



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Kevin Kearney

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING  
Sarah Scott

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 30, 2015

Contact: Sarah Scott, Director of Marketing and Communications  
[sscott@thehighwoodtheatre.org](mailto:sscott@thehighwoodtheatre.org) | 301-587-0697; 202-495-9524

The Highwood Theatre Examines the Significance of  
Relationships and Identity in New Play  
***The Long Way Around***

the first professional show in Highwood's 2015-2016 Season  
Part of the Women's Voices Theater Festival

Nine Performances:  
October 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd & 24th at 7:30 pm and  
October 11th, 18th & 25th at 2:00 pm  
at The Highwood Theatre in Downtown Silver Spring

Your Theatre, a division of The Highwood Theatre, presents the new drama *The Long Way Around* by young playwright and Highwood Theatre alumnus Julia Starr. The production, being showcased in the DC area-wide Women's Voices Theater Festival - the largest collaboration in history of theater companies working simultaneously to produce original works by female writers - examines the struggles of young adults discovering who they are, where they belong, and what they want out of life.

When free-spirited Addie makes the radical decision to leave their small town in Illinois to live openly as a lesbian in Chicago, Luce finds herself at a crossroads: does she accept the nostalgic and familiar love she and Addie once shared as teen-aged girls, riding around in a Subaru with the windows down, or does she continue on her current trajectory, living in the same zip-code as her parents with her fiancé-turned-husband Nathan? *The Long Way Around* explores the fuzzy line between friendship and romance in female relationships.

"There are a lot of personal narratives about coming out to your parents, your family, your friends," Playwright Julia Starr explains, "but I noticed that there wasn't much about coming out to yourself - being honest enough about your identity to even consider sharing it with the world. As such, I wanted to examine the oft-forgotten and contested 'q' letter in the LGBTQ acronym: questioning." Kevin Kearney, the Executive Director of The Highwood Theatre, describes the play, "It's very relatable to young adults. The characters deal with issues that are common to almost everyone in their twenties and thirties but may not be talked about; that makes it a very significant, relevant work."

OFFICES AND STUDIOS  
914 Silver Spring Avenue, Suite 102  
Silver Spring, MD 20910



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Kevin Kearney

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING  
Sarah Scott

To celebrate this new play and the important subject matter it covers, The Highwood Theatre will be hosting an LGBTQ Pride Night performance on Saturday, October 17 at 7:30 pm, and tickets will be available at a discounted rate of \$22. The evening will include a brief talk back with the cast after the show and light refreshments will be provided. A preview of the production was also included in the Kennedy Center's Page-to-Stage Festival featuring new works being developed in the metro DC area.

*The Long Way Around* features the talents of Mo O'Rourke (Luce), Stephanie Tomiko (Addie), Sam Taylor (Nathan), Alison Talvacchio (Joan), Megan Konyndyk (Heather), Dylan Hares (Bill) and is directed by Melissa B. Robinson. Stage Manager: Kelsey Murphy, Set Designer: Phoenix Gantz-Ratzat, Lighting Designer: Toly Yarup, Sound Designer: Orion Stekoll.

*The Long Way Around* is part of Highwood's 2015-2016 Mainstage Season "Underground Expression" and is the season's first production by its Your Theatre division, which is dedicated to producing high-quality professional theatre productions with teams of talented adult actors. The production is sponsored in part by funding from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County and the Montgomery County Government.

#### **Directions to The Highwood Theatre in Silver Spring**

The Highwood Theatre in Silver Spring is located at 914 Silver Spring Avenue, Suite 102, Silver Spring, MD 20904. Street parking is available near the venue, and there is a county garage less than one block away. Parking is free on weekends. Arriving by metro? From the Silver Spring metro station (Red Line), head Northeast on Colesville Road toward Wayne Avenue. Turn right onto Wayne Avenue, Right onto Georgia Avenue, and left onto Silver Spring Avenue. The Highwood Theatre will be on your right. This route takes about ten minutes.

#### **Contact Information**

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

The Highwood Theatre Office: 301-587-0697

General Information: [info@thehighwoodtheatre.org](mailto:info@thehighwoodtheatre.org)

Website: [www.thehighwoodtheatre.org](http://www.thehighwoodtheatre.org)

#### **Calendar Listing**

*The Long Way Around*, by Julia Starr, a Your Theatre production of the Highwood Theatre located in downtown Silver Spring. Performances are at 7:30 pm on Fridays and Saturdays, October 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th. Matinee performances are at 2:00 pm on Sundays, October 11th, 18th and 25th. Tickets are \$25 for all performances except Pride Night, October 17th, when they will be \$22. Visit <http://www.thehighwoodtheatre.org/the-long-way-around.html> for more information.

###

OFFICES AND STUDIOS  
914 Silver Spring Avenue, Suite 102  
Silver Spring, MD 20910