

News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

Contact: Liz Nance Director of Communications Virginia Repertory Theatre Inance@virginiarep.org 804-389-3390 May 2, 2023

Virginia Repertory Theatre Announces Grey Garrett to Play Carole King

Richmond, VA – Celebrated local actress Grey Garrett will lead Virginia Repertory Theatre's regional premiere of **Beautiful: The Carole King Musical,** portraying multi-Grammy Award-winner Carole King, at the November Theatre beginning June 23.

Her other Virginia Rep appearances include Sibella in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and Tanya in *Mamma Mia!*, for which she won a 2022 Artsy Award for Best Supporting Performance in a Musical at the 14th Richmond Theatre Community Circle Awards.

Garrett's additional credits include *Grey Gardens* (Richmond Triangle Players), *Bright Star* (Swift Creek Mill), *MAMMA MIA!* (Riverside Center of the Arts); *LYSISTRATA* (Quill); *Alice* (RTCC Winner: Best Ensemble, Firehouse/TheatreLAB); *HAIR, Wild Party, POP!* (Firehouse Theatre Company); *Beyond The Rainbow, I Love A Piano* (Swift Creek Mill); *Rabbit Hole* (RTCC Winner: Best Supporting Actress), *Equus, August: Osage County* (RTCC Winner: Best Play) (Cadence/Virginia Rep); *Junie B. Jones, Croaker* (Virginia Rep); *It Shoulda Been You* (Richmond Triangle Players); and *The Boy From Oz* (RTCC Winner: Best Supporting Actress).

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical will be directed by Virginia Rep's Artistic Director of Programming, Rick Hammerly, with music direction by Jason Marks, scenic design by

Frank Foster, costume design by Sue Griffin, lighting design by Joe Doran and sound design by Jacob Mishler.

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical follows Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom, from her partnership in a hit songwriting team husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to her becoming one of the most successful and celebrated solo acts in popular music history.

Featuring a stunning array of beloved songs written by Gerry Goffin/Carole King and Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil—including "I Feel the Earth Move," "One Fine Day," "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman," "You've Got a Friend," and the title song— Beautiful took home two 2014 Tony Awards®, as well as a 2015 Grammy® for Best Musical Theater Album, and features a book by Tony® and Academy Award®nominated writer Douglas McGrath.

The show runs from June 23 to August 6. Tickets can be purchased online at <u>https://va-rep.org/ beautiful-carole-november.html</u> or by calling the Box Office at 804-282-2620.

About Virginia Repertory Theatre

Virginia Repertory Theatre is a regional professional theater headquartered in downtown Richmond, and is one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Virginia Rep will stage three primary seasons in 2023-2024: the Signature Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, the Barksdale Season at the Hanover Tavern. Virginia, and the Children's Season at Virginia Rep Center for Arts and Education, 4204 Hermitage Road in Richmond's Northside. Virginia Rep also tours children's shows, both virtual and live, and provides educational programming to schools throughout Virginia and to major performing arts centers throughout 32 states.

Premier Sponsor

Dominion Energy

<u>Show Sponsor</u> Atlantic Union Bank

Season Supporters

Altria The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation The Virginia Commission for the Arts National Endowment for the Arts The Shubert Foundation CultureWorks