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Contact: Kelsey Guy, Director of Public Relations
(214) 252-3923 Kelsey.Guy@DallasTheaterCenter.org

DALLAS THEATER CENTER
Announces World Premieres of
Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical,
Samuel D. Hunter's *Clarkston* and
Deferred Action
As Part of 2015-2016 Season

DALLAS (February 5, 2015) – Dallas Theater Center Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty announced today the theater's 2015-2016 season, which includes productions in the Potter Rose Performance Hall and the Studio Theatre at the Wylie Theatre in the AT&T Performing Arts Center and the Kalita Humphreys Theater on Turtle Creek. DTC's 2015-2016 season will include the world premieres of a new musical comedy, ***Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical***; a new play, ***Clarkston***, by MacArthur Foundation Fellow Samuel D. Hunter; and ***Deferred Action***, the culmination of a collaborative project between Dallas Theater Center and Cara Mia Theatre Co.

"Our 2015-2016 season continues our commitment to producing new plays and musicals, collaborating with local and national theater companies, creating fresh new interpretations of classics and telling diverse stories that speak to the world we live in and spark meaningful conversations within our community," said Moriarty. "From leading country music artists Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally to MacArthur Genius Grant winning playwright Samuel D. Hunter, and from the Alley Theatre to Cara Mia Theatre Company, the season will bring nationally recognized artists to Dallas to collaborate with us in the creation of exhilarating theater."

Dallas audiences will be the first to see the world premiere musical comedy ***Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical***, featuring a score by multi-Award winning artists Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally (two of country music's hottest new singer/songwriters), a book by Robert Horn, direction by Gary Griffin and choreography by Denis Jones. Hilarious and downright irreverent, ***Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical*** distills the spirit of an iconic television series and bottles it into an original musical comedy! Set in present day Kornfield Kounty, this highly anticipated show introduces a new generation of irresistible characters as it tells the story of Misty Mae, the ultimate hometown girl who heads out to follow her dreams in the big city... of Tampa. When she returns home to introduce her slick city-boy beau to her friends and family, everything goes haywire!

"Shane and I both grew up watching 'Hee Haw,' so it's thrilling that we get to make our musical theatre writing debut using source material that really shaped and defined so much in terms of the history of country music. We're loving the collaborative process of writing for the theater, too," Clark said.

Co-composer McAnally said, "I'm from the Dallas area, so getting to debut the show in my hometown is especially exciting for me, and I can't wait for audiences to see it!"

Clarkston is a new play by MacArthur Foundation Fellow Samuel D. Hunter that loosely explores the modern day legacy of Lewis and Clark. The three-person play is an intimate exploration of the friendship formed between two young men in rural Washington as they face what comes next in their lives.

Deferred Action by Dallas playwrights David Lozano and Lee Trull centers on young, undocumented Latino immigrants called Dreamers as they search for a place in the country to which they were brought to live at a young age. This world premiere production is the culmination of a collaborative project between Dallas Theater Center and Cara Mia Theatre Co. and brings the two organizations' resident acting companies together for the first time on the DTC stage.

Just moments after the death of President John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson boarded Air Force Two, took off from Dallas and was sworn in as President of the United States before he landed in Washington, D.C. **All the Way** is a Tony Award®-winning and gripping political drama by Robert Schenkkan about the man from Texas who found himself unexpectedly in the highest office of the land at the height of the civil rights movement. Under the direction of Kevin Moriarty, the regional premiere will join the resident acting companies of Houston's Alley Theatre and DTC, the state's two largest, most lauded regional theater companies. DTC's production of **All the Way** will also include a community partnership with The Sixth Floor Museum, an institution dedicated to exploring the events surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy. Complete details of the partnership will be available in the coming months.

Additional productions in the 2015-2016 season include the glitter and glamour of 1960s R&B group stardom in a fresh new production of the classic **Dreamgirls**; one of the greatest love stories ever told and the third production in DTC's ongoing classical theater initiative, **Romeo and Juliet**; and an intimate production of the recent Broadway drama about famed civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr., **The Mountaintop**, by Katori Hall. DTC will also produce the beloved holiday classic **A Christmas Carol**.

The full season will be presented as follows: in the Potter Rose Performance Hall at the Wyly Theatre **Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical** (Sept. 2 – Oct. 11); in the Studio Theatre at the Wyly Theatre **The Mountaintop** (Sept. 16 – Nov. 15); in the Potter Rose Performance Hall **A Christmas Carol** (Nov. 25 – Dec. 26); in the Studio Theatre **Clarkston** (Dec. 3 – Jan. 31); at the Kalita Humphreys Theater **Romeo and Juliet** (Jan. 27 – Feb. 28); in the Potter Rose Performance Hall **All The Way** (March 3 – 27); in the Potter Rose Performance Hall **Deferred Action** (April 20 – May 15); and in the Potter Rose Performance Hall **Dreamgirls** (June 10 – July 24).

