibility of using the enormous resources available with Princess to create new and innovative theatrical entertainment," said Schwartz. "Their onboard theatres are Broadway-caliber venues with state-of-the-art technical capability, and coupled with their access to first-rate performers, I see it as an extraordinary and almost irresistible opportunity. I have already received overwhelming and enthusiastic interest from talented colleagues – writers, directors, and designers to whom I have spoken – and I hope together we will create new kinds of cruise ship shows to entertain and inspire Princess guests unlike any other productions at sea."

Schwartz will oversee the creative development for all four shows, bringing together a cadre of Broadway talent to support the productions through direction and design. The *Magic to Do* team includes: Don Frantz, associate producer of *The Lion King* and *Beauty and the Beast* on Broadway, among many other Broadway and international accomplishments; Gabriel Barre, internationally acclaimed director whose credits include the national tour of *Pippin* and the current Broadway-bound musical, *Amazing Grace*; Jeremy Railton, four-time Emmy winner whose extensive background in theatre, film, television and multi-media design includes the 2002 Winter Olympics opening and closing ceremonies and the Academy Awards; Ken Billington, Tony award-winning lighting designer with nearly 100 Broadway show credits to his name, including *Sweeney Todd* and the current production of *Chicago*; Mark Hartman, award-winning music director with numerous Broadway credits including *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *Avenue Q* and the national tour of *Pippin*; and Jennifer Paulson-Lee, choreographer with credits including *Enter Laughing*, *the Musical*, *A Rockin' Midsummer Night's Dream*, *101 Dalmatians* and *Seussical*.

In addition, Jim Steinmeyer, the mastermind behind many of the great magic illusions over the last 25 years, will create the magic experience in *Magic to Do*. Steinmeyer has worked with some of the greatest magicians of all time including Doug Henning, Siegfried & Roy and David Copperfield.

Auditions for *Magic to Do* begin next week in New York and Toronto, followed by Los Angeles and Vancouver. Schwartz will participate in the audition process, helping source top talent and performers for the 45-minute show. More information can be found here: [http://www.playbill.com/jobs/job\\_detail/343715](http://www.playbill.com/jobs/job_detail/343715).

Theater Producer Jayson Raitt will be working closely with Schwartz and consulting on the creative development of the three additional shows.

Additional information about Princess' new partnership with Stephen Schwartz can be found at <http://www.princess.com/schwartz>.

#### About Princess Cruises:

One of the best-known names in cruising, Princess Cruises is a global cruise and tour company operating a fleet of 18 modern ships renowned for their innovative design and wide array of choices in dining, entertainment and amenities, all provided in an environment of exceptional customer service. A recognized leader in worldwide cruising, Princess carries 1.7 million guests each year to destinations around the globe ranging in length from three to 114 days. The company is part of Carnival Corporation & plc (NYSE/LSE:CCL; NYSE: [CUK](#)).

#### About Stephen Schwartz:

Stephen Schwartz wrote the music and lyrics for the Broadway hits *Wicked*, *Pippin*, *Godspell* and *The Magic Show*. For film, he wrote the songs for the DreamWorks animated feature, *The Prince of Egypt*, and collaborated with composer Alan Menken on the songs for Disney's *Enchanted*, as well as the animated features *Pocahontas* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. He collaborated with Leonard Bernstein on the English texts for Bernstein's *Mass*, and his first opera, *Séance on a Wet Afternoon*, was produced at Opera Santa Barbara and New York City Opera. Mr. Schwartz has been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame, the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and has been given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. More information

can be found at <http://www.stephenschwartz.com/>

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