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MILWAUKEE REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES CASTING FOR *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

January 11, 2011 – [Milwaukee] – Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* is one of the most beloved and beautifully compassionate stories ever written and it will come to breathtaking life on The Rep’s Quadracci Powerhouse stage this January. Set in small-town Alabama during the Depression, and seen with brilliant clarity through the eyes of a young tomboy, this Pulitzer Prize-winning tale is about innocence, tolerance, family and the courage to live what you believe. The large ensemble cast for this production will feature members of The Rep’s Resident Acting Company (**Jonathan Gillard Daly, Lee E. Ernst, James Pickering and Deborah Staples**); guest actors **James DeVita, Jerod Haynes, Ora Jones, David Lively, Fred Pike and Craig Wallace**; The Rep’s entire Artistic Intern Ensemble, and Acting Apprentice **Alexander Pawlowski IV**, as well as a children’s cast which includes **Kendal Briscoe, John Brotherhood, Thomas Kindler, Nick Unora, Mallorely Wallace and Cole Winston**. The production will be directed by **Aaron Posner**, who returns after directing last season’s beautifully-realized production of *My Name is Asher Lev* in The Rep’s Stiemke Studio.

The cast for *To Kill a Mockingbird*:

Eva Balistrieri – Mayella Ewell

John Brotherhood – Jem

F. Tyler Burnet – Walter Cunningham

Jonathan Gillard Daly – Heck Tate

James DeVita – Bob Ewell

Lee E. Ernst – Atticus Finch
Jerod Haynes – Tom Robinson
Ora Jones – Calpurnia
Thomas Kindler – Dill
David Lively – Mr. Gilmer
Alexander Pawlowski IV – Boo Radley
James Pickering – Judge Taylor
Fred Pike – Musician
Deborah Staples – Jean Louise
Craig Wallace – Reverend Sykes
Mallorey Wallace – Scout

The cast for *To Kill a Mockingbird* includes: **Eva Balistrieri** (Mayella Ewell), a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Artistic Intern Ensemble, who recently played Martha Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* and a Packer Cheerleader in *Lombardi*; **F. Tyler Burnet** (Walter Cunningham), a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Artistic Intern Ensemble, who recently played the Ghost of Christmas Future in *A Christmas Carol* and a Green Bay Packer in *Lombardi*; **Jonathan Gillard Daly** (Heck Tate), a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Resident Acting Company, who recently was seen in The Rep's annual production of *A Christmas Carol* performing multiple roles including Mr. Philpot/Mr. Oatway/Barnaby and last season at The Rep he was seen in *Death of a Salesman*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Cabaret*; **James DeVita** (Bob Ewell), a company member at American Players Theatre where he has appeared in dozens of plays, last appearing at Milwaukee Rep as Ricky Roma in *Glengarry Glen Ross*; he has also published two novels, *The Silenced* and *Blue* with HarperCollins and has written over 19 plays and is the resident playwright for First Stage Children's Theater; **Lee E. Ernst** (Atticus Finch), a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Resident Acting Company, was recently seen as Bob Cratchit in The Rep's recent production of *A Christmas Carol* and was also seen as Vince Lombardi in The Rep's hit production of *Lombardi*; **Jerod Haynes** (Tom Robinson), a

Chicago native, whose credits include *Contribution and Greensboro 4: Down Payment on Manhood* (ETA Creative Arts Theater) and understudy for Jackie in *Jackie & Me* (Chicago Children's Theatre); he also has done several short films including *Test of Faith* which will premiere at the 17th Annual Black Harvest International Film Festival; **Ora Jones** (Calpurnia), who returns to The Rep after appearing in *Half Life* (2006/07) in the Stiemke Theater; Chicago credits include: *Middleton, The Brother/Sister Plays, The Unmentionables* and *The Violet Hour* (Steppenwolf Theatre Company) and *Animal Crackers, The Beard of Avon, Marvin's Room* and *Proof* (Goodman Theatre); **David Lively** (Mr. Gilmer), who has extensive Chicago credits including The Ravinia Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Drury Lane Theater and Court Theatre; television credits include *The Chicago Code, Prison Break, ATF The Line, What about Joan, Cupid* and *George Washington*; **Alexander Pawlowski IV** (Boo Radley), who is an Acting Apprentice this season and was a member of last season's 2010/11 Intern Ensemble, was recently seen playing Mr. Mudd in The Rep's production of *A Christmas Carol* and was seen last season playing the Customs Officer in *Cabaret*; **James Pickering** (Judge Taylor), who is a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Resident Acting Company, and who just finished performing the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* at the historic Pabst Theater, and also recently appeared in Next Act Theatre's production of *The Exonerated*; **Fred Pike** (Musician), who will be heading up the onstage musical ensemble for this production; **Deborah Staples** (Jean Louise), who is a member of The Rep's 2011/12 Resident Acting Company, and who recently appeared as The Ghost of Christmas Past in The Rep's *A Christmas Carol* and was seen last season in *Speaking in Tongues* and *Death of a Salesman* and **Craig Wallace** (Reverend Sykes), who will be making his Rep debut, is a classically trained actor who has spent several seasons at The Shakespeare Theatre where he appeared in such productions as *Henry V* with Harry Hamlin and *Othello* featuring Patrick Stewart; other credits include Belize in *Angels in America* at Signature Theatre and numerous productions at Arena Stage including Taylor in *K2*.

