



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BERKELEY PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES THE 2014-2015 MAINSTAGE SEASON

Berkeley, CA (April 23, 2014) – **Berkeley Playhouse** at the Julia Morgan Theater proudly announces their seventh season. The season of family-friendly musicals opens in November with everyone's favorite magical nanny, **MARY POPPINS** directed by Kimberly Dooley. The second production opening in late February will be the heartwarming comedy based on the *Peanuts* comic strip, **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN** (director to be announced). Following in the spring is the fun and colorful, **HAIRSPRAY** directed by Kimberly Dooley. Closing the season in the summer is the classic, **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** directed by Jon Tracy. In addition to these MainStage productions, Berkeley Playhouse will also present several fully-produced youth only (YouthStage) productions that will be performed on stage.

The 2014-2015 season will be presented at the Julia Morgan Theater located at 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Season Passes (\$74-\$99) are now available for purchase. Single tickets (\$17-60). for most shows will go on sale in August. For ticket information, the public may visit www.berkeleyplayhouse.org or call **(510) 845-8542 x351**.

THE 2014-15 SEASON IS AS FOLLOWS:

MARY POPPINS

Based on the books by **P.L. Travers** and the Disney film

Music and Lyrics by **Richard M. Sherman & Robert B. Sherman**, Book by **Julian Fellowes**

Directed by Kimberly Dooley

November 1–December 7, 2014

Opening/Press opening: November 1 (Previews: October 30 and November 1)

Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the 1964 Disney film, **MARY POPPINS** is simply supercalifragicexpialidocious! Set in 1910 England, young troublemakers Jane and Michael Banks have duped their way through so many nannies! However, when Mary Poppins suddenly arrives at their door, the Banks family learns-through magic and wonder-how to value each other again. Including a score filled with timeless classics such as "Feed the Birds," "Jolly Holiday," "Step in Time," and the Academy Award-winning "Chim-Chim Cher-ee".



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YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

Based on the Comic Strip "Peanuts" by **Charles M. Schulz**

Book, Music and Lyrics by **Clark Gesner**

Directed by TBA

February 21–March 15, 2015

Opening/Press opening: February 21 (Previews: February 19 and 21)

Fun, laughter and sincerity build the mood-but what else would you expect from the "Peanuts" palls!? So join the gang in this fast paced, lighthearted musical, guaranteed to please audiences of all ages! Musical numbers include "My Blanket and Me," "The Baseball Game," "Little Known Facts," and "Supertime and Happiness."

HAIRSPRAY

Based on the New Line Cinema film

Music by **Marc Shaiman**, Lyrics by **Marc Shaiman & Scott Wittman**

Book by **Mark O'Donnell & Thomas Meehan**

Directed by Kimberly Dooley

April 25–May 17, 2015

Opening/Press opening: April 25 (Previews: April 23 and 25)

The winner of 8 Tony Awards including Best Musical, is a family-friendly musical with laughter, romance, and deliriously tuneful songs. It's plus-sized teen Tracy Turnbald time to shine when she suddenly becomes a dance superstar on the popular Corny Collins Show! Not dissuaded by fame, and with morals as high as her bouffant, Tracy uses her new star power to fix the personal and social plights affecting 1962 Baltimore. Loaded with energetic and infectious songs including "Good Morning Baltimore," and "You Can't Stop The Beat!"

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Based on stories by Sholem Aleichem

Music by **Jerry Bock**, Book by **Joseph Stein**, Lyrics by **Sheldon Harnick**

Directed by Jon Tracy

June 27–August 2, 2015

Opening/Press opening: June 20 (Previews: June 25 and 27)

Stability and tradition are essential to the people of Anatevka, a small, Jewish village in Czarist Russia until a shifting social climate and religious animosity affect Tevye's family. As a poor, dairyman and father of five daughters, FIDDLER OF THE ROOF follows Tevye's internal conflict of balancing deep-rooted traditions and accepting that life can be as shaky as a fiddler on a roof. Featuring the songs "Sunrise, Sunset," "If I Were A Rich Man," and "Matchmaker."



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YOUTHSTAGE PRODUCTIONS:

Berkeley Playhouse believes that kids and teens have the ability to command their own audiences. The company's acclaimed YouthStage gives talented students the opportunity to participate in full-scale youth-only productions of the highest quality with some of the best professional directors, choreographers, and designers in the Bay Area. Cast members of YouthStage productions receive ongoing training in acting, voice, and movement. Winter, spring, and summer YouthStage productions TBA.

ABOUT BERKELEY PLAYHOUSE:

Berkeley Playhouse was founded in 2007 by professional theatre actor, director, and teacher for over 25 years Elizabeth McKoy. Along Producing Director Daren A.C. Carollo and Managing Director Lauren Hewitt, Artistic Director McKoy has developed Berkeley Playhouse into a professional musical theatre providing children and families a unique and sophisticated experience. Berkeley Playhouse offers a range of skill and performance classes for ages 3–17 through several after-school and school break educational programs. In 2009, Berkeley Playhouse made the historic Julia Morgan Theater its permanent home.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

Berkeley Playhouse proudly announces the lineup for its seventh season. **MARY POPPINS** will open the season, followed by **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN**. **HAIRSPRAY** will continue the season in the spring and **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** will conclude the season in the summer. In addition to the MainStage season, the company will present winter, spring, and fall YouthStage productions. The entire 2014-15 season will be staged at the Julia Morgan Theater in Berkeley.

DATES:

Disney's MARY POPPINS

Directed by Kimberly Dooley

November 1–December 7, 2014

Opening/Press opening: November 1 (Previews: October 30 and November 1)

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

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TICKETS:

For Season Passes (\$74-\$99), single tickets (\$17-\$60), or more information, the public may visit www.berkeleyplayhouse.org or call **(510) 845-8542 x351**. Group rates available for 10 or more people.

Berkeley Playhouse gratefully acknowledges the following for their support: The Alameda County Arts Commission, City of Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, Extreme Pizza, The Imagination Foundation, and individual donors.

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