FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 30, 2019

WILLKOMMEN! ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS MUSICAL THEATRE MASTERPIECE “CABARET”

Arizona Theatre Company (Sean Daniels, Artistic Director; Billy Russo, Managing Director) will bring the timeless “masterpiece of musical theatre” (Chicago Tribune), Cabaret and its powerful political wallop to the Temple of Music & Art from Nov. 30-Dec. 29 and the Herberger Theater Center from Jan. 4-26.

Directed by Sara Bruner, Cabaret, which first opened on Broadway on Nov. 20, 1966 and ran for 1,165 performances, follows American author Cliff Bradshaw (Brandon Espinoza) and his encounter with cabaret performer Sally Bowles (Madison Micucci) at the seedy Kit Kat Klub where she sings.

When she is fired by the club’s owner, Max (David Kelly), also her jealous boyfriend, she moves in with Cliff and the two fall in love. As the Nazis begin taking control of the German government, the atmosphere at the Kit Kat Klub and the lives of Cliff and Sally begin to change.

For all the exuberant song and dance, the most powerful aspect of Cabaret remains the political wallop it delivers. At its core, Cabaret is a devastating critique of apathy and a clever and terrifying look at totalitarianism.
Packed with memorable songs from “Willkommen,” “Perfectly Marvelous,” “I Don’t Care Much,” and, of course, “Cabaret,” Cabaret is a story that remains remarkably timely, particularly in today’s political environment.

"Cabaret is undoubtedly one of the greatest musicals ever - and only Arizona Theatre Company, with a full live orchestra on stage - is able to bring the best in our country to work with the best here to create such a piece,” said Arizona Theatre Company Artistic Director Sean Daniels. “A piece that asks us all what is the cost of staying silent when fascism is on the rise seems like a good question to be asking these days. In terms of artists: Sara Bruner is one of the hottest directors in the country, just coming off a smash hit at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. And Jaclyn Miller’s choreography wowed Arizona artists last year during The Music Man. With a diverse cast packed full of Broadway credits, it promises to be a Cabaret and a night unlike any other."

The show also features D. Scott Withers as Ernst Ludwig, Lori Wilner as Fräulein Schneider and Michelle Dawson as Fräulein Kost. The creative team includes Scenic Designer Kris Stone, Costume Designer Leah Piehl, Co-Lighting Directors Brian Lillienthal and Rachel Fae Szymanski, Sound Designer Leon Rothenberg, Music Director Jesse Sanchez, Choreographer Jaclyn Miller and Dialect Coach David Morden. Dominick Ruggiero is the Stage Manager.

Cabaret will followed by “Master Harold” … and the Boys, The Legend of Georgia McBride and Women in Jeopardy!.

The 2019/2020 season is sponsored by I. Michael and Beth Kasser.

For more information, go to www.arizonatheatre.org or call the box office in Tucson at (520) 622-2823 or in Phoenix at (602) 256-6995.

BIOGRAPHIES

JOE MASTEROFF (Book) Born in 1919 in Philadelphia, he had only one dream from infancy: to write for the theatre. After the essential lonely childhood and four-year stint in the Air Force, he came to New York to face his future: book-writer or book seller? Luckily, luck intervened. Before long, he had three shows on Broadway bearing his name: The Warm Peninsula starring Julie Harris, and two musicals, She Loves Me and Cabaret, for which he was the book writer.

JOHN KANDER (Music) and FRED EBB (Lyrics): The John Kander and Fred Ebb collaboration of four decades has created what many would consider Broadway standards and contemporary classics. One of their first collaborations became a hit song for Barbra Streisand, “My Coloring Book,” earning John and Fred a Grammy nomination. In 1965 the pair working on their first Broadway show Flora the Red Menace. Produced by Hal Prince and directed by George
Abbot. Flora also introduced a rising new star, Liza Minnelli. Followed by Cabaret (Tony Award music and lyrics), The Happy Time, Zorba, 70 Girls 70, Chicago, The Act, Woman of the Year (Tony Award for Music and Lyrics), The Rink, Kiss of the Spider Woman (Tony Award Music and Lyrics), and Steel Pier. Their collaboration also transferred itself to movies and television as they wrote original material for the Academy Awards, Liza with a Z and HBO’s Liza Minnelli’s Steppin’ Out (both Emmy Winners), Baryshnikov on Broadway, Goldie and Liza Together, Funny Lady, Lucky Lady, New York New York, Steppin’ Out, and Chicago the movie. In 1985 the song New York, New York became the official anthem of New York City. At the time of the unfortunate death of Mr. Ebb in 2004, Kander and Ebb had several projects in different stages of completion waiting in the wings. Tony nominated Curtains which played at the Al Hirschfeld theater on Broadway in 2007, twelve time Tony nominated The Scottsboro Boys which opened on Broadway in 2010, All About Us (an adaptation of Thornton Wilder’s The Skin of Our Teeth), and The Visit which opened on Broadway in 2015. Mr. Kander is currently collaborating with author/playwright Greg Pierce on two new projects: The Landing and Kid Victory.


