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DALLAS THEATER CENTER Announces 2014-2015 Season

DALLAS (April 8, 2014) – Dallas Theater Center Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty announced today the theater's 2014-2015 season, which will take place at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center and the Kalita Humphreys Theater on Turtle Creek. DTC's 2014-2015 season will expand from its current seven productions to nine total productions next season. In addition to popular musicals, comedies and dramas, DTC is producing two world premieres and launching a new multi-year classical theater initiative.

"Our 2014-2015 season will make use of DTC's two incredible theatrical homes, both designed by award-winning architects – the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center and our historic home, the Kalita Humphreys Theater. These spaces will be filled with our most expansive season yet," says Moriarty. "Audiences will see nationally recognized actors, such as 2014 Academy Award®-nominee June Squibb, on stage alongside DTC's own Brierley Resident Acting Company, and our artistic collaborations will range from DTC Playwright-in-Residence and SMU Meadows Prize recipient Will Power to the masterful choreographer, Bruce Wood. It is truly a season designed to awe and inspire."

DTC's seven-play subscription series includes an immersive production of the gender-bending rock and roll classic, **The Rocky Horror Show**; **Driving Miss Daisy**, featuring master actress June Squibb; **Sense and Sensibility**, Jane Austen's classic romantic novel brought to life on stage; the world premiere musical **Stagger Lee**, written by DTC Playwright-in-Residence Will Power and Justin Ellington; **Colossal**, a new play by Andrew Hinderaker that will see the Wyly Theatre transformed into a football field; **The Book Club Play**, a regional premiere of a romantic comedy about books and the people who love them; and Moliere's sparkling comedy **The School for Wives**, which launches DTC's multi-year Classical Theater initiative.

As the second production in its Classical Theater initiative, DTC will also offer a limited engagement run of Euripides' classic Greek tragedy, **Medea**, in rep with **The School for Wives**. Plus, the Holiday Extra **A Christmas Carol** is back after last-year's sold-out run at the Wyly.

The full season will be presented as follows: in the Potter Rose Performance Hall at the Wyly Theatre **The Rocky Horror Show** (Sept. 11 – Oct. 19); at the Kalita Humphreys Theater **Driving Miss Daisy** (Oct. 16 – Nov. 16); at the Wyly **A Christmas Carol** (Nov. 25 – Dec. 27); at the Kalita **The Book Club Play** (Jan. 1 – Feb. 1); at the Wyly **Stagger Lee** (Jan. 21 – Feb. 15); at the Kalita **The School for Wives** (Feb. 20 – March 29) in rotating repertory with **Medea** (Feb. 19 – March 29) in Down Center Stage at the Kalita; at the Wyly **Colossal** (April 2 – May 3); and at the Kalita **Sense and Sensibility** (April 23 – May 24).

The Rocky Horror Show, with book, music and lyrics by Richard O'Brien, kicks off DTC's 2014-2015 season in cult-classic style, directed and choreographed by Joel Ferrell (director of DTC's *Cabaret*). This outrageous rock musical, complete with transvestites, mad scientists and monsters, premiered on Broadway more than 40 years ago and now Dallas audiences can see it live on stage at the Wyly Theatre. Grab your popcorn and get ready to do the Time Warp!

Recent Academy Award®-nominee June Squibb returns to the DTC stage for the first time since her critically-acclaimed role in *Dividing the Estate* in **Driving Miss Daisy**, directed by Joel Ferrell. This Pulitzer Prize®-winning play by Alfred Uhry follows the relationship of an elderly Southern Jewish woman and her African-American chauffeur from one of suspicion and mistrust to friendship and respect.

Jane Austen's romantic **Sense and Sensibility** brings the Dashwood sisters to the Kalita in a play about the delicate dance between love and heartbreak. Adapted by Jon Jory and directed by Sarah Rasmussen, the production will appeal to Austen aficionados of all ages.

Dallas audiences will be the first to see the world premiere musical **Stagger Lee**, by DTC's Playwright-in-Residence Will Power and Justin Ellington, directed by Patricia McGregor, with music supervision by Daryl Waters. It reboots the legendary tales of Stagger Lee, Frankie and Johnny, and Long Lost John with an original score that celebrates the history of African-American music throughout the 20th century. **Stagger Lee** was developed in collaboration with The Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas as a part of Will Power's Meadows Prize residency.

