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HSRT announces season that includes a World Premiere

HOLLAND – Hope Summer Repertory Theatre (HSRT) announces what is sure to be an incredible 36<sup>th</sup> season, filled with laughter, drama, and music. Equity guest artists join a company of over 100 to create five productions in four different venues, and two children's shows performed by the Children's Performance Troupe. The season runs from June 15<sup>th</sup> to August 11<sup>th</sup> and will be performed in a rotating, repertory format.

The season opens at 8:00pm on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> with “Godspell,” one of the biggest off-Broadway and Broadway successes of all time. The show is to be performed in HSRT's newest (and Holland's most venerable) theatre, The Knickerbocker. Based on the Gospel according to Matthew, “Godspell” features Jesus' messages of love, generosity, joy, and faith, presented in a rockin', rollin', and riveting format. The show continues throughout the summer with performances at 8:00pm on June 16, 21, 26, 28, 30; July 5, 23, 25; August 1, 4, 6, 9, and a matinee performance at 2:00pm on July 26.

A week later, HSRT takes a trip to the doctor's office with the help of the hilarious play, “The Hypochondriac”. Opening at 8:00pm on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, in the DeWitt Theatre, this World-Premiere play is a modern adaptation of Moliere's last play, “The Imaginary Invalid.” “The Hypochondriac” takes you on a wild ride with a father who considers marrying his daughter off to a physician, in exchange for a lifetime of free

medical treatment. Full of foolery and hilarity, this play is sure to have you rolling in the aisles. The show continues with performances at 8:00pm on June 23, 27, 29; July 7, 10, 11, 12, and 18.

Love is in the air for HSRT as the company opens their third show of the season, “She Loves Me.” Starting at 8:00pm on Friday, July 13th, in the DeWitt Theatre, this show promises to be one of the sweetest and most beautiful musicals HSRT has ever done (last mounted in 1986). Following the lives of two store clerks who loathe each other face to face, we find that each secretly finds solace in an anonymous pen pal—neither actually aware that they are writing romantic letters to each other. From the songwriting team behind “Fiddler on the Roof,” the score provides an evening of sheer entertainment that is sure to leave you whistling a tune with a smile on your face. The show continues with performances at 8:00pm on July 14, 17, 19, 24, 27, 30; August 3, 7, and 11.

The Tony Awards make an appearance with HSRT this summer as the 1991 winner for Best Play takes center stage in the DeWitt Theatre starting at 8:00pm on July 20th. “Lost in Yonkers,” often called Neil Simon's best play, follows the story of two young boys forced to live with their stern grandmother and challenged aunt when their father must travel to make money. But it isn't until their Uncle Louie ( a real "Wiseguy") makes a surprise appearance, that all the tangled family relationships and secrets are brought to a dramatic and illuminating culmination. The heart of this play explores the ability to find one's own way through the tangled webs of family relationships, without

losing a sense of self. The show continues with performances at 8:00pm on July 21, 26, 28, 31; August 2, 8, 10.

“A Night of Cowboy Madness” sweeps the stage of Till Midnight as HSRT’s ever popular cabaret show returns! Compiled by Fred Tessler, this cabaret show promises to bring a night full of great entertainment, great food, and a great night out. Make sure to add this to your list of HSRT must sees! Food and Drinks available. The show will be performed at 8:30pm on July 6, 7, 10, 12, 18, 26, 31 and August 2.

Throughout the summer, HSRT will also be featuring two children's shows performed by the Children's Performance Troupe: “Junie B. Jones and A Little Monkey Business,” and “Go, Dog. Go!”

“Junie B. Jones” will be performed at 10:30am on June 20, 25, 27; July 9, 25, 30; August 3 and 8, and at 1:30pm on July 23, 27; August 1, 6, and 10.

“Go, Dog. Go!” will be performed at 10:30am on July 18, 23, 27; August 1, 6, and 10, and at 1:30pm on July 25, 30; August 3 and 8.

Tickets go on sale at the DeVos Fieldhouse ticket office on Tuesday, May 1. Prices range from \$8-\$26 for musicals, and \$8-\$18 for plays. Season coupons, ranging from \$48-\$85, are also available. The DeWitt ticket office will open on Monday, May 21 and tickets can be purchased throughout the summer at both the DeWitt and DeVos

Ticket office locations.

The ticket office is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. On performance dates, the DeWitt Ticket Office will be open through intermission.

The DeVos Fieldhouse is located at 222 Fairbanks Ave. between Ninth and 11th streets. The DeWitt Center is located at 141 E. 12th St., at Columbia Avenue and 12th Street. For tickets or information call the ticket office at 616-395-7890 or visit the new HSRT website at [www.hope.edu/hsrt](http://www.hope.edu/hsrt).