JACLYN MILLER (Choreographer): Previous credit for ATC - Music Man; Regional - South Coast Rep: She Loves Me (upcoming); Oregon Shakespeare Festival: Hairspray, Alice in Wonderland, Book of Will, Shakespeare in Love, Twelfth Night, Yeoman of Guard, Fingersmith (world premiere), Much Ado About Nothing, The Cocoanuts, My Fair Lady, Taming of the Shrew; Idaho Shakespeare Festival/Great Lakes Theater: Mamma Mia!, Pride and Prejudice, Hunchback of Notre Dame; Guthrie Theatre: The Cocoanuts; Baltimore Center Stage: Fun Home. Additionally, Jaclyn has worked as an Associate Director and/or Choreographer around the country - such theaters include: Kirk Douglas Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, Portland Opera, Gateway Playhouse, Parker Playhouse, Colony Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival and Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma.

CAST
CHANEL BRAGG (Frenchie) is elated to return to Arizona Theatre Company in this fabulous production of Cabaret. ATC credits: Alma Hix in The Music Man; Local Tour: Power Woman - Menopause the Musical, Grandma - Super Cowgirl Mighty Miracle; Regional: Pat-Kinky Boots, Lindsay Track –Godspell, Medda Larkin-Newies, Carla - In the Heights, Gina – Beehive the Musical, Justice - Rock of Ages, Mary Magdalene - Jesus Christ Superstar, Joanne - Rent, Miss Fleming- Heathers the Musical, Ruth - Raisin in the Sun, Mrs. Mueller - Doubt, Dorothy - The Wiz, Darlene Love -Leader of the Pack, Deloris Van Cartier - Sister Act (2020); Founder of United Colours of Arizona Theatre, Producer of "The Alexander Project" & The Soul of

www.chanelbragg.com Instagram: cmbragg

MEGAN BOEHMCKE (Swing) is delighted to be a part of her first ATC production! Other credits include Arizona Repertory Theatre’s Richard III (Lady Rivers) and Sister Act (Nun/Hooker). Megan also appeared as ensemble in Virginia Musical Theatre’s production of How To Succeed.

ALEX CALDWELL (Lulu) National Tour: Dirty Dancing (Ensemble, u/s Baby, u/s Lisa). Selected Credits: Cats (Sillabub, u/s Victoria, u/s Rumpleteazer, u/s Demeter), West Side Story (Graziella), Evita (Ensemble, feature tango dancer), Chicago (Velma), Peter Pan (Tiger Lily). Alex is also an alumna of The School at Jacob’s Pillow.

MICHELLE DAWSON (Fräulein Kost) thrilled to be returning to ATC. Michelle won a MAC Award for Best Actress as Aldonza in ATC’s Man of La Mancha. Broadway - Spider-man: Turn Off The Dark, Mamma Mia!, Ragtime, Show Boat, Cyrano, The Musical. National Tours - Mamma Mia! (Donna & Tanya), Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Milly), The Secret Garden, The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber. Chicago—First Wives Club, Ragtime (Evelyn Nesbit). Regional—Bucks County Playhouse: Mamma Mia! (Donna), Baltimore Center Stage: Fun Home (Helen), Sacramento Music Circus: Mamma Mia! (Donna); Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera: Mamma Mia! (Tanya), Jekyll & Hyde (Lucy); Grease (Rizzo), A Little Night Music (Petra); Pioneer Theatre Company: Evita (Eva Peron); over 15 productions at Westchester Broadway Theatre. TV—Law & Order, All My Children, 63rd Annual TONY Awards (featured performer). Education—BFA: Carnegie-Mellon University. michelle-dawson.com

