

OpenStage Theatre & Company PO Box 617 Fort Collins, CO 80522 openstage.com

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Hilarious Dark Comedy of Power and Politics, *The Minutes*, Comes to Fort Collins OpenStage to Bring Tracy Letts' Newest Hit to Stage, Directed by Sydney Parks Smith

**FORT COLLINS** – OpenStage invites audiences to experience the clever and sharp upcoming production of *The Minutes*, by Tracy Letts, and directed by Sydney Parks Smith. *The Minutes* is set to enthrall audiences at The Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre from March 22 through April 19, 2025.

The comical Tony-nominated play from Broadway, *The Minutes*, is coming to OpenStage Theatre & Company this Spring. The show welcomes Sydney Parks Smith as the director as well as an all-star cast of actors. Sydney Parks Smith, also the Producing Artistic Director for OpenStage, has directed past hits for the theatre, including *The Book of Will, Hedwig and The Angry Inch, Ken Ludwig's Sherwood*, and many more.

Parks Smith said about the show, "This production captures the jaw-dropping ridiculousness of human nature and the outrageous ways we handle power. Ever since I first read about 'The Minutes' in 2017 and finally got my hands on the manuscript in 2020, I knew I had to bring this play to Fort Collins. With this phenomenal cast, we're diving headfirst into a story that is as darkly hilarious as it is unsettlingly relevant."

Community, the Founder's Day celebration, the coveted privilege of reserved parking—a small town City Council meeting. Business as usual for the Big Cherry City Council. But... where are the minutes from last week's meeting? Newcomer Mr. Peel has some questions... What is "Lincoln Smackdown"? And where is council member Mr. Carp? This razor-sharp comedy by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *August: Osage County*, exposes the underbelly of civic duty in a small town...with BIG secrets.

The Minutes plays March 22 through April 19. All performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday start at 7:30 pm. Sunday matinee performances start at 2:00 pm. Visit

openstage.com/minutes for a complete list of performances, including a free student/educator performance (March 21), a pay-what-you-can performance (March 27), and FAB Friday (March 28), which includes a free beer compliments of Odell Brewing Company.

Tickets for *The Minutes* are \$15-\$39. Tickets are available online at openstage.com/minutes or by calling The Lincoln Center Box Office at 970.221.6730. The box office is open lpm-6 pm Tuesday-Saturday.

CONTENT WARNING: Adult language. Adult Themes. Questions or concerns about content? Contact OpenStage at 970-567-7387

OpenStage's Red Carpet Sponsors are KRFC 88.9 FM, Odell Brewing Co, and Warren & Zoann Little Dusenbury Charitable Trust. Season Sponsors are Avogadro's Number, John & Anne Blair, FoCo Food Trucks, LPG Financial Advisors, Mike & Marsha Marberry, Organic Alternatives, and Ken & Carol Severson. The Producing Sponsor for *The Minutes* is Nerdy Mind and Steve Finnestead Photography. The Supporting Sponsor for *The Minutes* is Steve Vertucci Law. Grant support is provided by Downtown Development Authority, City of Fort Collins Fort Fund, Art Works, Colorado Creative Industries, OTTERCARES Dollars for Doers Grant Recipient, and AWE Fund. Free Student/Educator performances are made possible thanks to the Thornton Charitable Foundation.

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#### **Performance Dates**

Thursday @ 7:30 pm: March 27 (Pay What You Can)

Friday @ 7:30 pm: March 21 (Student/Educator), March 28 (FAB Friday), April 4, April 11, April 18 Saturday @ 7:30 pm: March 22 (Opening Night), March 29, April 5, April 12, April 19 (Closing Night)

Sunday @ 2 pm: April 6, April 13

# **Performance Location**

The Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre: 417 West Magnolia Street, Fort Collins, CO (North-west corner of the building)

#### Cast

Mr. Peel Jozeph Mykaels
Mayor Superba Christopher Gausselin
Ms. Johnson Brenna Freestone-Gilbert
Mr. Blake Jysten Atom
Mr. Breeding Andrew Cole
Mr. Hanratty Matthew Smith
Mr. Assalone Steven P. Sickles

Ms. MatzMolly McGuireMs. InnesLouise ThorntonMr. OldfieldDavid SieverMr. CarpShannon Parr

# **Creative and Production Team**

Director/Producing Artistic Director

Movement Director

Assistant Director

Surah J Baker

Stage Manager

Hannah Armstrong

Assistant Stage Manager

Azran Starkweather

Scenic Designer/Technical Director Caleb Gilbert
Associate Scenic Designer/Master Carpenter Ivan Andrade

Lighting Designer MacKenzie Lowe

Costume Designer/Head Seamstress Reheard Spafford

Costume Designer/Head Seamstress Rebecca Spafford
Sound Designer/Make-up Designer Victoria Villalobos

Properties Designer/Set Dresser

Hair Designer

Scenic Artists

Starla Kovar

Carly Ackerman

Ivan Andrade

Caleb Gilbert

Board Operators Hannah Armstrong,
Morgan Taylor

Stagehands/Dressers
TBA
Production Managers
Heather Ostberg Johnson,
Sydney Parks Smith