Full season subscriptions go on sale February 9, 2015 and will be available for as little as \$126. Subscriptions can be purchased online at DallasTheaterCenter.org or by calling the AT&T Performing Arts Center Box Office at (214) 880-0202. Single tickets to **A Christmas Carol** will be available later in the season, after a subscriber-only early access pre-sale.

For those who want to take their theater-going experience to the next level, DTC's program, Friends@DTC, offers patrons a variety of exclusive benefits, including premium seats, a VIP intermission lounge, special invitations, complimentary drinks, free parking and much more. Visit DallasTheaterCenter.org/Friends or email Friends@DallasTheaterCenter.org for more information.

DTC will continue the **Come Early, sponsored by Wells Fargo**, and the **Dr. Pepper Snapple Group Stay Late** programs in 2015-2016. **Come Early** is a free 30-minute informative talk designed to enhance a patron's play-going experience. Given one hour before every performance, a member of the cast or artistic staff will share details about the play's origins and context, as well as share insight into the creative process behind the production. **Stay Late** is a free, brief, post-show conversation with a member of the cast about the show. Patrons will engage with the artists, learn about the production and be able to share their insights about the play in a lively discussion.

ABOUT DALLAS THEATER CENTER:

One of the leading regional theaters in the country, Dallas Theater Center (DTC) performs to an audience of more than 120,000 North Texas residents annually. Founded in 1959, DTC is now a resident company of the AT&T Performing Arts Center and presents its Mainstage season at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, designed by REX/OMA, Joshua Prince-Ramus and Rem Koolhaas and at its original home, the Kalita Humphreys Theater, the only freestanding theater designed and built by Frank Lloyd Wright. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty and Managing Director Heather M. Kitchen, DTC produces a seven-play subscription series of classics, musicals and new plays and an annual production of *A Christmas Carol*; extensive education programs, including the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award-winning Project Discovery, SummerStage and partnerships with Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts and Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts; and community outreach efforts including leading the DFW Foote Festival and recent collaborations with the Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas Public Library, Dallas Holocaust Museum, North Texas Food Bank, Dallas Opera, and Dallas Black Dance Theater. Throughout its history, DTC has produced many new works, including *The Texas Trilogy* by Preston Jones in 1978, Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*, adapted by Adrian Hall, in 1986, and recent premieres of *FLY* by Rajiv Joseph, Bill Sherman and Kirstin Childs; *Fly by Night* by Kim Rosenstock, Michael Mitnick and Will Connolly; *Giant* by Michael John LaChiusa and Sybille Pearson; *The Trinity River Plays* by Regina Taylor; the revised *It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman* by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, Charles Strouse and Lee Adams; *Give It Up!* (now titled *Lysistrata Jones* and recently on Broadway) by Douglas Carter Beane and Lewis Flinn; *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Julia Jordan, Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin; and *The Good Negro* by Tracey Scott Wilson.

Dallas Theater Center gratefully acknowledges the support of our season sponsors: Texas Instruments; American Airlines; Chase; City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs; and Lexus.

2015-2016 Season Lineup

Production information subject to change

MOONSHINE: THAT HEE HAW MUSICAL
Music and Lyrics by Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally
Book by Robert Horn
Directed by Gary Griffin

Sept. 2 – Oct. 11, 2015
Wyly Theatre

Hilarious and downright irreverent, *MOONSHINE: That Hee Haw Musical* distills the spirit of an iconic television series and bottles it into an original musical comedy! Set in present-day Kornfield Kounty, this highly anticipated show introduces a new generation of irresistible characters as it tells the story of Misty Mae, the ultimate hometown girl who heads out to follow her dreams in the big city... of Tampa. When she returns home to introduce her slick city-boy beau to her friends and family, everything goes haywire! Featuring an original score by 2014 CMA winners and Grammy® nominees Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally (two of country music's hottest singer/songwriters), a book by Robert Horn, direction by Gary Griffin, choreography by Denis Jones and orchestrations by Tony® and Grammy® Award winner Stephen Oremus, *MOONSHINE: That Hee Haw Musical* gets the Broadway treatment when it has its eagerly awaited World Premiere this fall at DTC.

