RESIDENT COSTUME DESIGNER JEFF CONE REFLECTS ON HIS 30TH SHOW IN THE FIVE YEARS THAT PCS HAS BEEN AT THE ARMORY

From the page to the stage, PCS explores the inner workings of Cone’s Costume Shop.

June 29, 2011 – PORTLAND, ORE. Jeff Cone is the Resident Costume Designer and Costume Shop Manager at Portland Center Stage, charged with designing and overseeing the creation of the majority of costumes seen onstage at The Gerding Theater at the Armory. With One Night with Janis Joplin, Cone is celebrating a momentous milestone – the production marks his 30th show for PCS in five years.

Few regional theater companies across the United States employ a Resident Costume Designer; Jeff’s position at PCS is almost an anomaly. Although Cone has been at PCS since 2000, he took on his current role and title when PCS moved into the Armory in 2006. In this time, the number of productions Cone is responsible for designing each season has grown from two to more than six. This season alone, he designed seven of PCS’s ten productions.

“This is the hardest I’ve ever had to work in my life,” said Cone. “But at the same time, I feel lucky. My artistic urges are satisfied, and I get to make a living doing what I love.”

For a more in-depth look at Cone’s work for PCS, please visit http://www.pcs.org/blog/jeff-cone/. Production photos from each of Cone’s shows at the Armory can be found at http://www.flickr.com/photos/portlandcenterstage/sets/72157627039645346/.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, PCS became an independent theater in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May 2000. The company presents a blend of classic, contemporary and original productions in a conscious effort to appeal to the eclectic palate of theatergoers in Portland. PCS also offers a variety of education and outreach programs for curious minds from six to 106.

THE GERDING THEATER AT THE ARMORY houses a 599-seat Main Stage and a 200-seat black box Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006. The capital campaign to fund the renovation of this hub for community artistic activity continues.

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