

For Immediate Release: February 19th, 2019 Media Contact: Joanna Loughran joanna@sdmt.org 858-560-5740

SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE Pre-Professional Production "Freaky Friday"

SDMT is committed to fostering the next generation of Broadway-caliber musical theatre performers through professional level training and experiences. Our Pre-Professional productions are where the SDMT Academy and SDMT main stage meet in the middle to highlight the upcoming talent in San Diego. The goal is to bring the entire professional process from rehearsal to performance to our teens so they can get an authentic professional musical theatre experience.

Following the huge success of last years Pre-Professional production of "Bring It On", this year we are bringing you "FREAKY FRIDAY". This comic tale started out as a novel written by Mary Rodgers in 1972 has been adapted for the screen and stage to delight audiences everywhere.

Freaky Friday features music and lyrics by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey, and a book by Bridget Carpenter. In the story, when an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swap bodies, they have just one day to put things right again before the mom's wedding. With poignant themes including acceptance of others, personal growth, empathy, and broadening one's life perspective, audiences of all ages will be able to readily identify.

This production of Freaky Friday is being Co-Directed and Choreographed by Katie Banville and Noelle Marion who are thrilled to work with the amazing teens that have been cast in the show.

"We're particularly excited to work with the unbelievably talented cast of young performers that we have assembled.", say Katie and Noelle. "We were blown away by their skill and artistic maturity in the auditions and we feel fortunate to collaborate with such smart and unique artists. We also love the message of compassion and empathy

that this story forwards. Additionally, Freaky Friday has many prominently featured roles and gives our actors wonderful opportunities to work on their craft and explore dynamic characters."

"Freaky Friday is a show not to be missed!", says Artistic Director Jill Townsend. "I am in awe of these 12-20 year olds and how they sing this incredibly hard score with ease. It's exciting to be able to train these talented young performers on what it's like to do a professional show, in a professional setting, bridging the gap between youth theatre and professional theatre."

The creative team for **FREAKY FRIDAY** include: Katie Banville (Co-Director/Co-Choreographer), Noelle Marion (Co-Director/Co-Choreographer), Andrew Orbison (Music Director), Mathys Herbert (Set Design), Michelle Miles (Lighting Design), Jon Fredette (Sound Design), Max Gidaley (Costume Design), Heather Longfellow (Properties Design), Sarah Zimmerman (Stage Manager).

The **FREAKY FRIDAY** cast includes: Veenwar Almezory, Henry Austin, Mason Ballard, Cassie Bleher, Makenna Boutelle, Mia Bregman, Brendan Dallaire, Audrey Deubig Brandon Feffer, Kiara Geolina, Zoe Goldstein, Sonia Halle, Rivers Harris, Alanna Morgan, Mika Peck, CJ Rabine, Kayla Racelis, Nicholas Redd, Elisabeth Renda, August Ballou Ruterbusch, Claire Scheper, Jack Setran, Kiersten Waters, John Perry Wishchuk

Performances for **FREAKY FRIDAY** run March 22 -31, 2019 at the Horton Grand Theatre in San Diego's Gaslamp district. For more information on **FREAKY FRIDAY** and SDMT's 2019 Season, call the box office at (858) 560-5740 or visit <u>www.sdmt.org</u>.

FREAKY FRIDAY FACT SHEET

What: *Freaky Friday* Music and Lyrics by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey Book by Ken Ludwig Directed & Choreographed by Katie Banville and Noelle Marion Musical Direction by Andrew Orbison

When: March 22-31, 2019 Press Opening: Friday, March 22 at 8:00 PM Closing: Sunday, March 3, at 2:00 PM Performance Schedule:

Wednesdays at 7 PM Thursdays at 7 PM Fridays at 8:00 PM Saturdays at 8:00 PM Sundays at 2:00 PM

Where: The Horton Grand Theatre - 444 Fourth Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

Who:

Director/Choreographer: Katie Banville & Noelle Marion Music Director: Andrew Orbison Set Design: Mathys Herbert Lighting Design: Michelle Miles Sound Design: Jon Fredette Costume Design: Max Gidaley Properties: Heather Longfellow Production Manager: Ron Jones Technical Director: Steve Longfellow Stage Manager: Sarah Zimmerman

Cast: Veenwar Almezory, Henry Austin, Mason Ballard, Cassie Bleher, Makenna Boutelle, Mia Bregman, Brendan Dallaire, Audrey Deubig, Brandon Feffer, Kiara Geolina, Zoe Goldstein, Sonia Halle, Rivers Harris, Alanna Morgan, Mika Peck, CJ Rabine, Kayla Racelis, Nicholas Redd, Elisabeth Renda, August Ballou Ruterbusch, Claire Scheper, Jack Setran, Kiersten Waters, John Perry Wishchuk

Ticket Information:

Tickets range from \$15 - \$25. Tickets for *Freaky Friday* are on sale now.

Box Office Information:

Phone: 858-560-5740 Online: <u>www.sdmt.org</u> In Person: Tickets can be purchased at SDMT's Administrative Office located at 4650 Mercury Street, San Diego, CA 92111. **Website:** <u>www.sdmt.org</u>

ABOUT SDMT - Founded in 2006, San Diego Musical Theatre is dedicated to passionately producing and providing musical theatre that ignites the human spirit.

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