Colossal will put audiences on the fifty yard line in the Wyly in this new play by University of Texas graduate Andrew Hinderaker, directed by Kevin Moriarty. **Colossal**, an intimate and epic story about the nation's most popular sport, will feature a bold and never-before-seen new configuration in the Wyly Theatre's Potter Rose Performance Hall, a drum line and full-contact choreography by Bruce Wood. **Colossal** is being produced as a rolling world premiere by Olney Theatre Center (Maryland), Mixed Blood Theatre (Minneapolis), Dallas Theater Center (Texas) and Southern Rep (Louisiana) as part of the National New Play Network's Continued Life Program.

Next season, DTC launches a Classical Theater initiative, featuring masterpieces of theatrical literature from around the world, with **The School for Wives**. Molière's hilarious 18th century play is directed by Kevin Moriarty. Filled with scheming and young love, it tells the story of Arnolphe and his attempt to woo a much younger perfect bride and keep her admirer out of the picture. **The School for Wives** is performed in rotating rep with **Medea**, also directed by Moriarty and featuring DTC Company Member Sally Nystuen Vahle in the title role. Euripides' tale of betrayal and vengeance, written in the 5th century BCE, will take audiences into the Kaltia's Down Center Stage basement performance space for the first time in more than 30 years.

In **The Book Club Play** by Karen Zacarias, directed by Meredith McDonough, Ana has the perfect life with an adoring husband and regular meetings with her book club. But add to the mix a documentary film crew, a problem-causing new member and a few provocative titles, and Ana's perfect-life-scenario gets thrown for a loop. **The Book Club Play** is about life, love, literature and the crazy things we do when we're being filmed.

After last year's sold-out run, the Holiday Extra **A Christmas Carol** returns to the Wyly Theatre. Chamblee Ferguson plays everybody's favorite humbug, Ebenezer Scrooge, in this brand new adaptation by Kevin Moriarty, directed by Lee Trull and choreographed by Jeremy Dumont. **A Christmas Carol** is a magical story filled with holiday cheer, magical ghosts and lots of snow!

Full season subscriptions are on sale now 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** and **Medea** 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 2014-2015. **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: American Airlines; Chase; Lexus; Texas Instruments and WFAA.

2014-2015 Season Lineup

Production information subject to change

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Book, Music and Lyrics by RICHARD O'BRIEN
Directed and Choreographed by JOEL FERRELL

Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre

Let's do the Time Warp again! Four decades after its Broadway premiere, *The Rocky Horror Show* is back with delicious, gender-bending abandon! With Joel Ferrell at the helm (remember *Cabaret*, anyone?) this all-new production promises a wickedly wayward evening that demands you check your old-fashioned assumptions about how we can shape ourselves at the door. Complete with sweet alien transvestites, killer rock music and outrageous humor, don't miss this night at the Annual Transylvanian Convention, where boys will be girls, and girls will be boys... we dare you to figure out which is which.

Sept. 11 – Oct. 19
Press Opening Sept. 19

DRIVING MISS DAISY

By ALFRED UHRY
Directed by JOEL FERRELL

Kalita Humphreys Theater

Told through vignettes detailing the shift in Southern racial attitudes between 1948 and 1973, *Driving Miss Daisy* chronicles the decades-long relationship between a stubborn, Southern matriarch and her proud, African-American chauffeur who journey from suspicion and mistrust to respect and affection in this Pulitzer Prize-winning play. DTC welcomes back 2014 Academy Award®-nominee June Squibb (last seen in *Dividing the Estate*) as the indomitable Miss Daisy in this iconic tale of the transformative power of friendship that will warm your heart.

Oct. 16 – Nov. 16
Press Opening Oct. 24

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (HOLIDAY EXTRA)

By CHARLES DICKENS
Adapted by KEVIN MORIARTY
Directed by LEE TRULL

Choreographed by JEREMY DUMONT

Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre

'Tis the season to be jolly, when last season's sold-out, family-favorite, holiday production of *A Christmas Carol* returns to the Wylie Theatre. In this delightfully re-imagined take on Dickens' enduring classic, featuring Chamblee Ferguson as Ebenezer Scrooge, the audience is surrounded by the actors, with magical ghosts flying above, scary ghosts bursting out of the floor, and snow falling on everyone. Full of traditional Christmas hymns and songs in fresh, toe-tapping musical arrangements, joyful bursts of choreography, and eye-popping special effects, *A Christmas Carol* is Dallas' newest "must-see" holiday tradition. (Last year 26 performances were sold-out! But subscribers can buy tickets BEFORE they go on sale to general public—guaranteeing the best seats at the best prices—and avoiding being shut out of sold-out performances.)

