

T O M H A N K S  
**THE POLAR EXPRESS**



THIS HOLIDAY SEASON... BELIEVE

CASTLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH SHANGRI-LA ENTERTAINMENT A PLAYTONE/IMAGEMOVERS/GOLDEN MEAN PRODUCTION A ROBERT ZEMECKIS FILM TOM HANKS  
"THE POLAR EXPRESS" MUSIC SCORE BY ALAN SILVESTRI ORIGINAL SONGS BY GLEN BALLARD AND ALAN SILVESTRI SENIOR VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISORS KEN RALSTON AND JEROME CHEN CO. PRODUCER STEVEN BOYD  
EDITORS JEREMIAH O'DRISCOLL & R. ORLANDO DUENAS PRODUCTION DESIGNERS RICK CARTER AND DOUG CHIANG DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY DON BURGESS, A.S.C. AND ROBERT PRESLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOM HANKS JACK RAPKE CHRIS VAN ALLSBURG  
BASED ON THE BOOK BY CHRIS VAN ALLSBURG SCREENPLAY BY ROBERT ZEMECKIS & WILLIAM BROYLES, JR. PRODUCED BY STEVE STARKEY ROBERT ZEMECKIS GARY GOETZMAN WILLIAM TEITLER DIRECTED BY ROBERT ZEMECKIS



Soundtrack Album on Warner Sunset/Reprise Records  
ADL Keyword: The Polar Express [www.polarexpressmovie.com](http://www.polarexpressmovie.com)



NOVEMBER 10

# ALL ABOARD . . . FOR A JOURNEY TO IMAGINATION! THE POLAR EXPRESS

## CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

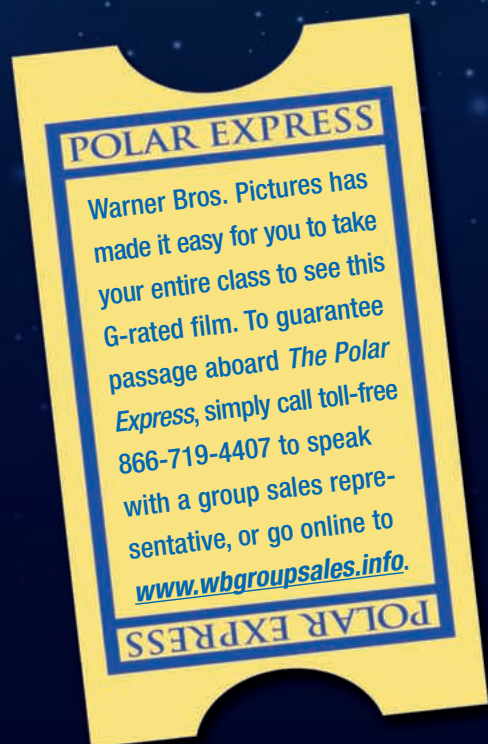
### DEAR EDUCATOR,

For years, millions have enjoyed Chris Van Allsburg's classic book, *The Polar Express*, winner of the Caldecott Medal in 1986. Now, the Academy Award-winning team of Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis (*Forrest Gump*, *Cast Away*) reunite to present the big-screen version of this beloved story. You can take advantage of the movie's release to bring the excitement of reading to your classroom. Through this timeless story of a boy who takes a magical trip to the North Pole on Christmas Eve, you will discover ways to teach your students the power of creativity and the importance of keeping an open mind.

Many teacher and student resources, including reading programs, lesson plans, interactive games, and much more, are readily available for use with *The Polar Express*:

- ✿ **National Education Association (NEA)** teachers have ranked *The Polar Express* #2 on their Teachers' Top 100 Books lists, just behind #1-ranked *Charlotte's Web*.  
When NEA partnered with Warner Bros. and Houghton Mifflin Books for the Polar Express Reading Challenge in October, thousands of children across the country responded, and read. The result: more than \$200,000 donated to school libraries, in turn giving other children the gift of reading. Please visit the NEA website, [www.nea.org/readacross/](http://www.nea.org/readacross/) for more information. You will find
  - ✿ classroom activities
  - ✿ a reading log
  - ✿ a Q&A with Chris Van Allsburg
  - ✿ more
- ✿ **Houghton Mifflin Books**, publishers of *The Polar Express*, features ideas for *Polar Express Curriculum Connections* on their website (see *Online Resources below*). On this site, you will find in-depth language arts lesson plans for *The Polar Express* and all of Chris Van Allsburg's other books, and much more. There's even a downloadable guide for throwing a Polar Express Pajama Party in your classroom or library! Visit [www.polarexpress.com/educators](http://www.polarexpress.com/educators) and click the tab labeled "Teachers/Librarians."

"TICKETS, PLEASE!"



## ONLINE RESOURCES

Houghton Mifflin Books:

[www.polarexpress.com/educators](http://www.polarexpress.com/educators)

National Education Association (NEA):

[www.nea.org/readacross/](http://www.nea.org/readacross/)

OWL website (*Our Web Location for Education, for NEA members*):

[www.owl.org/index.jsp](http://www.owl.org/index.jsp)

The official movie website for *The Polar Express*:

<http://polarexpressmovie.com>