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EVERYONE’S FAVORITE MUSICAL, *ANNIE*, TO PERFORM AT HILLBARN THEATRE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

▪ NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 17, 2017 ▪

FOSTER CITY, CA (October 17, 2017) – Leapin’ Lizards! This holiday season, **ANNIE (November 30–December 17, 2017)**—everyone’s favorite musical—will perform at Hillbarn Theatre as part of its 2017–18 season. Based on the popular comic strip by Harold Gray, ANNIE has become a worldwide phenomenon. With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone’s hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. She is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage that is run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. With the help of the other girls in the Orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous world of NYC. The beloved score for ANNIE includes “Maybe,” “It’s the Hard Knock Life,” “You’re Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile,” “Easy Street,” “I Don’t Need Anything but You” and the eternal anthem of optimism, “Tomorrow.”

The original production of **ANNIE** opened April 21, 1977 at the Alvin Theatre and went on to win the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, seven Drama Desk Awards including Best Musical, the Grammy for Best Cast Show Album and seven Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, Best Book (Thomas Meehan) and Best Score (Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin). The show remains one of the

biggest Broadway musical hits ever. It ran for 2,377 performances after it first opened, and has been performed in 28 languages and has been running somewhere around the world for 40 years.

ANNIE will perform at Hillbarn Theatre (1285 East Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City). Performances are **Thursdays—Saturdays at 8 p.m.** and **Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.** Press night for ANNIE will be Friday, December 1, 2017. Single tickets range in price from \$27–\$52 and are available now by calling 650.349.6411 ext. 2 or visiting www.hillbarntheatre.org.

“This time-honored family musical classic is brimming with optimism and perfectly captures the warmth of the holiday season,” says **Hillbarn Theatre’s Executive Artistic Director Dan Demers**. “Fully dressed with a smile, this musical theatre classic will make you laugh, touch your heart, and celebrate the amazing talent of our next generation of performers. ”

Led by **Emily Mannion** in the title role, the cast of ANNIE features **Ric Iverson*** as Daddy Warbucks, **Sarah Armstrong*** as Grace Farrell, **Annamarie Martin** as Miss Hannigan, **David Blackburn** as Rooster Hannigan, **Sarah Thermond** as Lily, and **Gary Pugh Newman** as Franklin D. Roosevelt. Rounding out the cast (in alphabetical order) are: **Mateo Brent, Ryan Courtin, Gibson (Gold), Lila Gold, Doug Greer, Michael Grasso, Sarah Hammond, Angela Harrington, Athena Hart, David Issel, Gabby Jison, Charlotte Kehrberg, Sydney O’Donnell, Joan Pugh Newman, Samantha Resser, Catherine Rieflin, Ray Ross, Maya Sanchez, Sheridan Stewart** and **Catherine Traceski**.

**Member of Actors’ Equity Association*

Directed by **Virginia Musante**, the creative team for ANNIE includes (in alphabetical order) **Don Coluzzi** (Lighting Designer), **Gennine Harrington** (Choreographer), **Gabriella Howell** (Stage Manager), **Matthew Mattei** (Music Director), **Alexandra Nemchik** (Prop Designer) and **Yusuke Soi** (Scenic Designer).

Kicking off 2018, Hillbarn Theatre will present the Tony Award–winning play, ***Peter and the Starcatcher*** (January 18–February 4, 2018). In spring, Hillbarn Theatre will present the Tony Award–winning drama ***The Elephant Man*** (March 8–25, 2018), based on the life of John Merrick. Hillbarn Theatre is proud to present the national premiere of the one-man show, ***When That I Was...*** (March 29–31, 2018). Hillbarn Theatre closes out its 2017–18 season with the raucous and acclaimed musical, ***The Full Monty*** (May 3–20, 2018), based on the cult film of the same name.

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ABOUT HILLBARN THEATRE

Since 1941, the historic **Hillbarn Theatre** has served the San Francisco Bay Area by embracing this founding ideal - to create theatre with the community, for the community, striving always for excellence in production and education. Hillbarn has won a Theater Critics Circle Award, was accepted at the Edinburgh Theatre Festival, was honored with several mayoral proclamations for excellence in theatrical production and education, and received three Dean Goodman Awards for Artistic Excellence.

For more information or to schedule an interview with the director or actors, contact
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