

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 14, 2018

Asolo Rep Announces Panel for MORNING AFTER GRACE IllumiNation Event on February 17; Pay What You Can Tickets Available

WHAT:

Asolo Rep's **MORNING AFTER GRACE** IllumiNation event will be held on Saturday, February 17. A stimulating series of theatre and conversation exploring the topical and social themes threaded throughout the season, IllumiNation events begin one hour prior to curtain with a ticketed reception on the mezzanine, continue with the performance, and conclude with a free, open-to-the-public conversation.

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am by phone or at the box office.

The February 17 conversation will be moderated by IllumiNation committee member **Rosenda Calloway**, a 30-year resident of Sarasota and longtime Asolo Rep patron. The panel features President & CEO for the Friendship Centers **Erin McCleod**, professor **Dr. Nancy Schlossberg**, and speaker/author/consultant/CEO **Dr. George Schofield**.

WHO:

Rosenda Calloway is a 30 year resident of Sarasota and has enjoyed the Asolo Theater with her husband as a season ticket holder for the past 22 years. Rosenda is employed by AAA as their Manager of home based travel agents for 11 states and Puerto Rico.

Erin McLeod is President & CEO for the Friendship Centers, a regional nonprofit with a \$17M+ annual budget that has served seniors, families, caregivers and promoting health, dignity and quality of life throughout the journey of aging since 1973. She started with the organization in 2004 as director of communications, became chief operating officer in 2006, senior VP in 2012, and was appointed as the organization's second only president and CEO in January 2016. Erin holds a bachelor's degree in public relations from the University of Florida, and has completed nonprofit management and development/fundraising coursework. She has a broad experience career base in consulting, healthcare, hospitality, public speaking and nonprofit. A Sarasota resident for 34 years, she currently serves as a trustee for the Florida Council on Aging, a board member of the Southwest Florida Planned Giving Council as well as the Advisory Boards of Visit Sarasota, and the Junior League of Sarasota Community.

Dr. Nancy Schlossberg taught at Howard University, Wayne State University, and 26 years at the University of Maryland, College Park where she was a tenured full professor. She was the first woman executive the American Council on Education. She has been honored by the American Counseling Association, the American Psychological Association, received the 2016 Teachers College, Columbia University Distinguished Alumni Award and received the Friendship Centers Visionary Award in October, 2017. She has written ten books. Her new book, *Too Young to be Old: Love, Learn, Work, and Play as you Age*, focuses on the transitions we make as we age. Dr. Schlossberg has been quoted widely in the media and appeared on many TV programs.

Dr. George Schofield is a speaker/ author/ consultant/ CEO. He has a special interest how a 50-year-old becomes a fabulous 85-year-old starting today. As both an organizational and developmental psychologist, George has developed important platforms and content for his clients from which After 50 Individuals/Couples, Professional Advisors, and Business Leaders can succeed in an environment of constant change. His most recent book is *How Do I Get There From Here, Planning For Retirement (and Life) When The Old Rules No Longer Apply?* www.georgeschofield.com

WHEN:

Saturday, February 17 at 1pm

WHERE:

Asolo Repertory Theatre 5555 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34243

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Pre-show reception and a post-show community conversation held on the Mezzanine Performance in the Mertz Theatre

HOW:

IllumiNation Ticket Packages:

4 Play Package

Section A: \$256 (\$64 per ticket) Section B: \$196 (\$49 per ticket) Section C: \$120 (\$30 per ticket) Section D: \$80 (\$20 per ticket)

3 Play Package

Section A: \$195 (\$65 per ticket) Section B: \$150 (\$50 per ticket) Section C: \$90 (\$30 per ticket) Section D: \$63 (\$21 per ticket)

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket - phone fees apply). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am. Reservations made by phone (941-351-8000) or at the main box office.

The pre-performance reception is free for series ticket package holders and \$10 for ticket holders to that evening's performance. Asolo Rep subscribers are welcome to change their performance dates to the IllumiNation Series dates and pay the additional \$10 fee for the pre-show reception. Please contact the box office directly at 941.351.8000. **The post-performance discussion is free and open to all.**

For tickets and more information, visit <u>http://www.asolorep.org/illumination_series</u> or call the box office at 941.351.8000.

IllumiNation is sponsored by Morton's Gourmet Market & Catering and Capstan Financial Consulting Group

ABOUT MORNING AFTER GRACE

Morning After Grace January 17–March 4 By CAREY CRIM Directed by PETER AMSTER

Hilarious and heart-warming, this unconventional new comedy tackles love, loss, and coming to terms with growing old. After hooking up at a funeral, Angus and Abigail find themselves waking up the next morning wrapped in sheets on Angus's sofa. Strangers just the day before, Abigail thinks she may finally be ready to take a chance on love, but Angus has a few issues to work through first. Enter next-door neighbor Ollie, a former Detroit Tigers baseball player who now enjoys golf and yoga. But nothing is as it seems with this

trio and every disclosure reveals a new perspective. Set in a Florida retirement community not far from here, this charming and big-hearted comedy takes us on an unexpected journey toward a new lease on life.

ABOUT ASOLO REP

Now in its 59th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 10 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and community programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

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