



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: APRIL 9, 2018

DAVID IRA GOLDSTEIN RETURNS TO ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY TO DIRECT 2017/2018 SEASON FINALE, "THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK"

Artistic Director Emeritus David Ira Goldstein makes his return to Arizona Theatre Company (David Ivers, Artistic Director; Billy Russo, Managing Director) to direct the final show of the 2017/2018 season, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, from April 21 to May 12 at the Temple of Music & Art in Tucson and from May 17 to June 3 at the Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix.

The Diary of Anne Frank, by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett and newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman, is a co-production with the Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, N.Y.

Marcia Morphy wrote in the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* that the show "doesn't try to recreate the past but brings it to life in a way that embraces morals, stereotypes, ideals, fears and aspirations, offering an oral history that clings to our memories like scar tissue and speaks for all those who are no longer among us."

In this powerful new adaptation, Anne Frank emerges from history a bright and talented young girl with the aspirations of any teenager. This impassioned drama about the lives of eight people in hiding from the Nazis in a concealed Amsterdam attic captures the claustrophobic reality of their daily existence. Anne's story of love, hope,

courage and triumph of the human spirit has captivated audiences with its profound message for more than 70 years.

Goodrich and Hackett began their joint career as Broadway playwrights in the 1920s. The success of their comedy, *Up Pops the Devil*, brought them to Hollywood to work on the 1931 screen version. They went on to write some of the most popular films of the 1930s and 1940s, including ***Easter Parade; The Thin Man*** and its sequel, ***After the Thin Man; Father of the Bride; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*** (all of which were nominated for Academy Awards for screenwriting); ***In the Good Old Summertime; The Long, Long Trailer*** and ***It's a Wonderful Life*** (co-written with Frank Capra and Jo Swerling).

Their adaptation of ***The Diary of Anne Frank*** premiered at the Cort Theatre on Broadway in 1955 and received the Tony™ Award for Best Play, the NY Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play and Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Playwright Kesselman, whose other plays include ***The Executioners Daughter, The Notebook, The Foggy Foggy Dew, The Last Bridge and I Love You, I Love You Not***, adapted the Goodrich and Hackett script to include newly discovered writings from the diary of Anne Frank as well as survivor accounts. This new version premiered in Boston before opening at the Music Box Theatre on Broadway in 1997. The production was nominated for a Tony™ Award for Best Revival of a Play and received two Drama Desk Award Nominations.

The Arizona Theatre Company-Geva Theatre co-production features Ann Arvia as Mrs. Van Daan; Gus Cuddy as Peter Van Daan; Steve Hendrickson as Otto Frank; Anna Lentz as Anne Frank; Naama Potok as Edith Frank; Kit Prelewitz as Miep Gies; John Preston as Mr. Van Daan; Devon Prokopek, of Phoenix and the University of Arizona, as Margot Frank; Michael Santo as Mr. Dussel and Dick St. George as Mr. Kraler. Jake Dion, William McDonough, Kevin Plinzke and Tyler Wolff complete the cast.

Single ticket prices range from \$25 to \$73 in Tucson and \$25 to \$80 in Phoenix and can be purchased at the box offices at the Temple of Music & Art and the Herberger Theater Center or online at www.arizonatheatre.org.

I. Michael and Beth Kasser are the 2017/2018 season sponsors. Shirley Estes is the Tucson Production Sponsor. APS is the Phoenix Production Sponsor. Media sponsor in Tucson is the Arizona Jewish Post, and Arizona Jewish Life Magazine is the Phoenix media sponsor.

The 2018/2019 Arizona Theatre Company season includes: **Native Gardens**, by Karen Zacarías (at the Temple of Music & Art in Tucson from Sept. 8-29 and at the Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix from Oct. 4-21); **Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End**, by Margaret Engel and Allison Engel, directed by Casey Stangl (Tucson: Oct. 20-Nov. 10; Phoenix: Nov. 15-Dec. 2); **The Music Man**, Music and Lyrics by Meredith Willson, Book by Meredith Willson and Franklin Lacey, directed by David Ivers (Tucson: Dec. 1-22; Phoenix: Jan. 5-27, 2019); **Two Trains Running**, by August Wilson, directed by Lou Bellamy (Tucson: Jan. 19-Feb. 9; Phoenix: Feb. 14-March 3.); **American Mariachi**, by José Cruz González (Tucson: March 9-30; Phoenix: April 4-21). **Things I Know to be True**, by Andrew Bovell, directed by Mark Clements (Tucson: April 20-May 11; Phoenix: May 16-June 2).

