MEDIA CONTACT: Joshua Ford Director of Marketing and Communications jford@olneytheatre.org

# HOWARD KAYE JOINS THE CAST OF OLNEY THEATRE CENTER'S FIDDLER ON THE ROOF AS TEVYE

Joins Rachel Stern in Peter Flynn's staging, which now begins performances on November 11

Olney, MD — October 26, 2023 — Broadway veteran, Howard Kaye has joined the cast of Olney Theatre Center's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, directed by Peter Flynn. Ethan Watermeier, who had originally been announced to play Tevye, had to withdraw from the production for medical reasons after rehearsals had begun. As a result of the casting change, the first performance has been delayed from November 8 to November 11, 2023. Affected patrons should contact the Box Office to exchange their tickets. (Headshots of Howard Kaye and Rachel Stern may be downloaded here.)

Accordingly, the press performance has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 16 at 7:30 pm. Journalists interested in attending should email sstraub@olneytheatre.org. Tickets cost \$39-\$95 and are available at olneytheatre.org or by calling the box office (301-924-3400).

Kaye was last seen this past summer in the American Premiere of *The DaVinci Code at Ogunquit Playhouse.* This will be Kaye's Olney Theatre Center debut. Prior roles include the Broadway company of *Miss Saigon*, and performances Off-Broadway in *Skittles Commercial*, *Silence! The Musical*, *Pip's Island*, and the national tour of *Mamma Mia!* 

Along with Kaye, **Rachel Stern (Broadway's Girl From the North Country)** plays Golde. Joining her in the cast as Tevye's rebellious daughters are **Sophie Schulman** as Tzeitel, **Ariana Caldwell** as Chava, and **Sumié Yotsukura** as Hodel. **Michael Wood** (Motel), **Jay Frisby** (Fyedka), and **Noah Keyishian** (Perchik) portray the three daughters' non-arranged marriage suitors. Along with **Jason B. McIntosh** as Lazar Wolf, populating Anatevka are **Graciela Rey** (The Fiddler), **Sasha Olinick** (Rabbi), **Cheryl J. Campo** (Yente), **Ariel Messeca** (Mendel), **Dylan Arredondo** (Avram), **Robert Mintz** (Innkeeper), **Janine Baumgardner** and **Daniel Powers** (Russian Soldiers), and **Russell Rinker** (Constable). Haunting Tevye's dreams are **Pepin** (Fruma-Sarah) and **Tsaitami Duchicela** (Grandma Tzeitel). Sharing the roles of Tevye and Golde's two youngest daughters are **Naomi Biel**, **Daphne Wheeler** (Shprintze), and **Olivia Fegler**, **Maisie Posner** (Bielke). **Caroline Graham** and **Cristian Rodriguez** are swings for the production.

# **PRODUCTION DETAILS**

## Fiddler on the Roof

Based on Sholem Aleichem stories by special permission of Arnold Perl Book by Joseph Stein Music by Jerry Bock Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick Produced on the New York Stage by Harold Prince Original New York Stage Production Directed and Choreographed by Jerome Robbins Music Direction by Christopher Youstra Choreographed by Lorna Ventura Directed by Peter Flynn

#### Dates, Location, Tickets

November 11, 2022 - December 31, 2023 Roberts Mainstage Olney Theatre Center 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road Olney, MD 20832 Tickets: \$35 - \$95 available at olneytheatre.org and 301-924-3400

### Performance Schedule

Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm. Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday matinees at 1:30 pm. Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm. Additional performances around Thanksgiving and Winter Break. See the full schedule at: https://tickets.olneytheatre.org/overview/fiddler-on-the-roof

# Accessible Performances

Sensory Friendly Performance – Tuesday, November 21 at 1:30 pm Audio-Described Performance – Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 pm ASL Interpreted Performance – Thursday, December 9 at 7:30 pm

### ABOUT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER

Mission

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts produces and curates theatrical performance for the diverse audiences in our community, and educates, learns from, supports and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers.

#### Vision

We strive to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity of our community.

#### History

Founded in 1938 as a summer playhouse, Olney Theatre Center (OTC) now produces world and American premieres of plays and musicals, and reimaginings of familiar titles year-round; presents the work of leading companies and artists; tours nationally and locally; teaches students of all ages; and mentors a more inclusive generation of theatremakers. For more than 8 decades, OTC has brought impactful theater performance and education to our community, helping to grow the vibrancy and vitality of our home in the Washington, DC region.

Over the years, some of the biggest names in theater and film have appeared on our stages, including Tallulah Bankhead, Helen Hayes, Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn, Bob Fosse, Phillip Bosco, Eve Arden, Eva Gabor, Burl Ives, Jose Ferrer, Carol Channing, Olivia d'Havilland, Tony Randall, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Jane Seymour, Anne Revere, Frances Sternhagen, Arthur Treacher, James Broderick, Olympia Dukakis, Sir Ian McKellen, Marica Gay Harden, John Colicos, Uzo Aduba, Alan Cumming, Cheyenne Jackson, Robin de Jesus, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, among many, many others.

Olney Theatre is now the cultural anchor of a rapidly changing region and serves one of the most diverse, best educated, and wealthiest counties in the country. Situated on the unceded land of the Piscataway-Conoy people, the Olney area was once a rural farming community with a unique Quaker heritage. Now the area is occupied by every kind of family that makes up 21st Century America, along with major corporations, shopping districts, civic associations, non profit organizations and a diverse collection of houses of worship. Montgomery County's 1 million residents play a dynamic role in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, and are a driving force behind the region's creative economy.

Olney Theatre Center employs 40 full-time staff, 20 part-time positions, 26 early career apprentices and players, and more than 400 professional artists annually. The Theatre intends to continue expanding to better meet the needs of our community.

For more information, please visit olneytheatre.org/history

Follow Olney Theatre Center on Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok @olneytheatre and on Facebook at facebook.com/olneytheatre.

###