



It's Pantomime Time! ...Oh yes it is!

Christmas just wouldn't be the same without a trip to the theatre to see your favourite pantomime - it's such a treat for the whole family. There's a great selection on offer throughout North Essex and further afield, so have a look at our Christmas panto guide to see what's on in your area.

Bishops Stortford

RHODES ARTS COMPLEX
Box Office: 01279 651746
www.rhodesartscomplex.co.uk

Sat 8th Dec - Sat 5th Jan
BEAUTY & THE BEAST
Spellbinding story of Belle, the spirited and headstrong village girl who enters an enchanted castle and melts the heart of the monstrous Beast who dwells within its walls. With spectacular sets and costumes, stunning choreography and a feast of magical effects it's a festive family treat for all ages. Performance times and ticket prices vary.

Did you know?

The Pantomime first arrived in England as a short entertainment (entr'acte) between opera pieces. Eventually it became a separate show.

Chelmsford

CIVIC THEATRE
Box Office: 01245 606505
www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres

Friday 30 Nov - Sun 6 Jan
CINDERELLA
Cinderella has just lost her beloved father. To pay her way Cinderella is made to live below stairs and do all the cleaning, mending and cooking for her two lazy step-sisters! Will Cinderella be rescued by her prince and live happily ever after? Oh yes she will! Meet the wicked and elaborately dressed Ugly Sisters, Buttons, the Fairy Godmother, the dashing and handsome Prince Charming and of course, beautiful Cinderella herself. There will also be a special appearance from two Shetland ponies who will be taking Cinderella to the ball in her sparkling coach! In association with the Chelmsford Civic Theatre, One From The Heart brings another action-packed family show to Chelmsford, featuring all the traditional pantomime ingredients; sparkling storybook sets, energetic song and dance routines, beautiful costumes, plenty of audience participation and the most important ingredient of all - a generous helping of pantomime magic! Performance prices and ticket prices vary.

Featuring Ian Lucken's Cinderella PONIES!

ONE FROM THE HEART IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHELMSFORD CITY THEATRES PRESENT

CINDERELLA
The Fairy Godmother of pantomimes

Written and directed by Guy Unsworth
Musical Supervision and Arrangements by Ben Kennedy
Choreographed by Anthony Whiteman

Sponsored by M&G INVESTMENTS

Friday 30 November 2018 - Sunday 6 January 2019

Chelmsford Civic Theatre
Box Office 01245 606505
www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres

Chelmsford City Theatres

Colchester

THE MERCURY THEATRE
Box Office: 01206 573948
www.mercurytheatre.co.uk

Sat 24 Nov - Sun 20 Jan
JACK & THE BEANSTALK
The Mercury panto is back, and this year it's bigger and better than ever! Jack and the Beanstalk promises all the laughter, sparkle and



excitement you've come to expect from the seasonal show that just keeps breaking box office records! When Jack Trott and his family find themselves down on their luck, Jack's mother sends her poor son to market to sell their beloved cow 'Daisy', but when she learns that he's exchanged the cow for a few measly beans, she's furious and throws them out into the garden to rot. Little does she know that those beans are magical, and when the family awake next morning and find a great beanstalk soaring high into the sky, their lives will never be the same again. Will Jack make his fortune? Will he make his Mum proud of him again? And will the family ever be reunited with poor Daisy? Find out when you join Jack and friends for 'a tale as magic as beans' in the sky-high Mercury pantomime. Starring panto favourites Antony Stuart-Hicks, Dale Superville and Carli Norris, and packed full of music and dancing, Jack and the Beanstalk promises to be a glittering Christmas treat for the whole family to enjoy! Performance times and ticket prices vary.

mercury theatre colchester

A SPECTACULAR SEASONAL TREAT!

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

TICKETS FROM £12

SAT 24 NOV - SUN 20 JAN Call 01206 573948 www.mercurytheatre.co.uk

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Did you know?

In 18th century England, a pantomime was silent, but with a full cast of actors and dancers. At that time only certain theatres known as 'Theatre Royales' were allowed to present proper plays with words.

audiences of all ages with stunning special effects, spectacular scenery, some truly amazing flying and a good helping of fairy dust! Performance times and ticket prices vary.

Southend

CLIFFS PAVILION
Box Office: 01702 351135
www.thecliffspavilion.co.uk

Fri 14th Dec - Sat 5th Jan
ALADDIN
Ashley Banjo and Diversity will star as the Genies of the Ring, the nimble-footed group charged with changing the fortune of Aladdin and helping him to outwit the evil Abanazar. They will be joined by David Phipps-Davis as Widow Twankee and Britain's Got Talent warm-up man Ian Royce as Aladdin's brother, Wishee Washee. Performance times and ticket prices vary.

Witham

WITHAM PUBLIC HALL
Collingwood Rd
www.ticketsource.co.uk

Thu 20th Dec - Fri 28th Dec
DICK WHITTINGTON & HIS CAT
A magical family pantomime full of fun, comic capers. Beautiful costumes will light up the stage. Performance times and prices vary.

ASHLEY BANJO & DIVERSITY

Aladdin

EVERYTHING YOU COULD WISH FOR IN A PANTO

IAN ROYCE
DAVID PHIPPS-DAVIS

FRI 14 DEC 2018 - SAT 5 JAN 2019

SOUTHEND CLIFFS PAVILION
thecliffspavilion.co.uk

heart