



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The FAC presents *Androcles and the Lion*, one of the most popular children's plays ever written

Colorado Springs (February 15, 2018) — The Fine Arts Center Theatre Company is excited to present Aurand Harris' renowned adaptation of the classic Aesop's fable, *Androcles and the Lion*, directed by Meghann Henry and in performance March 2-April 1, 2018.

Refreshingly antic, this irreverent version has been produced in 20 countries and is written in the style of Italian commedia dell'arte. In commedia tradition, a group of strolling players set up their stage and give a performance. Using authentic staging and stock characters of commedia — the miserly Pantalone, the bragging Captain, the romantic lovers, the trickster Arlequin, plus an endearing lion — this fable becomes a colorful theatrical experience. The play skyrockets with zany comedy. It also glows with the warmth of friendship. *Androcles and the Lion* is a prize-winning play, applauded around the world again and again!

"...a fun, entertaining evening of theatre for young children." —Utah Theatre Bloggers Association

The cast includes Rachael Jacobs, Kody Maynard, Randy Chronister, Rachel Daguman, Alex Abundis, and Sean Verdu, with scenic design by Lara Hincapie and costume & mask design by Sarah Beth Parks.

The plays of Aurand Harris have been produced and applauded in thousands of productions around the world for nearly a half century. Harris was a prodigious dramatist, writing a new published play each season. He was a tireless experimenter of forms, themes, and subjects. This modest man of irrepressible imagination and energy carried a vast array of honors and accolades. He was the first recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship in Children's Theatre, was introduced into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre, and was the first playwright to receive the Medallion of the Children's Theatre Foundation of America.

Androcles and the Lion

When: March 2-April 1, 2018; Fri | 6 p.m.; Sat, Sun Matinées | 1 p.m.

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

Tickets: \$20 (\$18 FAC Members) \$10 kids 12 and under (this production is recommended for ages 5 and up)

Something else: Delight your young emerging artist in a magical experience they won't soon forget. *Androcles and the Lion* Day Camps offer kids 6-13 a fun, hands-on experience complete with a tour of the theatre, hands-on activities, a personal meet-and-greet with the cast members, and more! Offered before each Saturday performance in the run, cost is \$20 per child.

Performance tickets to *Androcles and the Lion* are additional.

More: Meet-and-greet and photo opportunities with the cast are available following every performance.

Even more: Though the FAC's new *Passport to the Arts* program, parents with a fourth grade student(s) can register to receive one free children's ticket to *Androcles and the Lion*, a one-year family membership, discounts on select art classes, and more. Details at <https://www.csfineartscenter.org/visit/tours/passport-to-the-arts/>

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College

The story of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College (FAC) begins with the founding of the Broadmoor Art Academy by Julie and Spencer Penrose in 1919. During the Great Depression, three dedicated philanthropists – Julie Penrose, Alice Bemis Taylor, and Elizabeth Sage Hare – envisioned expanding the Broadmoor Art Academy into an entire arts district under one roof. The FAC changed its name, built a grand building, and opened as the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center in 1936. In August 2016, the FAC announced an historic alliance with Colorado College and on July 1, 2017, became the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College. The FAC is deeply rooted in the legacy of its founders, who possessed bold visions, a deep passion for the arts, and dedication to the Colorado Springs community. The FAC honors this legacy and spirit today by providing innovative, educational, and multidisciplinary arts experiences designed to elevate the individual spirit and inspire community vitality, building on its history as a unique cultural pillar of the Pikes Peak region. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu/fac

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