

News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

Contact: Liz Nance June 3, 2019

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Virginia Repertory Theatre at Hanover Tavern Presents

Forever Plaid

Book by Stuart Ross

Music by Various Artists

Direction by Wes Seals

Richmond, VA -- Virginia Repertory Theatre announces the company of the final production of the 2018/2019 Hanover Season, *Forever Plaid*, opening Friday, July 19, 2019, at the Hanover Tavern. For anyone looking for a nostalgic trip back to the days of close-harmony quartets, look no further than Stuart Ross's nifty musical revue, *Forever Plaid*.

When four young singers are killed in a car crash, they posthumously take the stage for one final gig in this goofy, 1950s nostalgia trip. Enjoy the golden tunes of "back in the day" as The Plaids, a quartet of high school friends, return from the afterlife for their last chance at musical glory. Featuring such songs as *Catch a Falling Star, Day-O, 16 Tons, Three Coins in the Fountain* and *Chain Gang*.

Director **Wes Seals** makes his Tavern debut, after most recently choreographing this season's Children's holiday musical, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, and serving as dramaturg and associate director for last summer's Signature smash hit, *West Side Story*. Recent credits include movement direction for both *The Laramie Project* at Richmond Triangle Players and *Desire Under the Elms* at Firehouse Theatre. Music Director **Travis West** makes his Virginia Rep debut with *Forever Plaid*. Recent musical direction credits include *The Andrews Brothers*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Plaid Tidings* at Swift Creek Mill Theatre.

For this barbershop musical revue, Seals has assembled a talented cast of four. **Caleb Wade** returns to the stage, after most recently appearing in *The Game's Afoot: Holmes for the*

Holidays at Hanover Tavern and Atlantis at the November Theatre. Ian Page also joins the cast, last seen on a Virginia Rep stage in 1776. Rounding out the cast, **Mitchell Ashe** and **PJ Llewellyn** make their Virginia Rep debuts.

Set Design is by **Terrie Powers** (*Broadway Bound, The Game's Afoot: Holmes for the Holidays*), Costume Design is by **Marcia Miller Hailey** (*Pinocchio, Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End*), Lighting Design is by **BJ Wilkinson** (*Atlantis, The Game's Afoot: Holmes for the Holidays*), and Sound Design is by **Derek Dumais** (*Atlantis, The Game's Afoot: Holmes for the Holidays*).

Ticket Information

Box Office: 804-282-2620

www.virginiarep.org
Full Price Tickets: \$44

Discounted Group Rates available.

The **Performance Schedule** includes evening performances at 8:00 p.m. on select Wednesdays and every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. on select Wednesdays and Saturdays and every Sunday.

Press Kits will be available at http://va-rep.org/press.html

Passcode accessible hi-res photos will be available to media.

username = press password = HiRes121

Direction & Design

Direction Wes Seals
Musical Direction Travis West
Set Design Terrie Powers

Costume Design Marcia Miller Hailey

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Stage Management

BJ Wilkinson

Derek Dumais

Izzy Kainz

Hanover Technical Director Tommy Hawfield

Cast List

Sparky Mitchell Ashe
Smudge PJ Llewellyn
Jinx lan Page
Frankie Caleb Wade

About Virginia Repertory Theatre

Virginia Repertory Theatre is a nonprofit, regional professional theatre in Richmond, Virginia. With a budget of \$5.5 million, four unique venues, an educational touring arm, and an annual audience over 530,000, Virginia Rep is one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Virginia Rep stages four seasons annually: the Signature Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, Theatre Gym Season in partnership with Cadence Theatre Company, Virginia Rep's Children's Season at Willow Lawn, and the Hanover Tavern Season.

Corporate Sponsors

Virginia Rep is grateful for support from show sponsor The Supply Room Companies and season sponsors the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, The Shubert Foundation, The Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.