ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS • MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE

For Immediate Release February 10, 2016

Asolo Rep Presents Inside Asolo Rep: All the Way and Guess Who's Coming to Dinner on February 24

WHAT:

This special behind-the-scenes discussion will spotlight Asolo Rep's current production of *All the Way*, running through April 9, and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, which opens March 11 and runs through April 17. The featured panelists will be two time Tony Award®-winner and Academy Award®-nominee and director of *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* Frank Galati and Shaun Patrick Tubbs, Asolo Rep directing fellow for *All the Way*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* and *Disgraced*. Asolo Rep Dramaturg and Casting Associate Lauryn E. Sasso will guide the discussion.

WHO:

FRANK GALATI ASSOCIATE ARTIST, SIXTH SEASON (Director, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner) is a member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago. In September his adaptation of John Steinbeck's East of Eden opened the theatre's 40th anniversary season. Over the years, he has received nine Joseph Jefferson Awards for his work in Chicago theatre. Here at Asolo Rep he has directed Both Your Houses, Philadelphia, Here I Come, 1776, My Fair Lady, and Twelve Angry Men. He has directed at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Berkley Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Long Wharf Theatre, Chicago Opera Theatre, San Francisco Opera, Dallas Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, The Metropolitan Opera, The Stratford Festival in Canada, and the Roundabout Theatre in New York. For 20 years he was an Associate Director at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. He won two Tony Awards in 1990 for his adaptation and direction of the Steppenwolf production of The Grapes of Wrath on Broadway and was nominated again in 1998 for directing Ragtime on Broadway. In 1989, Mr. Galati was nominated for an Academy Award for his screenplay (with Lawrence Kasdan) of The Accidental Tourist. In 2000 he was inducted into The American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Mr. Galati is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Performance Studies at Northwestern University. He lives in Sarasota.

SHAUN PATRICK TUBBS FIRST SEASON (Directing Fellow, *All the Way*; *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Disgraced*) is a director and actor. 2015 SDC/Kurt Weill Fellowship recipient for emerging directors. Some directing/assistant directing credits include *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* (Royal Opera House, London), *King Hedley II* (Arena Stage), and *Here I Go* (La MaMa Spoleto, Italy). Recent acting credits include *My Mañana Comes* (Marin Theatre Company), *The Book of Grace* (Zach Scott Theatre), and *The Tempest* (Eureka Suitcase). Member of the SDC, AEA, and SAG-AFTRA. www.shaunpatricktubbs.com

WHEN:

Wednesday, February 24 Refreshments: 10am Panel Discussion: 11am Inside Asolo Rep All the Way & Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Page 2 of 2

WHERE:

Asolo Rep's Mezzanine 5555 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34243

HOW:

Panel discussion tickets are just \$5 for the general public and are free for all donors and Asolo Rep Guild members. To reserve your tickets, call the Asolo Rep Box Office at 941.351.8000 or visit <u>www.asolorep.org</u>.

Inside Asolo Rep is sponsored by Hotel Indigo and the Observer.

About All the Way

One man. One year. One chance to change America. 1964 was a pivotal year in American history and Lyndon Baines Johnson sat at the center of it all. A master politician with towering ambition and ruthless tactics, the conflicted Texan will do whatever it takes to get the Civil Rights bill passed and secure his re-election. Meanwhile, in faraway Vietnam, a troublesome conflict looms. The winner of the 2014 Tony Award for Best Play, this gripping drama captures the critical moment that marked the end of an era and the shift to the political climate of today. Go all the way with LBJ, Martin Luther King, Jr., J. Edgar Hoover, Hubert Humphrey and more in this action-packed, electrifying portrayal of one of the most tumultuous times in our country's history.

About Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

When the classic film *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* premiered in U.S. theaters in December 1967, Martin Luther King, Jr. was still alive and racial issues were bubbling. Now, 47 years later, this beloved comedy of manners has a new, totally electric adaptation for the stage with a fresh perspective to the themes that are as relevant as ever. A progressive white couple's proud liberal sensibilities are put to the test when their daughter, fresh from a whirlwind romance, brings her African-American fiancé home to meet them. Personal beliefs clash with the mores of the late 1960s in this warm and funny exploration of love and culture and which of them has the greater hold on our hearts.

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