



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin Kearney

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Matthew Nicola

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Highwood Theatre Opens 2017-2018 Student Season with Sondheim's Follies

***“An ambitious and challenging piece rarely - if ever -
performed by students”***

The Highwood Theatre opens its 2017-2018 season with a concert version of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies*, based on a group of Weismann Follies showgirls who reunite one last time before the theater they once performed at is torn down. The showgirls and their partners are forced to confront their regrets and challenges with current lives and relationships. The show includes an exceptionally talented 15-person student cast ranging from 7th to 11th grades.

Artistic Director Matthew Nicola explains: “We are tremendously excited about this production of *Follies*. In particular, the staging as an intimate concert production will not only strip the piece down to its emotional core, but also bring the characters' emotional plights within feet of the audience. This is an ambitious and challenging piece rarely - if ever - performed by students because of its complex score and story, yet the young cast tackles it effortlessly.”

The Highwood Theatre's 2017-2018 season, *Off Your Rocker: Redefining and Defying the Status Quo*, is the theatre's most ambitious season to date. The season, with seven musicals and six plays, spotlights shows built around defying norms and comes at a time when it is especially important for audiences to consider different ways of thinking.

Off Your Rocker: Redefining and Defying the Status Quo stems from Highwood's mission of building community through theatre and giving everyone a voice in the theatre they produce. It also offers unparalleled opportunities to Highwood's students and professionals, from staging Highwood's first professional musical in three years to bringing acclaimed Broadway performer Nick Blaemire and 34-time world dance champion Cate Caplin to Silver Spring.

Follies will take place on Friday, November 10 at 8 PM; Saturday, November 11 at 8 PM; and Sunday, November 12 at 2 and 7 PM. Tickets are \$20. All shows will take place at the Highwood Theatre, 914 Silver Spring Ave, Silver Spring MD 20910. Tickets may be purchased online at

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www.thehighwoodtheatre.org/tickets or through the box office, which can be reached at reservations@thehighwoodtheatre.org, at 301-587-0697 or by visiting the box office during regular business hours.

About The Highwood Theatre

The Highwood Theatre is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the community together through theatre. Now in its 15th Season, Highwood's guiding principle is "anyone can do theatre." Highwood was founded in 2004 and began executing its mission through seasons of professional quality theatre featuring all-student casts, design teams, and production staff. In 2013, in conjunction with its relocation to the heart of downtown Silver Spring, The Highwood Theatre expanded to carry out its mission more fully and develop innovative, engaging programming for artists of all ages through professional and student productions, classes, and programs in schools and for home schooled students.

Contact Information

Tickets: <http://www.thehighwoodtheatre.org/tickets.html>

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