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MEDIA RELEASE

OKLAHOMA! EXTENDS THROUGH NOVEMBER 6

While the wind is coming right behind the rain in Portland, the bright golden haze filling the PCS Main Stage theater will continue for an additional week of performances.



October 13, 2011– PORTLAND, ORE. Audiences just "cain't say no" to Portland Center Stage's season-opening musical. In response to overwhelming popular demand, PCS is thrilled to announce that <u>Oklahoma!</u> will be extended through Sunday, November 6, 2011. Extension tickets for the week of October 30 through November 6 start at \$64, with tickets for under 30s at \$25 (ID required) and student discounts also available. Rush tickets are \$20. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, with 2:00 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Please visit www.pcs.org/OK for a full list of remaining performances. Tickets can be purchased online at www.pcs.org, by phone at 503.445.3700 or by visiting the box office located at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue.

Here are a few of the things patrons have been saying about **Oklahoma!**:

"I don't even know where to start. The singing, the dancing, the humor, the love of the production and creative energy of the cast...magnificent! The cast and crew could not have been more amazing. I spoke to a couple cast members after the show and they could not be more cool to a fan. And I'm a huge one now."

- Britt, commenting on www.pcs.org

"I've never been a big Oklahoma fan, to tell the truth. But this - with its dazzling dancing, its energy and gorgeous choir - it's a winner."

- Christi Krug, posting on her blog Kindling

"Best musical at the Gerding? Seen 'em all, and I think so. Better staged, better danced, and better sung than the last show I saw on Broadway. THAT, boys and girls, is as good as it gets."

- Scott Fisher, commenting on the PCS Facebook page

"Combines top-notch acting, great choreography and singing, and exquisite stage design to deliver the most authentic-feeling version of this show I've ever seen. Thanks for exposing us to this little known piece of history and enriching our theatrical experience. You've done it again! Bravo!"

- Ellen, commenting on www.pcs.org

<u>Oklahoma!</u> is directed by Portland Center Stage Artistic Director Chris Coleman. The role of independent cowboy Curly is played by **Rodney Hicks** and Laurey is played by **Brianna Horne**. A familiar face to PCS audiences is **Marisha Wallace**, most recently seen in *One Night with Janis Joplin*, taking on the role of Ado Annie. The full cast includes Joy Lynn Matthews-Jacobs, Troy Valjean Rucker, Don Kenneth Mason, Timothy Ware, Jarran Muse, Justin Lee Miller, Jonathan Raviv, Kelcy Griffin, Sheila Jones, Berwick Haynes, Tyrone Roberson, Gregory J. Hanks, Kemba Anika Shannon, Sumayya Ali, Bianca Burgess, and Marlene Villafane.

Scenic design for *Oklahoma!* is created by **William Bloodgood**, with lighting design by **Ann Wrightson** and costume design by **Jeff Cone**. Sound design is by **Casi Pacilio. Rick Lewis** is the musical director and **Joel Ferrell** is choreographer.

Additional support for this production has been provided by Ellyn Bye; Madeline Nelson and Jim Lafky; Helen and Jerry Stern; Troutman Sanders; US Bank and The Oregonian.

Portland Center Stage's 2011/12 season is funded in part by **Umpqua Private Bank**, our lead corporate champion; the **Regional Arts & Culture Council** and **Work for Art**; the **Oregon Arts Commission**; the **Paul G. Allen Family Foundation**; **Helen and Jerry Stern**; and **Tim & Mary Boyle**. The Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner for Portland Center Stage.

<u>PORTLAND CENTER STAGE</u> 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, including discussions, classes, workshops and partnerships with organizations throughout the Portland metro area.

THE GERDING THEATER AT THE ARMORY houses a 599-seat Main Stage and the 200-seat black box Ellyn Bye 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.