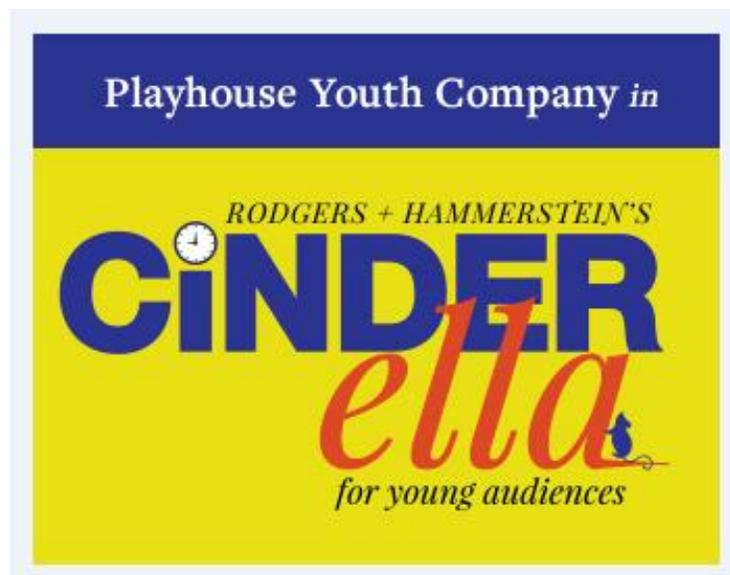


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**BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE
YOUTH COMPANY
PRESENTS "RODGERS +
HAMMERSTEIN'S
CINDERELLA FOR YOUNG
AUDIENCES"**

JULY 25 – AUGUST 4, 2018

**A unique retelling of the classic
Broadway musical
adapted by Bucks County Playhouse
Education Director, Michaela Murphy**

New Hope, PA (July 17, 2018) – The Bucks County Playhouse Youth Company will present a one-hour, family-friendly adaptation of the Broadway musical "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella" tailored especially for young audiences. The show will run July 25 – August 4, 2018, on the Bucks County Playhouse stage. The production will play the following schedule: Tuesday, July 31 at 11 a.m.; Wednesday, July 25 at 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday, August 1 at 11:00 a.m.; Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.; Friday, July 27 at 11:00 a.m. and August 3 at 10:00 a.m.; Saturdays at 11 a.m.; and Sunday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m.

"Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella for Young Audiences" is an all-new adaptation by Bucks County Playhouse Director of Education Michaela Murphy that is based on Douglas Carter Beane's script for the 2012 Broadway revival where Cinderella saves the Prince. That production was produced by Playhouse Producers Robyn Goodman, Stephen Kocis and Josh Fiedler. The Bucks County Playhouse Youth Company production is directed by Broadway and Television actress/director Kate Wetherhead (BCP's "Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Playhouse Christmas Show" and "Company") and choreographed by Patrice Soriero with music direction by Kyle Duke from an adapted score by Charles Santoro (Broadway: "School of Rock"). The creative team includes Tom Watson (Set Design), Jacob Gilbert (Lighting Design), Josh Moss (Costume Design) and Ryan Walsh (Sound Design). The production will feature an all youth orchestra.

"Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella for Young Audiences" features a cast consisting of 17 local performers ages 13-18 who are selected by audition for this conservatory-style training program. The young performers will participate in daily workshops and classes in musical theater performance, acting, dance, voice, and improvisation, while also attending guest workshops led by working theater professionals. This highly competitive program showcases and cultivates promising young artists who are preparing to audition for college theater programs and other professional theater productions

throughout the region.

“The Playhouse Youth Company’s production brings some of the most talented young and emerging artists from the region together with BCP theater professionals to create an extraordinary theatrical experience for all ages in our community,” said Michaela Murphy, Director of Education. “We are proud to offer both young artists the opportunity to perform in a professionally produced production and established artists the chance to share the benefits of their professional experience. “

Prior to the opening of the production, there will be a select number of outreach performances which are free and open to the public. These performances will consist of a handful of songs from the show and may include a short Q&A with the cast. Each outreach performance will run approximately 20 minutes.

- July 17 at 6:00 p.m. at Lambertville Library
- July 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Peddler's Village Food Truck Festival
- July 28 at approx. 4:45 p.m. in the Playhouse courtyard

Youth Company participants this year represent 12 different high schools and middle schools in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The cast includes: Devyn Costello-Henderson of Abington Friends School; Grant Nalty of Central Bucks West High School; Gianna DiBebbo of Council Rock High School South; Emmie Herman of Delaware Township School; Claire Flynn of Delran Middle School; Hayden Clarke of Lawrence Middle School; Ellie Kuhnle and Anna Shea Safran of Lenape Middle School; Olivia Andrews, Shannon Mohan and Ricky Moyer from Neshaminy High School; Riley Bultemeier and Travis Gawason of New Hope Solebury High School; Sierra Safran of Pennsylvania Leadership Charter School/Center for the Performing and Fine Arts; Olivia Frankenbach and Aiden Rice of South Hunterdon Regional High School and Hudson Orfe of Timberlane Middle School.

Tickets are \$10 for children ages 4-12, and \$15 for adults, plus fees. No children under 4 will be permitted in the theater. Single tickets to “Rodgers + Hammerstein’s Cinderella For Young Audiences” are on sale now. For full details, and to purchase tickets, please visit buckscountyplayhouse.org, call 215-862-2121, or visit the box office at 70 South Main Street, New Hope, PA. For groups of 10 or more, contact Sales Manager Kathy Pappas at kathy@bcptheater.org or 267-740-2090 x102.

The Bucks County Playhouse Youth Company is one of several education initiatives and programs offered at the Playhouse. BCP Education offers a wide variety of programs in musical theatre, playwriting, storytelling, and devised theatre for children through adults. For more information or to register for fall programs, visit buckscountyplayhouse.org.

ABOUT BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE

Bucks County Playhouse is a year-round, nonprofit theatre that has grown to a \$6 million producing organization with an annual audience of over 73,000. Founded in 1939 in a converted 1790 gristmill, Bucks County Playhouse quickly became “the most famous summer theatre in America,” featuring a roster of American theatrical royalty including Helen Hayes, George S. Kaufman, Moss Hart, Kitty Carlisle, Angela Lansbury, Alan Alda, Tyne Daly, Bernadette Peters, and Liza Minnelli and remained in continuous operation until 2010. In 2012, the Playhouse re-opened after a multi-million-dollar restoration thanks to the efforts of the Bridge Street Foundation, the nonprofit family foundation of

Kevin and Sherri Daugherty, and Broadway producer Jed Bernstein. This fall, the Playhouse will unveil a 4,000 square foot Delaware-river facing restaurant and bar expansion.

In 2014, Tony Award-winning producers Alexander Fraser and Robyn Goodman took the helm of the Playhouse, and today the Playhouse has reclaimed its reputation of attracting Broadway and Hollywood artists. Its productions of *Company* starring Justin Guarini, and William Finn's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* were named by Wall Street Journal to its "Best of Theatre" list for 2015. The 2017 season included four world premieres and audiences grew by over 34%. Box office record has been repeatedly broken by signature productions of *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *Steel Magnolias* directed by Marsha Mason, and *Guys & Dolls* directed by Hunter Foster. The creative teams who come to create new productions at the Playhouse are among the most talented artists working in the professional theatre today and relish the opportunity to work on the historic stage where Grace Kelly, Robert Redford, and Jessica Walter began their careers.