SEAN PATRICK DOYLE (Emcee) ATC: Pajama Game. Broadway: Kinky Boots, La Cage Aux Folles (2010 Revival Cast Recording). Off-Broadway: Jerry Springer: The Opera (Lucille Lortel Nomination, Outstanding Featured Actor), Volpone, Anna Nicole: The Opera, Wig Out! National and International tours: Mary Poppins, Fiddler on the Roof, West Side Story, Fame. Recent regional favorites include The Legend of Georgia McBride (Carbonell Nomination, Best Supporting Actor) and the world premiere of Brent Askari’s Hard Cell, as well as principal roles at Paper Mill Playhouse, Pittsburgh CLO, Casa Mañana, Kansas City Starlight and John F. Kennedy Center. He is best known on screen for his turn as roller-skating lackey Garv in 20th Century Fox's The Sitter. Other Film: Barry (Netflix) and the Oscar-nominated animated feature The Boxtrolls (Laika/Focus Features), for which he provided singing vocals for Sir Ben Kingsley. Television: Fosse/Verdon (FX), Gotham (Fox), Nurse Jackie (Showtime), Donny (USA), Orange is the New Black (Netflix), Forever (ABC), Law & Order (NBC) and Mamma Dallas (pilot for HBO). @seanpatrickdoyle_ http://www.seanpatrickdoyle.com.

BRANDON ESPINOZA (Clifford Bradshaw) Broadway: SpongeBob SquarePants, Tuck Everlasting, Gypsy, Big, Les Miserables, Will Rogers Follies. Off-Broadway: Baghdaddy (St. Luke's Theater, Chita Rivera Award), Scarcity (Atlantic Theater Company), Substitution (The Playwrights Realm), Tea and Sympathy (Keen Company), Not Waving (NY Summer Play Festival), Captains Courageous (Manhattan Theatre Club, Drama League nomination). Regional: A View From the Bridge (Director: Ivo van Hove, Goodman Theatre), The Way Of The World (Director/Playwright: Theresa Rebeck, Folger Shakespeare Theater), West Side Story (Stratford Shakespeare Festival). Numerous workshops for New York Stage & Film, Atlantic Theater Company, Playwrights Horizons, Eugene O’Neill Festival. TV/Film: FBI (CBS), The Leftovers (HBO), The Mysteries Of Laura (NBC), The Following (Fox), Elementary (CBS), The Carrie Diaries (CW), It Could Be Worse (Pivot/Hulu), Middle Of The Night (by Neil LaBute).
SPENCE FORD (Helga) trained as a dancer, growing up in Richmond, Virginia. She enjoyed a successful career on Broadway, performing in *Dancin’, King of Hearts, Carmelina, Peter Pan, Copperfield, Merlin, La Cage aux Folles*, and *Teddy and Alice*. She toured the USA in *West Side Story, Good News*, and in *Cats*, portraying Cassandra the Siamese. Her favorite onstage experiences include playing Cassie in *A Chorus Line* and going on for Chita Rivera as the Evil Queen in *Merlin*. In London 1983, she performed for Queen Elizabeth II at the Royal Command Performance. In 1989, she performed at the Inaugural Gala for the first President Bush. Working with artists such as Bob Fosse, Graciela Daniele, Peter Gennaro, Chita Rivera, and Gwen Verdon, Spence was inspired to pursue teaching and choreography. After her son was born in 1990, she accepted the position of Head of Dance for Musical Theatre with the BFA MT program at Penn State University. There she taught and choreographed productions for 20 years, including directing and choreographing *Sweet Charity, King of Hearts*, and *Lucky Stiff* as well as a tribute to Michael Jackson choreographed collaboratively with the other dance faculty. Professionally, her dances have been seen in *Good News, Dames At Sea, George M*, *West Side Story, Showboat*, and *Oklahoma!* Her favorite production is her son Ford DeCastro.

