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“Clever and joyous entertainment...a celebration of youth and of the power of theater to inspire children and adults alike.” —*Backstage*

“Rich in antic humor and theatrical invention.” —*The Hollywood Reporter*

“An absurdly funny fantastical journey!” —*Entertainment Weekly*

**HILLBARN KICKS OFF 2018 WITH THE TONY AWARD-WINNING PLAY,
*PETER AND THE STARCATCHER***

Based on the best-selling novels, *Peter and the Starcatcher* upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan boy becomes the legendary Peter Pan.

▪ JANUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 4, 2018 ▪

FOSTER CITY, CA (December 8, 2017) – **Hillbarn Theatre**, the Peninsula's premier theatre company, kicks off the new year with the Tony Award-winning play, ***Peter and the Starcatcher* (January 18—February 4, 2018)**. Based on the wildly theatrical best-selling novels by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, *Peter and the Starcatcher* upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan boy becomes the legendary Peter Pan. From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, *Peter and the Starcatcher* playfully explores the depths of greed and despair...and the bonds of friendship, duty, and love.

A young orphan and his mates are shipped off from Victorian England to a distant island ruled by the evil King Zarboff. They know nothing of the mysterious trunk in the captain's cabin, which contains a precious, otherworldly cargo. At sea, the boys are discovered by a precocious young girl named Molly, a Starcatcher-in-training who realizes that the trunk's precious cargo is starstuff, a celestial substance

so powerful that it must never fall into the wrong hands. When the ship is taken over by pirates—led by the fearsome Black Stache, a villain determined to claim the trunk and its treasure for his own—the journey quickly becomes a thrilling adventure.

Featuring a dozen actors portraying more than 100 unforgettable characters, *Peter and the Starcatcher* uses ingenious stagecraft and the limitless possibilities of imagination to bring the story to life.

Peter and the Starcatcher will perform at Hillbarn Theatre (1285 East Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City). Performances are **Thursdays—Saturdays at 8 p.m.** and **Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.** Press night for *Peter and the Starcatcher* will be **Friday, January 19, 2018.** Single tickets range in price from \$28–\$52 and are available now by calling 650.349.6411 ext. 2 or visiting www.hillbarntheatre.org.

“*Peter and the Starcatcher* is a richly imaginative play that gives the audience a glimpse into the backstory of the beloved character of Peter Pan,” says **Hillbarn Theatre’s Executive Artistic Director Dan Demers**. “With the inventive use of props and lighting, audiences will be taken on a journey and transported into the chaotic and wonderful world of Neverland.”

Peter and the Starcatcher features an ensemble cast including (in alphabetical order) **Tasi Alabastro, Lawrence Michael C. Arias, David Blackburn, Nicole Apostol Bruno, Dan Demers, Wes Gabrillo, Sean Okuniewicz, Heather Orth, Drew Reitz, Evan Schumacher, Scott Solomon, Will Springhorn Jr., and Adrienne Kaori Walters.**

Directed by **Jeffrey Lo**, the creative team for *Peter and the Starcatcher* includes **Allie Bailey** (Stage Manager), **Christopher Flitzer** (Scenic Designer), **Amanda Ku** (Music Director), **Michael Palumbo** (Lighting Designer), **Lee Ann Payne** (Choreographer), **Sharron Peng** (Costume, Hair, & Make-Up Designer), and **Kevin Stanford** (Prop Designer).

Peter and the Starcatcher was conceived for the stage by directors Roger Rees and Alex Timbers, and written by Rick Elice, with music by Wayne Barker.

Peter and the Starcatcher was originally produced on Broadway by Nancy Nagel Gibbs, Greg Schaffert, Eva Price, Tom Smedes, and Disney Theatrical Productions.

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. Next, 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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