For Immediate Release: June 7, 2019

**BENNY THE BULLET PRODUCTIONS**in association with **THE TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL** presents

**MICE AT CENTRE ICE**

**A modern day Canadian hockey "tail" of small mice with big hearts.**

**Together, we win!**

TORONTO, ON – Benny the Bullet Productions presents *Mice at Centre Ice* by Kerri Salata at The Toronto Fringe Festival KidsFest, playing July 3rd to July 13th at the George Ignatieff Theatre.

***MICE AT CENTRE ICE*** is a hilarious, heartwarming adaption of the best-selling children’s novel and a show for hockey-lovers of all ages. Follow Benny the Bullet, a plucky mouse and fellow Mouse Hockey Leaguers as they try and win back the Cheddar Cup from the dreaded Rink Rats. What dangers await them? And can any of them be worse than the steel blades of the Zamboni machine?

In her children’s novel, *Mice at Centre Ice*, **Estelle Salata** named the lead character Benny the Bullet after her husband Benny Salata. Now, Estelle’s granddaughter, **Kerri Salata**, has named the company she has formed to produce her adaptation of *Mice at Centre Ice* after him too. Estelle always taught Kerri that women can do and be anything and led by example as a successful author and mother of four. In adapting this story, Kerri, who is a lawyer and competitive hockey player on top of writing and producing this show, has taken her grandmother’s guidance to heart and modernized the story so that many of the characters, including Benny the Bullet*,* are portrayed by women.

This world premiere production of *Mice at Centre Ice* by **Kerri Salata** is directed by **Llana Nakonechny**, and stars Thea-award winning children’s theatre performer, **Janice Peters Gibson**, (The Company Theatre), as well as members of the Lactors’ Studio (*Watching Seana McKenna Watch Paint Dry* (Fringe 2014) and *In Gods We Trust* (Fringe 2016)).

All proceeds going to ***Lawyers Feed the Hungry*** <http://www.lawyersfeedthehungry.ca/toronto.html>

**Benny the Bullet Productions**

in association with **The Toronto Fringe Festival** presents

*Mice at Centre Ice*

adapted by Kerri Salata from the novel by Estelle Salata

directed by Llana Nakonechny

featuring Janice Peters Gibson (Benny the Bullet III), Satinder Besrai (Peppy Le Pierre), Gavin Magrath (Figaro the Flyer), Ajay Krishnan (Maurice / Jake), Brent Vickar (Mister Mouse), Catherine Wiley (The Big M), Peter Hamiwka (Scarface), Doug Watters (Old Rat Fink / Sam), Llana Nakonechny (Big Boris)

sound design & composition by Michael Salata

costume design by Paula Eyles

stage management by Jeff Soucy

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| **Venue:** | George Ignatieff Theatre, 15 Devonshire Place, Toronto |
| **Dates & Times:**  | July 3, 2019 - 1 p.m.July 5 - 3:30 p.m.July 7 - 10:30 a.m. | July 9 - 12:45 p.m., July 10 - 12:45 p.m. | July 12 - 11 a.m., July 13 - 5:30 p.m.  |
| **Tickets:** | $5.00 for kids 12 & under, $11.00 (plus $2.00 service fee) for adults; Buy online at [www.fringetoronto.com](http://www.fringetoronto.com), By Phone at 416-966-1062At the door one hour prior to show time (cash only). Tickets on sale as of June 6, 2019. |

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