BIOGRAPHIES NEED BIOS

CREATIVE TEAM

Director: David Ira Goldstein

Scenic Designer: Bill Clarke

Costume Designer: Mimi Maxmen

Lighting Designer: Ann G. Wrightson

Sound Designer: Dan Roach

Dramaturg: Becca Poccia

Violence Consultant: Adriana Gatto

Production Stage Manager: Glenn Bruner

Assistant Stage Manager: Bruno Ingram

Assistant Stage Manager: Timothy Toothman

Ticket Info:

Tickets for *The Diary of Anne Frank* start at \$25 and are subject to change depending on time, date and section, and are available at www.arizonatheatre.org or by calling the box office at (520) 622-2823 in Tucson or (602) 256-6995 in Phoenix. Discounts are available for seniors and active military. A \$10 student ticket pricing is now available for all performances. Half-price rush tickets are available for balcony seating for all performances one hour prior to curtain at the ATC box office (subject to availability). **\$10 Sunday** performance tickets are available for a suggested \$10 donation in Tucson on Tuesday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. and in Phoenix on Sunday, Sunday, May 20 at 7 p.m. (Tickets must be purchased at the Temple of Music & Art in Tucson and the Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix starting one hour prior to curtain. Tickets are first-come, first served. *Cash only*. Two tickets maximum per person.) For discounts for groups of

10 or more, call (520) 622-2823 in Tucson or (602) 256-6995 in Phoenix.

Arizona Theatre Company offers accessibility services for patrons with disabilities for select performances. American Sign Language Interpretation is presented by professional, theatrically trained ASL-interpreters for people who have deafness or hearing impairment. An ASL-interpreted performance is offered on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Tucson and Saturday, June 2 at 4 p.m. in Phoenix on an LED screen as the play progresses. An open captioned performance is offered on Thursday, May 10 at 2 p.m. in Tucson and Sunday, May 27 at 7 p.m. in Phoenix. For open-captioned or ASL-interpreted performances, patrons should request seats best suited to ASL interpretation or captioning when purchasing tickets. Large print and Braille playbills and infrared listening amplification devices are also available at every ATC performance with reservation. TTY access for the box office is available in Phoenix at (602) 256-6995 or via Arizona Relay at (800) 367-8939 (TTY/ASCII).

Tickets are available in-person at the Temple of Music & Art in Tucson and the Herberger Theater Center or by calling (520) 622-2823 in Tucson and at the Herberger Theater Center at (602) 256-6995 or online at www.arizonatheatre.org.

FACT SHEET

The Diary of Anne Frank

- Dramatized by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett
- Adapted by Wendy Kesselman
- Directed by David Ira Goldstein

VENUES

- Temple of Music & Art, 330 S. Scott Ave., Tucson
 - Herberger Theater Center, 222 E. Monroe, Phoenix
- **Previews Begin:** Saturday, April 21 at 8 p.m. in Tucson; Thursday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Phoenix.
- **Opening Nights:** Friday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Tucson; Saturday, May 19 at 8 p.m. in Phoenix
- Closing Performances:** Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m. in Tucson; Sunday, June 3 at 1 p.m. in Phoenix.

Contact:

Steve Carr, The Kur Carr Group, Inc., (602) 317-3040

About Arizona Theatre Company:

Arizona Theatre Company (ATC) is the preeminent fully professional theatre in the state of Arizona committed to inspiring, engaging, and entertaining - one moment, one production, and one audience at a time. Boasting the largest seasonal subscriber base in the performing arts in Arizona, ATC is the only resident company in the U.S. that is fully based in two cities providing its wide array of programming and community outreach across the region. Now in its 51st season, more than 130,000 people a year attend our performances at the historic Temple of Music and Art in Tucson, and the elegant Herberger Theater Center in downtown Phoenix. Each season of home-grown productions reflects the rich variety of world drama—from classics to contemporary plays, from musicals to new works—along with a wide array of community outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives and new play programs. Designated The State Theatre of Arizona, ATC is led by Artistic Director David Ivers, Managing Director Billy Russo and a dedicated Board of Trustees.

