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**KOBA Family Entertainment Premieres  
Franklin and the Adventures of the Courageous Knights in Paris**

**42 live stage shows at Le Grand Rex Theatre in Paris, France**

TORONTO // On October 8, 2008, **KOBA Family Entertainment**, a member of the **Paquin Entertainment** group of companies, will premiere its latest live stage production, ***Franklin and the Adventures of the Courageous Knights*** in Paris, France.

Adapted for French audiences as ***Franklin et les Aventures des Courageux Chevaliers***, this brand new musical leads the audience through the most heroic expedition that beloved children's character, Franklin the Turtle and his friends, Bear, Snail, Beaver, Fox, and Rabbit have ever embarked on. On their crusade to recover the lost "Golden Necklace" of Princess Harriet, they come upon all sorts of obstacles, including a fierce fire breathing dragon, two riddle-loving Gargoyles, and a Wily Winged Beast! Le Grand Rex theatre - a known Parisian landmark, and replica of New York's Radio City Music Hall - will host the show for a four-week run with more than 40 performances.

Given France's strong appreciation for Franklin - a character originating from Canada - KOBA's Executive Producer, **Gilles Paquin**, says he sees the opportunity to perform in France as a natural fit. To date, KOBA has presented in most major markets in North America, as well as reached into Asia and South America.

To lead this latest Franklin tale to the stage, **Patti Caplette**, KOBA's Artistic Director, has drawn on the talents of a team of collaborators from across North America and France: writer **Larry Mirkin**; set designer **Rebecca Hodgson**, a Torontonians living in Paris; composer **Norman Zabala**; lighting designer **Hugh Conacher**; with French adaptation by **Anne Vivien**, a Parisian living in Montreal; and music by Quebec songstress, **Florence Khoriaty** (Florence K.).

***Franklin and the Adventures of the Courageous Knights*** is presented by KOBA Family Entertainment, in partnership with European promoter, Music Machine, and support from Nelvana Canada and Nelvana France.

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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

### **About Franklin**

Conceived 25 years ago, Franklin the turtle is enjoyed by children and parents in 30 countries and 24 languages. There are now more than 20 million Franklin books in print around the world and a television series as seen on TF1 in France, Treehouse TV in Canada and Noggin in the U.S. *Franklin and the Adventures of the Courageous Knights* was inspired by the literary creation of Paulette Bourgeois and Brenda Clark.

### **About KOBA Family Entertainment**

KOBA Family Entertainment, a member of the Paquin Entertainment Group of Companies, produces outstanding entertainment for our global community. A diverse variety of celebrated properties set the stage for KOBA Family Entertainment's theatrical productions: musicals and spectacles. These innovation creations entertain, engage and challenge audience of all ages. Find us at: [www.kobafamily.com](http://www.kobafamily.com)

### **About Music Machine**

Founded in 1992, Music Machine is a company that focuses on producing and coordinating entertainment performances in France and internationally. In 2002, in addition to its production work, Music Machine toured France with *Rhythm of the Dance* and *Michel Jonasz*. Since its beginnings, Music Machine has been one of the only entities in France to regularly produce and coordinate tours outside of France for French artists.

### **About Nelvana Enterprises**

With a focus on delivering quality branded entertainment as well as providing distribution and merchandise licensing opportunities on multiple platforms, Nelvana Enterprises oversees new media partnerships, global broadcast, DVD and video-on-demand sales, and consumer products licensing internationally for animated properties from Nelvana Studios and select production partners. Nelvana Enterprises stable of award-winning and globally renowned brands include literary classics *Babar* and *Franklin* as well as new shows such as *Ruby Gloom* and *Bakugan*. Nelvana Enterprises is owned by **Corus Entertainment Inc.**, a Canadian-based media and entertainment company. Corus is a market leader in specialty television and radio with additional assets in pay television, advertising and digital audio services, television broadcasting, children's book publishing and children's animation. The company's multimedia entertainment brands include YTV, Treehouse, W Network, Movie Central, Nelvana, Kids Can Press and radio stations including CKNW, CKOI and Q107. Corus creates engaging branded entertainment experiences for its audiences across multiple platforms. A publicly traded company, Corus is listed on the Toronto (CJR.B) and New York (CJR) exchanges. Experience Corus on the web at [www.corusent.com](http://www.corusent.com)

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