

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors, Reviewers and Calendar Listings

“Next to Normal” extends thru March 6th at Chance Theater

ANAHEIM, CA: Chance Theater, Anaheim’s official resident theater company, proudly announces that three performances will be added to the production run of the acclaimed intimate production of “Next to Normal,” which was the opening show in Chance Theatre’s 24th Anniversary Season. Directed by Matthew McCray with music direction by Stephen Hulse, “Next to Normal” will now run thru March 6, 2022 on the Cripe Stage at the Bette Aitken theater arts Center. **The added performances will be on Saturday, March 5th at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 6th at 3 p.m.**

** OCTG Recommended!

“Close to perfection... Uplifting... Powerfully emotional songs” – *OC Register*

“WOW! You won’t see a finer N2N...leaves an audience entertained, shaken, better informed about mental illness, and profoundly moved” – *StageSceneLA*

“astounding performances... throbbing with an emotional intensity that cannot be dismissed” – *The Show Report*

“A SMASH... There isn’t a weak link in the hugely talented cast.” – *JordanRYoung.com*

Chance Theater’s intimate production of the groundbreaking smash hit musical that won the Pulitzer Prize and three Tony Awards during its acclaimed run on Broadway has been receiving acclaim since opening on February 5th. With a thrilling contemporary score, “Next to Normal” takes you behind the proverbial white picket fence to discover a family coming to terms with their past, bravely fighting to face their future, and

striving to take care of themselves and each other. This emotional powerhouse of a musical is authentic, humorous, and unflinching. It will leave you breathless and full of hope.

Starring in this production will be Chance Theater Resident Artist Jocelyn A. Brown (“The Last 5 Years”) as Diana, Tym Brown (Chance debut) as Dan, Jaylen Baham (Chance debut) as Gabe, Angie Chavez (Chance debut) as Natalie, Jared Machado (Chance debut) as Henry, and Ron Hastings (Ovation Award nominee for Lead Actor for 2020’s *Fun Home*) as Dr. Madden.

Joining director McCray and music director Hulseley on the design team are scenic designer Joe Holbrook (“The Vandal”), lighting designer Matt Schleicher (“Skylight”), costume designer Christina Perez (“Edges”), sound designer Ryan Brodtkin (“The Story of My Life”), stage manager Wade Williamson (“Tigers Be Still”), and dramaturg Sophie Hall Cripe (“Ragtime”).

As with all other Chance productions, each performance will be followed by a discussion with members of the production team.

Chance Theater’s COVID-19 policy requires General Performance ticket holders to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19. Those without proof of being fully vaccinated -- must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours (2 days) prior to entering the theater. Masks are required at all times for all patrons. Ticket holders who do not comply with these policies will not be admitted. Get the most up to date information about Chance Theater’s health and safety protocols at

www.ChanceTheater.com/safety.

Chance Theater is thankful to Executive Producers Linda & Tod White for their support of this production, as well as our 2022 Season Producers Bette & Wylie Aitken, Associate Producers Susan Bowman & Freddie Greenfield and Laurie Smits Staude, and 2022 Associate Season Producers, The Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar.

To schedule press interviews, arrange for press comps, request press photos, or for any additional information regarding this production, please contact Managing Director Casey Long 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 the Ovation Award for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre) for the intimate revival of *Fun Home*. Previously, Chance Theater has won seven Ovation Awards, including three for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre) for its regional premiere of *Lizzie, The Musical*, the West Coast premiere of *Triassic Park – The Musical*, and Southern California premiere of *Jerry Springer – The Opera*, 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: Next to Normal

Extended thru March 6th by popular demand! See the groundbreaking smash hit musical that won the Pulitzer Prize and three Tony Awards during its acclaimed run on Broadway. With a thrilling contemporary score, “Next to Normal” takes you behind the proverbial white picket fence to discover a family coming to terms with their past, bravely fighting to face their future, and striving to take care of themselves and each other. This emotional powerhouse of a musical is authentic, humorous, and unflinching. It will leave you breathless and full of hope.

NOTE: This show contains adult themes and language. It is recommended for mature audiences.

WHEN: Playing thru March 6, 2022; Thu at 7:30 p.m.; Fri at 8 p.m.; Sat at 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.; Sun at 3 p.m.

** Chance Theater requires all general ticket holders to provide proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours (2 days) prior to entering the theater. Masks are required at all times. For our*

“Vaccinated+ Performances,” a negative COVID test will not be accepted. Check the website for a complete schedule.

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours, 30 minutes with a 15-minute intermission

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

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

TICKETS: \$25-\$49

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

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

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