

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

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ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES CASTING FOR MEREDITH WILLSON'S *THE MUSIC MAN* DIRECTED BY MOLLY SMITH

BURKE MOSES AS HAROLD HILL STARS OPPOSITE KATE BALDWIN

(Washington, D.C.) Casting is announced for Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater's production of Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*. Artistic Director Molly Smith helms this classic family musical, which stars the previously announced Kate Baldwin (Tony Award nominee for Broadway's *Finian's Rainbow*) as Marian the librarian, who will be joined by Burke Moses (original Gaston in Broadway's *Beauty and the Beast*) as Harold Hill. *The Music Man* runs May 11-July 22, 2012 in the Fichandler Stage.

Cast of *The Music Man* as of 3/7/2012, in alphabetical order:

Kate Baldwin (*Marian Paroo*) Broadway: *Finian's Rainbow* (Tony Award nomination), *Wonderful Town*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *The Full Monty*. National tour: Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. NY: *Opening Doors* (Carnegie Hall). D.C.: *South Pacific* (Arena Stage).

Will Burton (*Tommy Djalas*) Regional: Numerous productions with The Muny, including *Kiss Me, Kate*; *Miss Saigon*; *Hello, Dolly!* and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Juliane Godfrey (*Zaneeta Shinn*) NY Workshop: *Volleygirls*. Regional: *It's a Wonderful Life* (Engeman Theater) and *A Chorus Line*, *Anything Goes* and *Hair* (Woodstock Playhouse).

Nehal Joshi (*Marcellus Washburn*) Broadway: *Les Misérables* and *Threepenny Opera*. Off-Broadway: *Falling for Eve*. D.C.: *Oklahoma!* and *Señor Discretion Himself* (Arena Stage), *Mister Roberts* (Kennedy Center) and *Carousel* (Olney Theatre Center).

Donna Migliaccio (*Mrs. Paroo*) Broadway: *Ragtime*. National tour: *Guys and Dolls*. D.C.: Numerous area productions, including *Liberty Smith* (Ford's Theatre), *Into the Woods* (Signature Theatre) and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Kennedy Center). Two-time Helen Hayes Award winner.

Burke Moses (*Harold Hill*) Broadway: *Beauty and the Beast* (created the role of Gaston); *Kiss Me, Kate* (Fred Graham/Petruchio); *Guys and Dolls* (Sky Masterson) and *The Frogs* (Herakles). Off-Broadway: *The Fantasticks*, *Way of the World*, *Wasted* and *The Most Happy Fella*. TV: *White Collar* (FOX), *30 Rock* (NBC) and *One Life to Live* (ABC).

John Lescault (*Mayor Shinn*) D.C.: Upcoming *Brother Russia* (Signature Theatre), over 30 productions with Shakespeare Theatre Company, Folger Theater, Round House Theatre, Signature Theatre, Woolly Mammoth Theatre and Theater J.

Barbara Tirrell (*Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn*) Broadway: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Wicked* (also national tour) and *Annie*. Off-Broadway: *A Man of No Importance*, *Leaving Queens*, *No Way to Treat a Lady* and *Night of the Hunter*. Regional: Guthrie Theater, Goodspeed Opera House and Walnut Street Theatre.

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Casting announced for Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* at Arena Stage—Page 2

As previously announced, five D.C.-area youth were cast as a result of an all-day casting call held at Arena Stage. The chosen young actors include **Ian Berlin** as Winthrop Paroo, **Heidi Kaplan** as Amaryllis and **Jamie Goodson** as Gracie Shinn. **Colin James Cech** and **Mia Goodman** appear as River City kids.

Rounding out the cast are **Sasha Olinick** as Charlie Cowell/Constable Locke, **Katerina Papacostas** as Ethel Toffelmeir, **Joe Peck** as Ewart Dunlop/Traveling Salesman, **Lawrence Redmond** as Oliver Hix/Traveling Salesman, **Michael Brian Dunn** as Jacey Squires, **Justin Lee Miller** as Olin Britt, **Tina Stafford** as Alma Hix, **Janet Aldrich** as Maude Dunlop and **Rayanne Gonzales** as Mrs. Squires. **Eric Shorey**, **Jessica Wu**, **Scott Shedenhelm**, **Kristen J. Smith**, **Nicholas Yenson**, **Christina Kidd**, **Alissa Alter** (Female Swing) and **Kurt Domoney** (Male Swing) make up the ensemble cast.

Led by Molly Smith and with choreography by **Parker Esse** and musical direction by **Lawrence Goldberg**, the creative team for *The Music Man* also includes Set Designer **Eugene Lee**, Costume Designer **Judith Bowden**, Lighting Designer **Dawn Chiang**, Sound Designer **Tim Thompson**, Associate Director **Anita Maynard-Losh**, Assistant Choreographer **Ashley Yeater**, Assistant Music Director **Jose Simbulan**, Arena Casting Director **Dan Pruksarnukul**, Stage Manager **Susan White** and Assistant Stage Manager **Jenna Henderson**.

Meredith Willson's

The Music Man

Book, music and lyrics by Meredith Willson
Story by Meredith Willson and Franklin Lacey
Directed by Molly Smith
Choreography by Parker Esse

Fresh off her success with *Oklahoma!*, Artistic Director Molly Smith tackles five-time Tony Award winner *The Music Man*. Having exhausted all 102 counties in Illinois, "Professor" Harold Hill gives Iowa a try and soon enough convinces River City of its trouble with the "sin and corruption" of the pool hall, trouble that can only be stopped by forming a boys' band. Marian the librarian suspects he's a con man, but she begins to trust him after seeing how he's given confidence to her shy younger brother. Soon, this "Music Man" has transformed the entire town, not only turning the bickering school board into a barbershop quartet, but himself into an honest man. When the stage erupts with "76 Trombones," you'll be cheering along with River City for Harold Hill!

TICKETS: Tickets for *The Music Man* are \$46-\$91, subject to change and based on availability, plus applicable fees. For information on savings programs such as student discounts, Southwest Nights, Pay-Your-Age tickets, Family Fun Packs, HOTTIX and Hero's Discounts, visit arenastage.org/shows-tickets/single-tickets/savings-programs/. Tickets may be purchased online at arenastage.org, by phone at 202-488-3300 or at the Sales Office at 1101 Sixth St., SW, D.C.

Sales Office/Subscriptions	202-488-3300
Group Sales Hotline for 10+ Tickets	202-488-4380
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Info for patrons with disabilities	202-488-3300

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is a national center dedicated to the production, presentation, development and study of American theater. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Producer Edgar Dobie, Arena Stage is the largest company in the country dedicated to American plays and playwrights. Arena Stage produces huge plays of all that is passionate, exuberant, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays through the American Voices New Play Institute. Now in its sixth decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. www.arenastage.org

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