THE MOUNTAINTOP
by Katori Hal

Sept. 16 – Nov. 15, 2015
Wyly Theatre • Studio Theatre

What thoughts and emotions were pulsing through Martin Luther King, Jr.'s mind and heart on his last night on Earth? Set in Memphis' Lorraine motel just hours before the civil rights leader was assassinated, *The Mountaintop* presents King as a very human man, stripped of the mountains of mythology now woven into his remembrance. This recent Broadway hit and the 2010 winner of Britain's Olivier Award for Best New Play will bring every audience member within feet of the actors in an intensely intimate Studio Theatre production. Crackling with metaphysical magical realism, *The Mountaintop* throws lightning bolts of insight upon our societal strengths and frailties and our own personal accomplishments and failings as, with Dr. King, we ponder the cost of what we contribute and the legacy of what we leave behind.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
By CHARLES DICKENS
Adapted by KEVIN MORIARTY
Directed by CHRISTIE VELA

Nov. 25 – Dec. 26, 2015
Wyly Theatre

The must-see family tradition that marks the beginning of Dallas' holiday season, *A Christmas Carol* is a critically acclaimed, delightfully reimagined take on Dickens' enduring classic. *The Dallas Morning News* proclaimed this transcendent, all-ages musical treat "socially conscious... and theatrically spectacular." Join us as Scrooge returns to the Wyly Theatre, where the audience will be surrounded by magical ghosts flying above, scary ghosts bursting out of the floor and snow falling on everyone, bringing this timeless story to vivid new life. **With two years of record breaking box offices, only subscribers are guaranteed access to this beloved holiday classic!**

CLARKSTON
by Samuel D. Hunter

Dec. 3, 2015 – Jan. 31, 2016
Wyly Theatre • Studio Theatre

Meet Jake, a descendant of the explorer William Clark, who has recently been diagnosed with Huntington's disease; and Chris, who is searching for a way to use his degree in Post-Colonial Gender Studies to make a discernible contribution to society. Against the backdrop of an increasingly corporatized and dehumanized American West, these two young men attempt to join together to forge ahead into an uncertain future. Leavened with humor and compassion, *Clarkston* juxtaposes day-to-day existence with historical allusions and larger themes of faith and doubt. Written by 2014 MacArthur Foundation Fellow Samuel D. Hunter, one of the most provocative new voices in American theater, *Clarkston* continues DTC's commitment to bringing the nation's most exciting writers to Dallas.

ROMEO and JULIET
by William Shakespeare
Directed by Joel Ferrell

Jan. 27 – Feb. 28, 2016
Kalita Humphreys Theater

From Joel Ferrell, the director behind DTC's 2014 blockbuster hit *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Romeo and Juliet* bursts breathlessly to life as the Bard's immortal tale of impetuous young lovers and the senseless hatred that poisons their hope asks the question: can any generation escape the sins of the fathers? This sleek, sexy new production immerses you in the emotional chaos of two innocent teens fighting desperately to choose their own destiny.

ALL THE WAY
by Robert Schenkan
Directed by Kevin Moriarty

March 3 – March 27, 2016
Wyly Theatre

A co-production with Alley Theatre Winner of the 2014 Tony Award®, this suspenseful Texas-sized new play about one of the most powerful Texans, takes us from the earliest moments of Lyndon B. Johnson's accidental presidency to his hard-won landslide election one year later. The resident acting companies of Dallas Theater Center and Houston's Tony Award®-winning Alley Theatre join together to create this monumental play, which will be performed in both cities. Robert Schenkan's masterful script paints a gripping portrayal of LBJ, civil rights hero, ruthless bully, and perhaps one of our greatest legislative presidents. With a title harkening back to the slogan for his 1964 campaign, *All the Way* is a searing and enthralling dramatization that explores political gridlock, strong-arm manipulation, and the morality of politics and power. *Contains adult language.*

DEFERRED ACTION
by David Lozano and Lee Trull
Directed by David Lozano

April 20 – May 15, 2016
Wyly Theatre

A co-production with Cara Mía Theatre Co. The world premiere of DTC's collaboration with Cara Mía Theatre Co., *Deferred Action* focuses on Javier Mejía, one of the immigrants known as Dreamers who arrived in the USA as an undocumented minor. Now, after years in the States, he finds himself caught in the tangle of existing immigration laws, new presidential policies and the harsh reality of living in the shadows. Javier hopes that temporary administrative mechanisms like Deferred Action will be the answer to his dilemma. But will hope be snatched away? Can politicians who say they are the Dreamers' friends be trusted? *Deferred Action* follows the lives, loopholes, and dangers of those who dare to dream.

DREAMGIRLS
Book and Lyrics by Tom Eyer
Music by Henry Krieger
Directed by Joel Ferrell

June 10 – July 24, 2016
Wyly Theatre

Tony@s, Oscars, Grammys ... this modern-day classic sparkles with almost as many awards and accolades as its costumes have sequins. Take a trip back to the seminal music scene of the 1960s, when young women sang their way to musical prominence in a man's world. Set in the Motown era that brought us powerhouse voices like Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross—and ultimately Destiny's Child and Beyoncé—*Dreamgirls* explodes from the stage with legendary songs and timeless appeal.