



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Put on a Happy Face” at the Fine Arts Center’s next mainstage production, Bye Bye Birdie!

COLORADO SPRINGS (Feb. 27, 2017) — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) is excited to present *Bye Bye Birdie*, the first rock ‘n’ roll musical, to the FAC mainstage March 30-April 23. Directed and choreographed by Nathan Halvorson, *Bye Bye Birdie* remains as fresh and vibrant as ever.

This modern classic takes the stage in an all-new production. It’s the late 1950’s and teenagers from across the United States are going crazy for handsome rock star, Conrad Birdie. Disaster strikes when Conrad receives a draft notice to join the military. His manager stages a publicity stunt for Conrad to kiss one lucky fan on The Ed Sullivan Show before he leaves for the army. Conrad Birdie gets more than he bargained for when he arrives in Sweet Apple, which is reeling with excitement for his visit. Songs like *An English Teacher*, *What Did I Ever See in Him?*, *Put on a Happy Face*, *One Boy*, *A Lot of Livin’ to Do*, *Kids*, *Rosie* and *Spanish Rose* are musical theatre classics. No wonder *Birdie* won four Tony Awards and remains one of the most captivating shows of our time.

“Bye Bye Birdie is still an effervescent, toe-tapping indulgence.” – Entertainment Weekly

The cast includes Kevin Pierce, Zachary Seliquni Guzman, Scott RC Levy, Miriam Roth, Gabe Levy, Jen Lennon, Nate Ferrick, Tom Auclair, Joye Levy, Danine Schell, Tracy Hedding, Kody Maynard, Daniel Garner, Emily Gardner, Parker Fowler, Thomas Voss, Emory John Collinson, Meggan O’Mahony, and Ellie Levy.

The cast also includes current and past students of the FAC Theatre School’s Youth Repertory Ensemble (a five-week intensive training program for students ages 14-18 interested in pursuing careers in performance and/or design and technical theatre). Program graduate Alex Campbell, and current students Casey Fetters, Olivia English, Jack English, Arielle Miagkov, Rachel Daguman, Olivia Ellenwood, Emma Walker, Will Edelson, and Evan Lennon.

Bye Bye Birdie

When: March 30-April 23, 2017 | Thurs, Fri, Sat at 7:30p and Sun at 2p

Where: Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

Admission: Starting at \$20

Something else: Theatre patrons receive FREE admission to the FAC museum on the day of ticketed performance.

Even more: For the ultimate rock ‘n’ roll experience, view current exhibition, *Front Row Center: Larry Hulst* for FREE in our museum galleries – on view through May 21. Rock, blues, country, and everything in between; photographer Larry Hulst has captured some of the biggest legends of our time, live on stage.

Fine Arts Center

In 1919 the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA) was established in the former home of philanthropists Julie and Spencer Penrose. After the Great Depression hit in 1929, the BAA looked at diversifying further, expanding into an entire arts district under one roof. And that's how the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) came to be. The FAC, built in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, professional theatre company and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious BAA, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Alliance of Museums, the FAC offers the best in visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, as a TCG member theatre company, and through arts education with the FAC's Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural treasure in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. For information, visit csfineartscenter.org

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