

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors, Reviewers and Calendar Listings

Chance Theater's TYA Series proudly presents
The California premiere of the whimsical adventure...

The Boy at the Edge of Everything

Chance Theater closes out its 2nd Season of Theater for Young Audiences with this charming cosmic adventure about two lonely boys finding a connection against all odds



September 12, 2016 ... Anaheim, California ... Anaheim's official resident theater company, Chance Theater is pleased to present the exciting and wondrous ***The Boy at the Edge of Everything***. Written by Finegan Kruckmeyer, and directed by Darryl B. Hovis, ***The Boy at the Edge of Everything*** will begin **October 13** and continue through **October 23**, on the Fyda-Mar Stage at Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center.

Meet Simon. He's a stressed out 12-year-old who just wishes that he could find a place to stop and think. Meet the Boy at the Edge of Everything. He is lonely and bored, which makes sense since he lives at the farthest point of the universe. This quirky and charming play explores what happens once these two boys meet after an unlikely series of events involving "lots and lots of fireworks", and the epic adventure that will leave them both changed forever.

"The Boy at the Edge of Everything has a canny, witty way of reflecting on worlds unknown". -- *Seattle Times*

"This is a perfect example of why children's theatre doesn't mean kid stuff. The story is as big as existence itself, especially in a young person's universe." -- *Seattle Actor*

The Boy at the Edge of Everything is an exciting tale of friendship, humor, and discovery. Since its inception, the play has received high praise and support from San Diego's La Jolla Playhouse, Seattle Children's Theatre, and Trusty Sidekick Theater Company. The play was also a featured work at the Kennedy Center's New Visions/New Voices workshop and was the inaugural recipient of a PlayLab residency at the New Victory Theater in New York.

(more)

How does a 12-year old have a full “To Do” list?

Everyone struggles to balance their busy lives, whether it is work, school, extracurricular activities, family, friends, etc. The charm of *The Boy at the Edge of Everything* lies in the familiarity the audience feels with the main character, Simon. Sometimes, all we want to do is stop and think to ourselves and take stock of our lives and the many intricacies surrounding it all. As Kruckmeyer explains, “the notion of a child’s life feeling particularly full felt relevant, as the modern-day juggle of innumerable activities and obligations has become all too common, this sitting alongside the existing calendar-filling of school, family, and friends. Simon has many lovely people in his life, but so much to do that he can dream only of a break, a moment’s silence. As the counterpoint to this, the interplanetary Boy represents not necessarily a different predicament, but rather a different section of the same overloaded brain. He has a world of things to do also, but the silence is absolute – what he craves is communality, and friendships to complement the activities.”

Meet the Team

Finegan Kruckmeyer (Playwright) has had 76 commissioned plays performed on five continents and translated into six languages, and was an inaugural recipient of the Sidney Myer Fellowship. This year, 14 works were presented worldwide. To date, Finegan’s plays have had seasons in: over 70 Australian and international festivals; five IPAY North American invited showcases; all Australian states/territories; five UK national tours; five US national tours; and at the Sydney Opera House (six works), Ireland’s Dublin Theatre Festival (two works, one at the Abbey Theatre), Scotland’s Imagine Festival (two works), Shanghai’s Malan Flower Theatre, New York’s New Victory Theater (three works) and New York University, and DC’s Kennedy Center for the Arts (at the prestigious New Visions New Voices). As well as the Sidney Myer Fellowship, Finegan and his work have received at least one award each year for the past 13, including four Australian Writers Guild Awards, the David Williamson Prize for Australian Playwrighting, the Rodney Seaborn Award, Jill Blewett Award, and Colin Thiele Scholarship. This year, Finegan was a speaker at conferences at the Lincoln Center for the Arts (USA) and Ubud Writer’s Festival (Indonesia). Previously, he has presented papers or sat on panels at conferences in Argentina, Australia, Austria, Denmark, England, Scotland, Sweden and the US, with works published. He was one of 21 selected worldwide for the ASSITEJ Next Generation (young leaders in children’s theatre), and sits on a number of industry boards and panels, including the Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board.

Darryl B. Hovis (Director) is an actor, director, and designer, and is the Education Director at Chance Theater. He earned
(more)

his MA in Theatre Production at Central Washington University and studied acting at the Professional Conservatory at UCSD under Anna Shapiro (Steppenwolf) as well as South Coast Repertory under Karen Hensel. He is the co-founder and artistic director of the Culver City Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, where he developed an intensive arts program for high school students in theatre, film, music, and art, and has gone on to develop theatre programs at other Southern California high schools, as well as Theatre International at Leysin American School in Leysin, Switzerland. He has directed a multitude of productions, some of his favorites being *Therese Raquin* (Chance Theater), *Rent* and *The Threepenny Opera* (Samohi Theatre), *Machinal* and *Resurrecting Antigone* (UniTheatre), and *The Miracle Worker* and *Treehouses* (AVPA).

“Relaxed Performance” on Saturday, October 22 at 11am

Continuing the initiative that started with the inaugural Theater for Young Audiences Series, the Chance will be presenting a special “relaxed performance” on October 22. This special performance is specifically designed to welcome people that will benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people with an Autism Spectrum Condition, sensory and communication disorders, or a learning disability.

In addition to director Darryl Hovis, the creative team includes scenic designer Alexandra Giron (*Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*), lighting designer Jon Hyrkas (*Fancy Nancy, The Musical*), costume designer Rachael Lorenzetti (*The Big Meal*), sound designer Ryan Brodtkin (*A Chorus Line*) and stage manager Lindsay Marsh (*Fancy Nancy, The Musical*).

The cast for *The Boy at the Edge of Everything* includes returning Chance artists Ben Green (*A Chorus Line*) and Ashley Arlene Nelson (*Dogfight*), as well as Pierce Livingston, Andrae Goodnight and Allen Montes, who make their Chance debut with this production.

Our 2016 Season producers are Bette & Wylie Aitken.

To schedule press interviews, request photos, schedule press comps or for any additional information, please contact Casey Long at (714) 900-3284 or by e-mail at casey@chancetheater.com.

(more)

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, CHANCE THEATER has won five Ovation Awards (including two for Best Production of a Musical--Intimate Theater for *Triassic Park -- The Musical* and *Jerry Springer: The Opera*). The Chance also received an LADCC Award for its reimagined revival of *West Side Story*. The Anaheim City Council recently named Chance Theater "the official resident theater company of Anaheim". Twice named "Outstanding Arts Organization" by Arts Orange County, Chance Theater is also a recipient of the LADCC's Polly Warfield Award for Excellence. Founded in 1999, Chance Theater is focused on its goal of being Orange County's premiere mid-size contemporary theater by contributing to a more compassionate, connected, and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, Network of Ensemble Theaters, and the LA Stage Alliance, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: **THE BOY AT THE EDGE OF EVERYTHING**

Meet Simon. He's a stressed out 12-year-old who just wishes that he could find a place to stop and think. Meet the Boy at the Edge of Everything. He is lonely and bored, which makes sense since he lives at the farthest point of the universe. This quirky and charming play explores what happens once these two boys meet after an unlikely series of events involving "lots and lots of fireworks", and the epic adventure that will leave them both changed forever.

WHEN: October 13 – 23, 2016

Thursdays at 7pm

Saturdays at 11am, 2pm, 6pm

Sundays at 11am, 2pm, 6pm

WHERE: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center, 5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

TICKETS: \$25 for adults and \$20 for children, ages 4-12. Call (888) 455-4212 or visit www.ChanceTheater.com.

###