Nov. 25 – Dec. 27
Press Opening Dec. 3

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

By KAREN ZACARÍAS
Directed by MEREDITH MCDONOUGH

Kalita Humphreys Theater

Loads of laughter and literature collide in this smart comedy about books and the people who love them. Ana lives in a letter-perfect world with an adoring husband, the perfect job, and her greatest passion: book club. But when her book club becomes the subject of a film documentary their discussions about life and literature take a hilarious turn. Add a club-crashing newcomer along with some provocative book titles and the club's long-intertwined group dynamics begin to unravel as the friends start to read between the lines.

Jan. 1 – Feb. 1
Press Opening Jan. 9

STAGGER LEE

Book and Lyrics by WILL POWER
Music by WILL POWER and JUSTIN ELLINGTON
Directed by PATRICIA MCGREGOR
Music Supervision by DARYL WATERS

Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre

A highlight this season is the world premiere of *Stagger Lee*, a musical that takes its title from the century-old folk song that became a Number One R&B hit for Lloyd Price in 1959. The story spans the 20th Century, tracing mythical characters in their quest to achieve the American Dream. The deep-seated themes of racism and the raw power of human will are sure to give you chills. And the music—from Joplin-inspired tunes to R&B and hip-hop—will definitely get your feet moving.

Stagger Lee was partially developed in workshops in collaboration with The Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas as a part of Will Power's Meadows Prize residency.

Jan. 21 – Feb. 15

Press Opening Jan. 30

THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES

By MOLIÉRE
Directed by KEVIN MORIARTY

Kalita Humphreys Theater

DTC launches a new multi-year Classical Theater initiative with this sublime comedy, in a high-energy production directed by Kevin Moriarty. Combining Molière's razor-sharp observations about love, marriage and desire with hilarious physical comedy and joyful contemporary music, *The School For Wives* tells the story of Arnolphe, who believes he has shrewdly concocted the perfect plan to woo a much younger woman to be his wife. (SPOILER ALERT: Arnolphe isn't all that shrewd). As his plan goes horribly wrong and the complications add up, this fast-paced French farce will keep you on the edge of your seat, wondering what you may have missed while you were rolling in the aisle laughing.

Feb. 20 – March 29

Press Opening March 1

MEDEA (LIMITED ENGAGEMENT)

By EURIPIDES
Directed by KEVIN MORIARTY

Kalita Humphreys Theater – Down Center Stage

The second production in DTC's Classical Theater initiative, *Medea* is a 2500-year-old classic that still resonates today with its modern-day complexities of power, marriage, families and politics. Produced in Down Center Stage, the intimate basement theater space carved out of the Kalita Humphreys Theater, *Medea* will plunge the audience into the midst of an intense domestic dispute that quickly accelerates to its horrifying climax of violence, revenge and mutual destruction. With emotionally honest acting and a starkly beautiful, poetic text, *Medea* will be an unforgettable theatrical experience.

Feb. 19 – March 29

Press Opening March 1

COLOSSAL

By ANDREW HINDERAKER
Directed by KEVIN MORIARTY

Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre

Winner of the Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award, *Colossal* is an epic theatrical event. With the flexible Wylie Theatre transformed into a football field, director Kevin Moriarty and acclaimed choreographer Bruce Wood will create an intensely physical production of this spectacular and deeply moving new play. Featuring full contact choreography and a drumline, the play centers on a University of Texas football player, struggling to move forward in the wake of a catastrophic spinal injury. A play about love, ability, and extraordinary feats of strength, *Colossal* is both a celebration and critical examination of our nation's most popular form of theater.

April 2 – May 3

Press Opening April 10

Colossal is being produced as a rolling world premiere by Olney Theatre Center (Maryland), Mixed Blood Theatre (Minneapolis), Dallas Theater Center (Texas) and Southern Rep (Louisiana) as part of the National New Play Network's Continued Life Program.

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Adapted by JON JORY
Based on the novel by JANE AUSTEN
Directed by SARAH RASMUSSEN

Kalita Humphreys Theater

Scandalous secrets, shocking betrayals, dashing suitors and devious rivals are brought to glorious life in a period-perfect adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel. At the emotional heart of this classic romantic comedy are the marital hopes, unpredictable misadventures and sincere, sisterly bonds of Elinor and Marianne Dashwood. Will Elinor's common sense or Marianne's impulsive passion be the key to marriage and happiness? Come experience the production that is certain to become an instant treasure for Austen aficionados of all ages.

April 23 – May 24

Press Opening May 1