



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Written by Heather Osteraa

“Little Women” Musical is Touching Tale of the Power of Family

“But we have to promise to remain as we are...that it’ll always be the four March sisters – forever!”

SALINAS, Calif. – The Western Stage presents “Little Women” as the first Mainstage musical of its 2019 season. Based on Louisa May Alcott’s beloved semi-autobiographical novel, “Little Women” is filled with adventure, romance, and a deep sense of hope. This heartwarming drama follows the four March sisters as they struggle to find their own paths, mirroring the growing pains of a changing America.

PERFORMS: June 22 – July 13, 2019 on the Mainstage, Hartnell College Performing Arts Center, K104. www.westernstage.com/tickets or at the Box Office: 831-755-6816 (Open Wed – Sat, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.).

“Little Women” The Musical with book by Allan Knee, music by Jason Howland and lyrics by Mindi Dickstein, is a fresh adaptation from the many stage and film versions. The play starts with Jo, living as a writer in New York, and takes us through her memory as she looks back on her last 4 years in Concord, Massachusetts. Interspersed amid vignettes of Jo’s and her sisters’ lives unfolding, are melodramatic re-enactments of Jo’s imaginative tales of adventure and gore. No doubt many young women have read the novel at some point during their lives, devouring the tale of the March sisters (outspoken aspiring author Jo, practical Meg, sweet Beth, and romantic Amy) who are coming of age during the American Civil War under the care of their doting mother, whom they call Marmee, while their father is away fighting with the Union Army. They gather together to read his too infrequent letters, warmly cuddling together around their beloved mother like a safe cocoon in a world torn apart by war. Yet, the women are not living in fear, nor are they without hope. Each of the March women draw strength from each other as they persevere and navigate life’s challenges.

“Little Women” is directed and choreographed by Lorenzo Aragon with Music Direction by Don Dally; set design by Theodore Michael Dolas, Costumes by Jaymee Ngerwichit, Lighting Design by Derek Duarte, Sound Design by Jeff Mockus, and Hair/Makeup Design, by Maegan Roux.

Cast List: Jo March (**Claire Moorer**), Professor Bhaer (**Kyle Richlin**), Amy March (**Maya Mendoza**) Meg March (**Heather Osteraa**), Beth March (**Katie Wheeler**) Marmee March (**Jaqui Hope**) Mr. Laurence (**David Norum**), Laurie Laurence (**Josh Kaiser**), Aunt March (**Donna Federico**), Mr. John Brooke (**Eric Wishnie**). Ensemble: **Mackenzie Brazier, Celia Madison, Jonathan Perez**

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requiring sign-language interpreters, real-time captioners, or other accommodations should contact the Box Office at least one week prior to the event: 831-755-6816

DETAILS

WHAT: The Western Stage presents “Little Women” as the first Mainstage musical of its 2019 season. Based on Louisa May Alcott’s beloved semi-autobiographical novel, “Little Women” is filled with adventure, romance, and a deep sense of hope. The four March sisters each struggle to find their own path, mirroring the growing pains of a changing America.

WHEN: June 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, July 6, 7, 12, 13. Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Mainstage Theater, K104. Hartnell College Performing Arts Center, Building K, 411 Central Ave., Salinas, CA 93901.

TICKETS AND INFO: \$26 general admission, \$24 for seniors and military; and \$12 for children age 5 – 15. Hartnell students are free with student I.D. Other students \$20 with I.D. or \$5 Student Rush (cash only) on day of performance. For single or group tickets and information, go to westernstage.com or call 831-755-6816. (Open Wed – Sat, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.).

PRESS: Contact Customer Relations Manager, Berniz House by phone: 831-759-6012 or email: bhouse@hartnell.edu.

ABOUT THE WESTERN STAGE

Founded in 1974, The Western Stage (TWS) has evolved over the last four decades into one of the most respected community-based theaters on California’s Central Coast. TWS is committed to enriching the culture of its community by bringing together professional artists, theatre students, and community members to produce a dynamic season of plays that enhances the lives of both the artist and audience; developing new works that speak to the history and culture of the Salinas Valley; and provide educational opportunities that allow students of all skill levels to explore and develop their unique talents. www.westernstage.com

HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – ESTABLISHED IN 1920

The Hartnell CCD serves over 17,000 students annually through its main campus in Salinas, the Alisal Campus in East Salinas, the King City Education Center, and various outreach learning centers throughout the Salinas Valley. Hartnell College, a Hispanic Serving Institution, provides

associate degree and certificate programs, workforce-training, courses in basic skills, and prepares students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Hartnell College is recognized for its innovative public and private partnerships that support world-class education for STEM, career technical education, fine and performing arts, humanities/social sciences, nursing/healthcare, and athletics. We are proud to be the winners of the 2015 Innovation Award for CSin3 – a Computer Science bachelor's degree in three years. **We are growing leaders through opportunity, engagement, and achievement.** For more about Hartnell CCD, visit www.hartnell.edu.

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