The **Ensemble** for *To Kill a Mockingbird* features members of the 2011/12 Artistic Ensemble: **N'Tasha Anders, Cody Craven, Nathaniel French, Melissa Graves, Max Hunter, John Mark Jernigan, Joe Kemper, Eric C. Lynch, Elizabeth Telford** and **Jenna K. Vik**.

The **Children's Understudy Cast** for *To Kill a Mockingbird* includes: **Kendal Briscoe** (Understudy – Scout); **Nick Unora** (Understudy – Dill); and **Cole Winston** (Understudy – Jem).

The **Creative Team** for *To Kill a Mockingbird* includes: **Aaron Posner** (Director); **Kevin Depinet** (Scenic Designer); **Rachel Healy** (Costume Designer); **Jesse Klug** (Lighting Director); **James Sugg** (Sound Designer); **Jill Walmsey Zager** (Dialect Coach); **Lee E. Ernst** (Fight Director); **Sarah Deming-Henes** (Stage Manager); **Kristy Matero** (Assistant Stage Manager); **Jason Simpson** (Children's Stage Manager); **Erin Weaver** (Children's Director) and **JC Clementz** (Assistant Director).

THE BIG READ

Milwaukee Repertory Theater was one of 76 not-for-profits awarded a grant to host The Big Read in Milwaukee in conjunction with its production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and bring the transformative power of literature into the lives of its citizens. The Rep has partnered with leading community organizations, including the Milwaukee Public Library, to create a city-wide series of events and discussions around *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Activities to date have included a Big Read Kick-off event, dramatic readings and film screenings. Upcoming events include book and panel discussions, talkbacks with artists moderated by university scholars and additional special events. For more information about upcoming events, please visit www.MilwaukeeRep.com.

TICKETS

Tickets for *To Kill a Mockingbird* range in price from \$10 - \$65. (Prices are subject to change.) Students and senior citizens may purchase half-price RUSH TICKETS with proper identification 60 minutes before curtain time for Quadracci Powerhouse performances at The Rep Ticket Office. For more information or to charge tickets, call **414-224-9490**. Tickets can be purchased online 24/7 at www.MilwaukeeRep.com.

Single tickets for all of Milwaukee Repertory Theater's 2011/12 productions are now on sale. Single tickets can be purchased online at www.MilwaukeeRep.com, through The Rep's Ticket Office by calling **414-224-9490** or in person at 108 E. Wells Street. Group tickets are also available for purchase by calling Marketing Manager Ryan Odorizzi at **414-290-0710**.

Under 35 Discount

For patrons under the age of 35, select Quadracci Powerhouse tickets are \$20. Proper identification required. Go to www.MilwaukeeRep.com to order tickets. (Under 35 tickets are based on availability.)

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Milwaukee Repertory Theater is a nationally recognized theater company that presents a critically-acclaimed selection of compelling dramas, powerful classics, award-winning contemporary works and lively Cabaret shows on three stages from September through May. The Rep also produces an annual production of A CHRISTMAS CAROL. The Rep's home, the Patty and Jay Baker Theater Complex, accommodates the Quadracci Powerhouse, the Stiemke Studio and the Stackner Cabaret. The Rep is also home to a Resident Acting Company of actors who perform with The Rep throughout the season.

The Rep is proud to be a member of the [United Performing Arts Fund \(UPAF\)](http://www.upaf.org), which provides major annual financial support. Through community support of the United Performing Arts Fund, UPAF Member and Affiliate Groups are able to provide education and outreach to over 400,000 children, provide over 2,000 live performances and reach over 1,000,000 people every year. When everyone supports the arts through UPAF, they help our local economy, improving education and strengthening outreach programs to the disabled and elderly – all while adding culture to their own life. Support of UPAF is critical to UPAF Member Groups' ability to continue to offer exceptional live performances, award-winning education and outreach programming and substantial economic impact to our region. To learn more about UPAF or to donate, go to www.upaf.org.

The Rep is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the state of Wisconsin. The Rep is a member of the [League of Resident Theatres \(LORT\)](http://www.lort.org), a management association of some of the nation's largest non-profit professional theaters that collectively bargains with the unions that represent the actors, directors and designers that work at The Rep; a constituent of [Theatre Communications Group \(TCG\)](http://www.tcg.org), the national organization for the nonprofit professional theater; and a member of [Theatre Wisconsin](http://www.theatrewisconsin.org), the statewide association of non-profit professional theaters. This theater operates under agreements between the League of Resident Theatres and [Actors'](http://www.actors.org)

[Equity Association](#), the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States, as well as the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. Many of our scenic, costume, lighting, and sound designers are members of the [United Scenic Artists](#), national labor union and our stagehands and carpenters are members of Milwaukee Theatrical Stage Employees' Union IATSE Local 18. This theater is an equal opportunity employer.

[Milwaukee Repertory Theater](#)

Patty & Jay Baker Theatre Complex

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