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Contact: Alexandra Griesmer, PR & Promotions Manager

303.446.4835 | agriesmer@dcpa.org

### FOUR WORLD PREMIERES CHOSEN FOR 2013/14 DENVER CENTER THEATRE COMPANY SEASON

DENVER – The **Denver Center Theatre Company** announced a 10-play season including four exhilarating world premieres selected from the 2013 Colorado New Play Summit. Karen Zacarías' adaptation of Helen Thorpe's book *Just Like Us*, Catherine Trieschmann's comedy *The Most Deserving*, Matthew Lopez's heartfelt *The Legend of Georgia McBride* and Marcus Gardley's adaptation of Homer's epic poem, *black odyssey*, will all take to the stage to dazzle Denver audiences. Also selected for the season is a Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, an adaptation of a Marx Brother's script, Shakespeare's tragic masterpiece, a powerful and poignant love story and the return of a Christmas classic. "We had such compelling and imaginative writing at this year's Colorado New Play Summit that could not be overlooked," said Producing Artistic Director Kent Thompson. "Our selections this year are wideranging and diverse and I think will bring excitement to our patrons' experience at the theatre."

### Death of a Salesman

by Arthur Miller Sept 20-Oct 20 (Opens Sept 26) | Space Theatre

Arthur Miller's Pulitzer- and Tony-winning drama *Death of a Salesman* tells the story of Willy Loman, a downsized salesman whose dreams of greatness for himself and his sons go unrealized. An authentic and heartbreaking portrayal of the American dream lost, this play is woven into the fabric of our country's consciousness.

## World Premiere Just Like Us

by Karen Zacarías, based on the book by Helen Thorpe Oct 4-Nov 3 (Opens Oct 10) | Stage Theatre

Based on Helen Thorpe's bestselling book, this documentary-style play follows four Latina girls in Denver — two of whom are documented and two who are not — through young adulthood. Their close-knit friendships begin to unravel when immigration status dictates the girls' opportunities, or lack thereof. When a political firestorm arises, each girl's legal status becomes increasingly desperate. *Just Like Us* poses difficult, yet essential questions such as what makes an American?

### A Denver Center commission

## World Premiere The Most Deserving

by Catherine Trieschmann Oct 11-Nov 17 (Opens Oct 17) | Ricketson Theatre

Tasked with awarding \$20,000 to a deserving and needy local artist who "demonstrates an under-represented American voice," a small town arts council in Ellis County, Kansas, comically erupts into chaos. Should the award go to a high school teacher/painter of modest talent or to the self-taught African-American artist who creates controversial religious figures out of trash? *The Most Deserving* is a satirical, insightful look at how the arts collide with politics, self-interest, taste, relationships, egos and gossip.

### Jackie and Me\*

by Steven Dietz
Based on the book by Dan Gutman
Nov 15-Dec 22 (Opens Nov 21) | Space Theatre

A rare baseball card is young Joey Stoshack's ticket back in time, where he meets Jackie Robinson on the very day he is signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers. Thrust into a racial pressure-cooker, Joey learns about courage and grace from one of America's legends. Exciting and emotional, *Jackie & Me*, based on the popular youth novel, will warm hearts of all ages and emphasizes the importance of role models for adolescents.

### A Christmas Carol\*

by Charles Dickens
Adapted by Richard Hellesen
Music by David de Berry
Nov 29-Dec 29 (Opens Dec 5) | Stage Theatre

Denver's beloved holiday tradition returns! Based on Charles Dickens' classic novel, this joyous and opulent musical adaptation traces Ebenezer Scrooge's triumphant journey to redemption. *A Christmas Carol* illuminates the meaning of the holiday season and is a beloved tradition for many families.

World Premiere *The Legend of Georgia McBride*by Matthew Lopez

Jan10-Feb 23 (Opens Jan 16) | Ricketson Theatre

When a struggling Florida dive-bar changes its image, Casey, the headlining Elvis impersonator, finds himself unemployed, broke and with a baby on the way. When the bar owner brings in a B-level drag show to replace his act, Casey finds that he has a lot to learn about show business — and himself. From one of the most-produced playwrights of the year, *The Legend of Georgia McBride* is a joyous and bawdy comedy with a great big heart and music to spare.

# World Premiere black odyssey by Marcus Gardley

Jan 17-Feb 16 (Opens Jan 23) | Space Theatre

Playwright Marcus Gardley magically re-casts Homer's Odysseus as a black soldier returning home from a harrowing tour in the Gulf War. The great Greek archetypes reverberate with new world African-American culture as Gardley fuses modern reality with ancient myth in this gripping new play.

A Denver Center commission

#### Hamlet

by William Shakespeare Jan 24-Feb 23 (Opens Jan 30) | Stage Theatre

Hamlet descends into mental unrest as the desire to avenge his father's suspicious death causes him to contemplate action, inaction and the meaning of life itself. Proclaimed the "greatest play in the English language," William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* is a symphony of revenge, deceit and moral corruption.

### **Shadowlands**

by William Nicholson March 28-April 27 (Opens April 3) | Space Theatre

Professor and writer C.S. Lewis led a life of bachelorhood into middle age. It is only when he starts an unlikely friendship with American fan Joy Davidman that his life becomes enriched by romance. When she is diagnosed cancer, Lewis experiences a crisis of faith that betrays his life's dedication to Christian thought and theology. *Shadowlands* is a reminder to us all that great loss cannot exist without great love.

### Animal Crackers

by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind Music and Lyrics by Bert Kalmar & Harry Ruby Adapted by Henry Wishcamper April 4-May 11 (Opens April 10) | Stage Theatre

This boisterous and knockabout comedy begins when a valuable painting goes missing at a society dinner party and chaos ensues. A Marx Brothers stage classic, *Animal Crackers* is stocked with physical comedy and one-liners sure to have audiences rolling in the aisles.

\*Added attraction, not part of the subscription season.

### **Performance Schedule**

The DCTC's performance schedule for the 2013/14 season is as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday performances at 6:30pm Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30pm Saturday and Sunday matinees at 1:30pm

No children under four admitted.

### **Tickets and Subscriptions**

New and renewing subscribers may reserve season tickets starting March 18 online at denvercenter.org/subs or by calling 303.893.6030 or 303.893.4100. Single ticket on-sale dates will be announced at a later time. Subscribers enjoy free ticket exchanges, payment plans, priority offers to Broadway and student shows, discounted extra tickets, a dedicated VIP hotline, free events including talkbacks and receptions, and the best seats at the best prices, guaranteed.

Note: Plans for the new season are subject to change.

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