



advancing theatre, enlivening culture

NEWS RELEASE CALENDAR LISTING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STAGES SWINGS INTO SUMMER WITH IRRESTIBLE ROMP *THE ANDREWS BROTHERS*

Toe-tapping jukebox musical revives timeless harmonies of the Greatest Generation

Houston, TX – Stages Repertory Theatre escapes to the South Pacific this summer with Roger Bean’s new hit musical *The Andrews Brothers*, a lively romp packed with romance, slapstick antics, and toe-tapping tunes guaranteed to have audiences humming long after they leave the theatre. Powerhouse director Leslie Swackhamer (*Rabbit Hole*, *Lady*, *Amy’s View*) brings her extensive opera and musical background to bear, offering Stages audiences a glimpse of her lighter side, while musical theatre favorites Holland Vavra (*The Great American Trailer Park Musical*), Charles Swan (*Altar Boyz*) and Casey Burden (*I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*) join Stages newcomer Ross Chitwood in the dynamic cast. Noted dancer and choreographer Krissy Richmond, a former Houston Ballet principal with extensive Broadway credits, joins the team as choreographer. *The Andrews Brothers* runs Stages’ Yeager Theatre July 15 – August 30, 2009.

“*The Andrews Brothers* is a sheer delight—unadulterated silly, innocent 1940’s fun,” Stages Producing Artistic Director Kenn McLaughlin said. “We have a top-drawer cast, and the four of them sound amazing together on the tight harmonies. The choreography is fantastic and the cast lights up the stage with their brilliant comedic chemistry. The joy of this show is infectious and irresistible!”

The Andrews Brothers takes us back to 1943 in the South Pacific, with the Andrews Sisters scheduled headline the big USO show. But when a case of the chickenpox quarantines the girls, intrepid stagehands Max, Lawrence and Patrick, along with pin-up girl Peggy Jones, cook up the perfect way to wow the troops and save the day—all it will take is three wigs and a lot of makeup! Mistaken identities, unrequited love and madcap antics abound in this warm-hearted sendup of the entertainment that sustained the Greatest Generation. Favorite musical hits include *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B*, *Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree*, *Mairzy Doats*, *Beat Me Daddy*, *Eight to the Bar*, *Bei Mir Bist Du Schön*, and many others.

The musical premiered to enthusiastic crowds at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre in 2005 and garnered rave reviews at Musical Theatre West in 2008. The Los Angeles Times gushed, “...no-holds-barred slapstick goofiness...an entertaining, crowd-pleasing jukebox musical! RECOMMENDED!” and BackStage West said “The slapstick antics... elevate the piece beyond a nostalgic songfest. The zany plot is vintage *I Love Lucy*, with a touch of *Some Like it Hot*.”

Stages Repertory Theatre

Characterized by courage, generosity, ingenuity, and intimacy, Stages Repertory Theatre advances theatre and enlivens culture by producing new work, interpreting established work in new ways, and nurturing talent for the performing arts field. In addition to its MainStage season of plays, Stages presents the EarlyStages series, introducing young audiences to the power and magic of live theatre. Stages also offers a range of additional education and outreach programs that encourage conversation about important ideas and issues, provide insight into other cultures and viewpoints, and help develop each new generation of citizens, artists and audiences. Now entering its 31st season, Stages is a member of the Fresh Arts Coalition and a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theatres. Stages operates under an agreement with Actor's Equity Association (AEA), the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

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STAGES REPERTORY THEATRE FACT SHEET

MAINSTAGE: THE ANDREWS BROTHERS
By Roger Bean

DIRECTOR: Leslie Swackheimer

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Steven Jones

CHOREOGRAPHER: Krissy Richmond

CAST:

<i>Peggy Jones</i>	Holland Vavra
<i>Max Andrews</i>	Charles Swan
<i>Lawrence Andrews</i>	Casey Burden
<i>Patrick Andrews</i>	Ross Chitwood

PRODUCTION:

<i>Scenic Design</i>	Liz Freese
<i>Lighting Design</i>	Jeremy Choate
<i>Sound Design</i>	Andrew Harper
<i>Costume Design</i>	Tiffani Fuller
<i>Properties Master</i>	Jodi Bobrovsky
<i>Production Stage Manager</i>	Karen Mata
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Eva de la Cruz

DATES:

Previews:	Wednesday, July 15, and Thursday, July 16
Opening:	Friday, July 17
Close:	Sunday, August 30

TIMES:

Wednesday and Thursday:	7:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday:	8:00 p.m.
Sunday:	3:00 p.m.

TICKETS:

Regular:	\$30
Subscribers and Groups:	\$25

DISCOUNTS:

Students:	\$15 advance, \$12 day of show with ID in person
Seniors:	\$25

BOX OFFICE: **713.527.0123**
Tickets available online at www.stagetheatre.com
Stages is located 3201 Allen Parkway one block west of Waugh Drive