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Public Works Dallas Announces New Summer Showcase

DALLAS (April 6, 2021) - Dallas Theater Center, the 2017 recipient of the Regional Theatre Tony Award®, proudly announces Public Works Dallas first theatrical film *A Little Less Lonely!* It will be presented starting in August.

For the first time, the community got to vote on the title for the production. Five title choices were presented on social media and fans were asked to pick their favorite. After a week of voting, *A Little Less Lonely* came out on top.

"We are so excited about this opportunity for our community. When we made the difficult decision to not proceed with our large-scale pageant production this summer, due to health and safety protocols, we still wanted to find a way to engage with our community. This filmed theatrical experience will be a beautiful offering to our Dallas Theater Center patrons and broader communities and the Public Works Dallas community will have so much ownership over the work. We are so grateful to the talented artists, our partners and participants who are joining us in this very new journey," said Stephanie Cleghorn Jasso, Associate Director of Public Works Dallas, Dallas Theater Center. She along with Kevin Moriarty (Enloe/Rose Artistic Director), Brandi Giles, (*A Little Less Lonely* Producer), María Calderón (Public Works Dallas Coordinator) and Asher Ross (Public Works Dallas Community Liaison) will be leading the showcase efforts.

"I'm so proud of how Public Works Dallas has bloomed during this challenging time. This is another example of their resilience and innovation," said Kevin Moriarty, Enloe/Rose Artistic Director, Dallas Theater Center. "This production will use elements from different people in different locations using different mediums to create a beautiful tapestry. This is a wonderful way to celebrate our differences while sharing common experience."

Instead of their annual summer pageant production, Dallas Theater Center and their Public Works Dallas partners, Bachman Lake Together, City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department, and Jubilee Park & Community Center, will be producing a filmed theatrical experience. In addition to asking the community to vote on the title and highlighting 3 of the 5 Public Works Dallas community partner sites, the production will use acting talent from the community, and the story was based on inspirations from these communities.

Tatyana-Marie Carlo will direct the exciting new production. She will direct primarily from her home in Rhode Island, although she will be in Dallas for filming and technical rehearsal. The production will

incorporate filmed Zoom elements in addition to segments filmed in person. Carlo also hopes to make the show bilingual, incorporating both English and Spanish, throughout. She hopes audiences will watch it and see themselves.

“I want this show to be accessible to as many people as possible. We’re working with people from a variety of cultural backgrounds, ages, and gender identities with so many different stories. We want the production to really reflect the Dallas community,” said Tatyana-Marie Carlo, Director of Public Works Dallas summer showcase.

Public Works Dallas will also continue their partnership with SMU Meadows School of the Arts and Ignite/Arts Dallas which allows Dallas Theater Center to hire student fellows to work on this production. Although the Public Works Dallas Artists aren’t directly involved in the showcase, Brandi Giles, Ivan Jasso, and Tiffany Solano worked tirelessly with community members to build the foundation and skills for the showcase. To learn more about the contest or Public Works Dallas go to <https://www.dallastheatercenter.org/public-works-dallas/>.

ABOUT DALLAS THEATER CENTER:

One of the leading regional theaters in the country and the 2017 Regional Theatre Tony Award® Recipient, Dallas Theater Center (Dallas Theater Center) performs to an audience of more than 100,000 North Texas residents annually. Founded in 1959, Dallas Theater Center 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. Dallas Theater Center is one of only two theaters in Texas that is a member of the League of Resident Theatres, the largest and most prestigious non-profit professional theater association in the country. Under the leadership of Enloe/Rose Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty and Managing Director Jeffrey Woodward, Dallas Theater Center produces a six-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, 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 many community collaborations. In 2017, in collaboration with SMU Meadows, Dallas Theater Center launched Public Works Dallas, a groundbreaking community engagement and participatory theater project designed to deliberately blur the line between professional artists and community members, culminating in an annual production featuring more than 200 Dallas citizens performing a Shakespeare play. Throughout its history, Dallas Theater Center 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 *Miller, Mississippi* by Boo Killebrew; *Stagger Lee* by Will Power; *Hood: The Robin Hood Musical Adventure* by Douglas Carter Beane and Lewis Flinn; *Bella: An American Tall Tale* by Kirsten Childs; *penny candy* by Jonathan Noron; *Clarkston* by Samuel D. Hunter and *Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical* by Robert Horn, Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally. Dallas Theater Center gratefully acknowledges the support of our season sponsors: Texas Instruments and Texas Instruments Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, Lexus, TACA, and Texas Commission on the Arts.

Commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: At Dallas Theater Center, all are welcome. We want to be the best place to work and see theater, and to be a positive and transformational force in Dallas and beyond. We stand-up for equity, diversity, and inclusion across our company and community. As a leading national theater, we recognize that building an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment is central to our relevance and sustainability in the community we serve and love. We acknowledge the land upon which this production was filmed as the ancestral home of many Indigenous Peoples including the Caddo, Wichita, Tawakoni and Kiikaapoi, as well as the tribes that may have lived here and roamed the area including Comanche, Kiowa and Apache and those indigenous people whose names we don’t know anymore. We honor, revere and respect those who were stewards of this land long before we made it our home. We also acknowledge the neighborhood we inhabit as one of the original Freedman’s towns of Dallas built by those who were enslaved by European colonization.

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