DAVID KELLY (Herr Schultz and Max) David is happy to be making his ATC debut. He has been an acting company member at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for 28 seasons. Some of his favorite roles at OSF include: Henry Condell in *Book of Will*, Major General in *Pirates of Penzance*, Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Falstaff in *Henry IV* and *Merry Wives*, Wilbur Turnblad in *Hairspray*, Biff in *Death of a Salesman*, Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Benny in *Guys and Dolls*, and the title characters of *The Imaginary Invalid, Timon of Athens* and *Richard II*. Recently, he was seen as Elwood P. Dowd in the Guthrie Theatre production of *Harvey*, and Greg in *Hand to God* and Buzz Windrip in *It Can’t Happen Here* at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. For fifteen years David has taught in the theater department at Southern Oregon University.


XANDER MASON (Bobby) is thrilled to be apart of such a beautiful, and powerful show! He is currently a junior at The University of Arizona getting a BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of his favorite credits include Johnny in *American Idiot* (ATC/Summer on Stage) Ernst in *Spring Awakening*, Ensemble/Curtis U/S in *Sister Act* (Arizona Repertory Theatre), and Joe in *Lucky U Ranch*.

JENNA MEADOWS (Swing) is thrilled to be joining this ensemble in her first ATC production. She is currently a junior at The University of Arizona in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her recent Arizona Repertory Theatre credits include: *Richard III, Sister Act, and The Pajama Game*.

MADISON MICUCCI (Sally Bowles) is making her ATC debut in *Cabaret*. She was recently seen on Broadway in *The Band’s Visit* (Dina standby), and on the First National Tour of *School of Rock* (Patty) She has worked regionally with The Penguin Rep, Barrington Stage, Pioneer Theatre, and Arkansas Rep. TV: *Orange Is The New Black.* University of Michigan Alum.

ANTONIA RAYE (Fritzie) is making her debut performance with Arizona Theatre Company. Raye recently performed in The Lyric Opera of Chicago’s production of *West Side Story* as...
Estella. She has appeared in four productions by Norwegian Creative Studios in Florida, working closely with renowned choreographer Warren Calyle. She has also appeared in five Royal Caribbean productions. Raye has been seen in many dance concerts nationwide as an undergrad, working with choreographers Wayne St. David, Hope Boykin, Sidra Bell, and Ayo Jackson among others. Raye earned a B.F.A. degree in Dance at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She also trained at summer sessions of Alonzo King Lines Ballet in San Francisco and The American Dance Festival in Durham, North Carolina.

SHAUN-AVERY WILLIAMS (Texas) ATC Credits: The Music Man. NY City Center Encores!: High Button Shoes. Regional Credits: Kinky Boots (Phoenix Theatre), Peter Pan, (Pittsburgh CLO), Memphis (Gateway Playhouse), Dreamgirls (Theatre Raleigh). TV/Film: Christmas of Many Colors (featured). Entertainment: Norwegian Cruise Line (Pride of America).
@shaunaverywilliams | Website: shaunaverywilliams.com

D. SCOTT WITHERS (Ernst Ludwig) is thrilled to be making his Arizona Theatre Company debut! National tours: Dirty Dancing, Elf the Musical, Memphis, and Catch Me If You Can. Select Regional Theatre: Cookin’s a Drag, Mamma Mia! and Gypsy at Phoenix Theatre Company, Oliver with the Phoenix Symphony, Parade at Arizona Regional Theatre, Three Javelinas and The Color of Stars at Childsplay, Hairspray at Arkansas Rep. A Year with Frog and Toad at Seattle Children’s Theatre, Footloose at Arizona Broadway Theatre and Lost and Foundling at Geva Theatre Center. BFA in Theatre Performance from Arizona State University. Proud member of Actors’ Equity!


TATUM ZALE (Rosie) is so happy to be back at ATC; previously seen as the female swing/Zaneetta understudy last season in The Music Man! Regional credits: Damn Yankees (Gloria), La Cage Aux Folles (Bitelle/Colette), The Music Man (Mrs. Squires/ Dance Captain) with The Woodstock Playhouse. Other select credits include: Spring Awakening (Arizona Repertory Theatre), Sister Act (ART), The Pajama Game (ART). All her love to her family, friends and professors for their unwavering support.

