

# News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

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# Virginia Repertory Theatre Announces 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season

**Richmond, VA –** Virginia Repertory Theatre announces its **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season** with a robust roster of dramatic and comedic plays and musicals for the Signature Season at the November Theatre and the Barksdale Season at Hanover Tavern. The Family Theatre Season will be announced this fall along with the new location for combined children, families and schools programming.

The 2022-2023 season presents reimagined classics, a world premiere, a seasonal cabaret and titles that help Richmond celebrate community through the arts.

Virginia Rep, a non-profit professional theatre company, was founded in Hanover County in 1953, and has become one of Central Virginia's largest professional performing arts organizations. This year, the theatre will celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year with a variety of events. To honor this milestone, the Hanover Season will return to its original name - the Barksdale Season at Hanover Tavern.

# SIGNATURE SEASON

# **Chicken & Biscuits**

Sept. 30 - Oct. 30, 2022 By Douglas Lyons A feast of love and laughter — this raucous family comedy will feed your soul. Rival sisters prepare to bury their father when a family secret arrives at the church, throwing the proceedings into comical chaos. Virginia Rep is thrilled to produce the East Coast Regional Premiere of Chicken & Biscuits, hot off its Broadway run.

#### **Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley**

Nov. 25, 2022 - Jan. 1, 2023 By Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon

Two years after the end of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, the Bennet sisters and their spouses are celebrating the holidays with family at the Darcy estate. Mary Bennet, the bookish middle sister, isn't in a festive mood. She is tired of missing out on romantic escapades. Will an unexpected guest give Mary the ultimate gift of love? Don't miss this charming sequel.

One of the most produced plays in the United States in 2018.

### After December

March 3 - 26, 2023 By Bo Wilson World Premiere

When a particle collider deep beneath the earth's surface malfunctions, a mysterious woman appears. She cannot say where she's from or how she got here; she only knows that she is a poet. But when she gives voice to her strange and beautiful poems, reality itself begins to ripple and shift, becoming eerily unreliable. To the physicists, she's an intriguing mystery; to the authorities, she's a threat. Could both be right? Discover whether science can unravel the riddle of the poet in this exciting new play.

# **Beautiful: The Carole King Musical**

Jun. 23 - Aug. 6, 2023 Book: Douglas McGrath Words and Music by Gerry Goffin & Carole King Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil Music by Arrangement with Sony/ATV Music Publishing

*Beautiful:The Carole King Musical* tells the Tony® and Grammy®-winning inspiring true story of King's remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, she made more than beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation.

#### **BARKSDALE SEASON**

#### **Steel Magnolias**

Oct. 14 - Nov.13, 2022 Book: Robert Harling

Join us at Truvy's beauty parlor, and meet the six hilarious and heartwarming women of Steel Magnolias, whose antics in the salon will have you laughing through the tears. The ladies gossip and spar, but ultimately the strength of their bond is revealed as they stand by one another to face both the good times and bad.

#### A Broadway Christmas

Dec. 2, 2022 - Jan. 1, 2023

Just in time for the holidays, our ensemble of musical theatre all-stars has put together lively entertainment that celebrates the timeless Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa songs that were initially composed for and performed in Broadway, Hollywood and Virginia Rep musicals. Each song tells a story. Together, they will warm your heart and set your toes to tapping, while fascinating you with the backstage holiday stories of some of the most memorable theatre composers and practitioners of all time. You won't want to miss this rousing celebration.

## **Oil City Symphony**

Mar. 24 - Apr. 30, 2023 Book: Mike Craver, Mark Hardwick, Debra Monk, Mary Murfitt Music: Various Lyrics: Various

From the creators of *Pump Boys and Dinettes* comes the knee-slapping and award-winning revue, Oil City Symphony, the story of four graduates who return to their alma mater to honor their beloved music teacher. Performing an eclectic program - ranging from the "1812 Overture" to "The Stars and Stripes Forever" to rock standards, sentimental favorites, and off-beat original songs - the four fill their tribute concert with good old-fashioned fun.

<u>For Subscription Information:</u> Box Office: 804-282-2620 or www.virginiarep.org