



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CCMT TO PRESENT THE FIVE-TIME TONY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
*ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA, THE MUSICAL***

**THE WORLD-WIDE HIT MAKES ITS EAST BAY PREMIER WITH A
LIMITED ENGAGEMENT AT WALNUT CREEK'S LESHER CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

PERFORMANCES BEGIN APRIL 12, 2019

WALNUT CREEK, March 6, 2019 — Contra Costa Musical Theatre (CCMT) concludes their 2018-19 season with *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*, the five-time Tony Award-winning musical based on the classic fantasy by Roald Dahl. Upon opening on Broadway in 2013, critics hailed the box office smash as “astonishing,” (*New York Times*), “riotous and poignant,” (*The Hollywood Reporter*), and a musical that “restores your faith in Broadway” (*New York Post*). Matilda is an extraordinary and precocious young girl, with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, whose talents are constantly belittled by her cruel parents and headmistress. Dreaming of a better life for herself, she dares to take a stand against these oppressive forces and take destiny into her own hands. A gleefully nasty and ingenious musical adaptation of Roald Dahl's beloved story, *Matilda The Musical* has won over 50 major theatrical awards world-wide, including the coveted Olivier Award for Best New Musical, Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical, and one of the few Broadway productions chosen to be honored with the Tony Award

for Excellence in Theatre. **Press night will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 8pm.** Tickets (ranging from \$44-\$59 with discounts for seniors, students, and groups) are available at the Leshar Center for the Arts Ticket Office, 1601 Civic Drive in Walnut Creek, by phone at **925.943.7469**, or online at www.LesharArtsCenter.org. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

Directing *and* choreographing a company of 30 intergenerational actors is Shellie Award-winning director Jennifer Perry, whose 2017 CCMT production of *Billy Elliot the Musical* wowed East Bay audiences and garnered rave reviews. “For all its devilish fun and fantastical elements, *Matilda* is that rare musical that speaks to different generations in different ways,” says Perry. “It captures that magical moment where young people realize they are individuals, that they have something inside them that is unique and that they have the power to make the world a better place. It empowers youth while allowing adults to reconsider what it means to be a child. I think it’s that spirit that has made this show a hit all over the world, and I can’t wait for audiences of all ages to experience this magical wonder of a musical.”

Adds Executive Producer Michael Demers, “CCMT has been committed to presenting the newest works from Broadway and beyond to East Bay audiences and we are thrilled to be closing out our season with this incredible musical work. We’ve assembled a top-notch artistic team and ensemble and know this is going to be one to remember!”

The cast of *Roald Dahl’s Matilda, The Musical* features Christopher Apy, Hannah Bachman, Lynda DiVito*, Michael Doppe*, Ella Dunderdale, Mark Farrell*, Jax Franks, Sophia Gilbert, Sean Gin, Aimee Hennessy, Ronald James, Connor Johnson, Aubri No'Eau Kahalekulu, Alyssa Kim, Kevin Lechner, Amanda Leigh, Joshua McCooey, Lindsey Meyer, Zachariah Mohammed, Alex Moore, Josselyn O'Neill Ryder, Grace Perry, Lucy Powers, Rachel Powers, Xander Raymond, Logan Schluntz, Jennifer Stark, Chanel Tilghman, Katie Turley, Keaton Wilkerson, Kennedy Williams.

Director / choreographer Jennifer Perry is joined by an award-winning artistic team, including musical director Eryn Allen, set-designer Kelly J. Tighe, lighting designer Aaron Spivey, costumer Liz Martin, and sound by Some More Sound.

About Contra Costa Musical Theatre: Based in Walnut Creek, Contra Costa Musical Theatre has a fifty-seven-year history of producing dynamic musical productions and providing a home to both local and national talent. Winner of more Shellie Awards for musicals than any other regional company, CCMT moved to the Leshner Center for the Arts in 1990, and has produced more than 50 full-scale musical productions, including the East Bay Premieres of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Urinetown, the Musical*, *The Full Monty*, *RENT*, *Titanic, the Musical*, *Hairspray*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Tarzan* and *Les Miserables*.

* appear as Guest Artists courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

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FACT SHEET FOR ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL

WHAT:

Matilda is an extraordinary and precocious young girl, with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, whose talents are constantly belittled by her cruel parents and headmistress. Dreaming of a better life for herself, she dares to take a stand against these oppressive forces and take destiny into her own hands. A gleefully nasty and ingenious musical adaptation of Roald Dahl's beloved story, *Matilda The Musical* has won over 50-major theatrical awards world-wide, including the coveted Olivier Award for Best New Musical, Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical, and one of the few Broadway productions chosen to be honored with the Tony Award for Excellence in Theatre.

WHO:

Book by Dennis Kelly

Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin

Based on the story by Roald Dahl

CAST (*in alphabetical order*):

Christopher Apy, Hannah Bachman, Lynda DiVito*, Michael Doppe*, Ella Dunderdale, Mark Farrell*, Jax Franks, Sophia Gilbert, Sean Gin, Aimee Hennessy, Ronald James, Connor Johnson, Aubri No'Eau Kahalekulu, Alyssa Kim, Kevin Lechner, Amanda Leigh, Joshua McCooey, Lindsey Meyer, Zachariah Mohammed, Alex Moore, Josselyn O'Neill Ryder, Grace Perry, Lucy Powers, Rachel Powers, Xander Raymond, Logan Schluntz, Jennifer Stark, Chanel Tilghman, Katie Turley, Keaton Wilkerson, Kennedy Williams.

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CREATIVE TEAM:

Jennifer Perry (Director and Choreographer), **Eryn Allen** (Musical Direction), **Kelly J. Tighe** (Set Designer), **Aaron Spivey** (Lighting Designer), **Liz Martin** (Costume Designer), and **Some More Sound** (Sound Design).

WHERE:

Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek, CA

WHEN:

April 12 – May 12, 2019

Press Night: Saturday April 13, 2019

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Thursdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Select Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m.

TICKETS:

\$44–\$59, including special pricing for seniors and students. Please note, *ticket prices are subject to change without notice*

TIX & INFO:

925.943.7469 | www.ccmt.org

PRESS:

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