CREATIVE TEAM
Scenic Design: Kris Stone
Costume Design: Leah Piehl
Lighting Design: Brian Lillienthal and Rachel Fae Szymanski
Sound Design: Leon Rothenberg
Music Director: Jesse Sanchez
Choreographer: Jaclyn Miller
Dialect Coach: David Morden
Production Stage Manager: Dominick Ruggiero
Tickets for Cabaret start at $25 and are subject to change depending on time, date and section, and are available at www.arizonatheatre.org or by calling the box office at (520) 622-2823 in Tucson or (602) 256-6995 in Phoenix. Discounts are available. Active Military/Vets/Service/1st Responders receive $10 off the price of tickets (except Premium.) Students with valid ID pay $15 for all performances. Half-price rush tickets are available for balcony seating for all performances one hour prior to curtain at the ATC box office (subject to availability). $15 Community Night performance in Tucson is Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. in Phoenix. (Tickets must be purchased at the Temple of Music and Art or the Herberger Theater Center starting one hour prior to curtain. Tickets are first-come, first served. Cash preferred. Two tickets maximum per person.) For discounts for groups of 10 or more, call (520) 884-8210, x7213.

Arizona Theatre Company offers accessibility services for patrons with disabilities for select performances. Audio Description provides patrons with vision loss a running audio description of the movement and activities onstage through an infrared broadcast system. An Audio-Described performance is offered in Tucson on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. and in Phoenix on Saturday, Jan. 18 at 2 p.m. Interested patrons with vision loss may request a tactile tour one hour prior to curtain. American Sign Language Interpretation is presented by professional, theatrically trained ASL interpreters for people who have deafness or hearing impairment. An ASL-interpreted performance is offered in Tucson on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. and in Phoenix on Saturday, Jan. 18 at 2 p.m. Open Captioning allows patrons to read the play’s dialogue on an LED screen as the play progresses. An open captioned performance is offered in Tucson on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. and in Phoenix on Sunday, Sunday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. For open-captioned or ASL-interpreted performances, patrons should request seats best suited to ASL interpretation or captioning when purchasing tickets. Large print and Braille playbills and infrared listening amplification devices are also available at every ATC performance with reservation. TTY access available via Arizona Relay at (800) 367-8939 (TTY/ASCII) for the box office in Tucson at (520) 884-9723, or (602) 256-6995 in Phoenix.

Fact Sheet:
Cabaret
Music by John Kander
Lyrics by Fred Ebb
Book by Joe Masteroff
Directed by Sara Bruner

Tucson Venue:
Temple of Music and Art
330 S. Scott Ave., Tucson
Previews Begin: Saturday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.
Opening Night: Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Closing Performance: Sunday, Dec. 29 at 7 p.m.

Phoenix Venue:
Herberger Theater Center
222 E. Monroe St., Phoenix
Previews Begin: Saturday, Jan. 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Opening Night: Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
Closing Performance: Sunday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m.
Ticket prices begin at $25 and are available in-person at the Temple of Music and Art box office or via phone at (520) 622-2823, or at the Herberger Theater Center box office or by calling (602)
256-6995 in Phoenix. Tickets also can be purchased online at www.arizonatheatre.org.

Contact:
Steve Carr, The Kur Carr Group, Inc., (602) 317-3040

About Arizona Theatre Company: Under new leadership, and now celebrating its 53rd season, Arizona Theatre Company is truly “The State Theatre.” Our company boasts the largest subscriber base of any performing arts organization in Arizona, with more than 130,000 people each year attending performances at the historic Temple of Music and Art in Tucson, and the elegant Herberger Theater Center in downtown Phoenix.

Each season of high quality productions reflects the rich variety of world theatre – from classic to contemporary plays, from musicals to new works – audiences enjoy the rich emotional experience and joy that can only be captured through live theatre. ATC is the preeminent professional theatre in the state of Arizona. Under the direction of Artistic Director Sean Daniels and Managing Director Billy Russo, ATC operates in two cities – unlike any other League of Resident Theaters (LORT) company in the country.

ATC shares the passion of the theatre through a wide array of outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives, and community events. With more than 700 Education & Engagement activities through the schools and summer programs, ATC focuses on teaching Arizona’s youth about the creative power of dramatic literature and how it can enrich their own lives in multiple ways.

ATC reaches far beyond the metropolitan areas of Tucson and Phoenix, enriching the theatre learning experience for current and future audiences.