

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors, Reviewers and Calendar Listings

Chance Theater is bringing fancy back to the holidays with...

“Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas”

What could be fancier than a Southern California Premiere musical for Christmas!

**The Off-Broadway hit musical adaptation of the best-selling book series is at the Chance,
with many returning artists from prior “Fancy Nancy” productions!**

ANAHEIM, CA: Chance Theater, Anaheim’s official resident theater company, announces the Southern California Premiere of “Fancy Nancy Splendiferous Christmas” the stage adaptation of the best-selling series of books by Jane O’Connor and illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser. Book by Cara Lustik & Matthew Hardy, Lyrics by Matthew Hardy, and Music by Randy Klein. Directed by Laura M. Hathaway (2022 production of “Fancy Nancy, The Musical”) and with music direction by Stefan Miller. This production will also star Angela Griswold in the role of Fancy Nancy, who she also played in Chance’s 2022 production of “Fancy Nancy, The Musical.”

“Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas” follows Nancy and her presents with elegant wrapping paper, festive decorations, Christmas cookies with sprinkles – and who could forget the tree? After all, there is no such thing as too much tinsel. Ooh, la la! This year, Nancy is especially excited. After selling some of her old gowns and accessories, she has enough money to buy a brand-new sparkly tree topper. She simply cannot wait to

decorate the Christmas tree. But when things don't turn out the way Nancy planned, does Christmas still stand a chance of being splendiferous?

"The hourlong musical...has a dramatic tension...as well as a refreshing sound:...elements of swing well as contemporary pop... Everyone learns the true meaning of the holiday...but what makes 'Splendiferous Christmas' winning is that it dares to be a little naughty as well as nice."

– *New York Times*

"The world of Fancy Nancy is such a vibrant and exciting one so it's always a pleasure to step back into it," said director Laura M. Hathaway, who helmed "Fancy Nancy, The Musical" at Chance Theater in May of this year. "We've spent time before with how she interacts with her friends so, this time, we get to explore how she interacts with her family. As always, Nancy will learn important lessons about how to navigate her world and getting to do that with the background of the holidays will make this a show that will be perfect for the family!"

Joining Hathaway and Miller on the design team for "Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas" is costume designer **Christina Perez** ("Next to Normal," Chance Theater Resident Artist), scenic designer **Megan Hill** ("Fancy Nancy, The Musical," Chance Theater Resident Artist), lighting designer **Masako Tobaru** ("Striking 12," Chance Theater Resident Artist), and stage manager **James Tran** ("Striking 12," Chance Theater Resident Artist).

In addition to Griswold as Nancy, the cast of "Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas" will feature a mix of newcomers and returning actors – **Jenny Jacobs** (Chance Stage Debut) plays Mother; **Abel Miramontes** ("The Little Mermaid") plays Father; **Shai Culver** ("A Charlie Brown Christmas") plays Jojo; and **Robin Walton** ("Goosebumps the Musical: Phantom of the Auditorium") will be Grandpa and Mrs. Devine.

The executive producer for "Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas" is Robert Berman. Bette & Wylie Aitken are producers for the entire 2022 Season and The Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar are the season's associate producers.

To schedule press interviews, arrange for press comps, request press photos, or for any additional information regarding this production, please contact Casey Long, the Chance's managing director, at (626) 523-7151 or casey@chancetheater.com.

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, CHANCE THEATER has received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for “nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.” The Chance recently won eight OC Theatre Guild Awards, including Outstanding Production of a Musical for its intimate revival of *Fun Home*. Previously, Chance Theater won eight Ovation Awards, including four for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre), as well as four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater “the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim” in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as “Outstanding Arts Organization.” Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, The Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles, and OC Theatre Guild, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas

Presents with elegant wrapping paper, festive decorations, Christmas cookies with sprinkles – and who could forget the tree? After all, there is no such thing as too much tinsel. Ooh, la la! This year, Nancy is especially excited. After selling some of her old gowns and accessories, she has enough money to buy a brand-new sparkly tree topper. She simply cannot wait to decorate the Christmas tree. But when things don't turn out the way Nancy planned, does Christmas still stand a chance of being splendiferous?

WHEN:

Previews: December 9-11, 2022; Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 12 p.m. & 5 p.m., Sunday at 12 p.m. & 2 p.m.

Performances: December 11- December 23, 2022

Thursdays 7 p.m., Fridays 7 p.m.; Saturdays & Sundays at 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 5 p.m.

REVIEWERS AND OTHER PRESS are encouraged to come to Opening Night on Sunday, December 11 at 5 p.m.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour, 10 minutes

WHERE: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken theater arts Center on the Cripe Stage

5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

TICKETS: \$24-30

Discounts available for children (ages 4-12), seniors, students, and military.

MORE INFO: www.ChanceTheater.com or call (888) 455-4212

###