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Philly! You can once again enjoy the magic and music of @AnastasiaBway when it returns – thanks to you, by popular demand, Nov. 23 – 28 @KimmelCenter (Twitter) @KimmelCulturalCampus (Facebook/Instagram) Visit www.kimmelculturalcampus.org for info.

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS THE RETURN OF BROADWAY'S ANASTASIA NOVEMBER 23 – 28, 2021



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, October 14, 2021) – The critically-acclaimed Broadway touring production of *ANASTASIA* returns to Philadelphia, presented by the Kimmel Cultural Campus in partnership with The Shubert Organization. The blockbuster runs November 23 – 28 at the Campus' Merriam Theater.

"Our Campus is home to artistic experiences that inspire young people to become lifelong lovers of the theater, and to grow into empathetic, kind citizens," said Matías Tarnopolsky, president and CEO of The Philadelphia Orchestra and soon-to-be president and CEO of The Philadelphia Orchestra and Kimmel Center, Inc. "Part of our Family Discovery Series, *Anastasia* is a returning Philadelphia favorite for all ages that teaches lessons about courage, tenacity, independence, kindness, and more."

From the Tony Award[®]-winning creators of the Broadway classic, *Ragtime*, and inspired by the beloved films, *ANASTASIA* is the new Broadway musical that's "one of the most gorgeous shows in years!" (*New York Observer*). This dazzling show transports audiences from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet officer determined to

silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing conman and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love, and family.

The cast includes Kyla Stone as Anya, Sam McLellan as Dmitry, Brandon Delgado as Gleb, Gerri Weagraff as Dowager Empress, Bryan Seastrom as Vlad, Madeline Raube as Countess Lily, and Taya Diggs and Marley Sophia as Little Anastasia. The ensemble includes Mikayla Agrella, Lance Timothy Barker, William Aaron Bishop, Harrison Drake,Thomas Henke, Dakota Hoar, Veronica Rae Jiao, Evin Johnson, Ceron Jones, Madeline Kendall, Lizzy Marie Legregin, Victoria Madden, Christian McQueen, Elizabeth Ritacco, Taylor Stanger, Sarah Statler, and Lauren Teyke.

ANASTASIA features a book by celebrated playwright **Terrence McNally**, a lush, new score by the Tony Award[®] -winning creators of the Broadway classic *Ragtime*, **Stephen Flaherty** (music) and **Lynn Ahrens** (lyrics), and tour direction by **Sarah Hartman** based on original direction by Tony Award[®]-winning director **Darko Tresnjak**.

The creative team also includes **Peggy Hickey** (Original Choreographer), **Bill Burns** (Choreographer), **Alexander Dodge** (Set Design), **Linda Cho** (Costume Design), **Donald Holder** (Lighting Design), **Peter Hylenski** (Sound Design), **Aaron Rhyne** (Projection Design), **Charles G. LaPointe** (Hair/Wig Design), **Joe Dulude II** (Makeup Design), **Tom Murray** (Music Supervision), **Jeremy Lyons** (Music Direction), **Doug Besterman** (Orchestrations), **David Chase** (Dance Arranger), and casting by **Jason Styres, CSA**.

ANASTASIA began performances on Broadway in March 2017 at the Broadhurst Theatre with critics exclaiming "Ahrens and Flaherty have chosen the right moments to musicalize, and their score here sounds complete and full — one of the season's strongest! (*NBC*)" and "Smartly adapted by Terrence McNally, *Anastasia* is a sweeping adventure, romance and historical epic whose fine craftsmanship will satisfy musical-theater fans (*Time Out*)".

The show played to sold out audiences on Broadway for more than three years before expanding its global "Fanastasia" community with productions on tour across North America and in Japan, Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands. Globally, the show has been performed more than 2,500 times and sold 3.4 million tickets. Additionally, the show has garnered more than 15 major international awards, including Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards and Best New Musical in Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands.

The original Broadway cast recording has been streamed more than 150 million times and is available at <u>BroadwayRecords.com</u>, <u>Amazon.com</u> and iTunes. The 75-minute album includes the Academy Award[®]-nominated favorite "Journey to the Past" alongside new numbers from the show such as "In My Dreams", "Still", and "My Petersburg".

The tour of **ANASTASIA** is produced by NETworks Presentations.

NETWORKS PRESENTATIONS (*Producer*) is an industry-leading producer of touring theatrical productions, committed to delivering quality entertainment to audiences worldwide for more than 25 years. Current and upcoming productions include 1776, Anastasia, The Band's Visit, Blue Man Group, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Fiddler on the Roof, Hairspray, Les Misérables, The Prom, To Kill a Mockingbird, and Waitress. <u>http://www.networkstours.com/</u>

ANASTASIA Kimmel Cultural Campus' Merriam Theater Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 7:30 pm Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at 1:00 pm & 7:30 pm Thursday, November 25, 2021 – No performances Friday, November 26, 2021, at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm Saturday, November 27, 2021, at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm Sunday, November 28, 2021, at 1:00 pm

<u>Tickets</u>

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$39. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or online at <u>www.kimmelculturalcampus.org</u>. In-person ticket sales can be conducted daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Academy of Music Box Office, located at 240 S. Broad Street. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling (215) 790-5883. See <u>www.kimmelculturalcampus.org</u> for more information.

Twitter: @<u>AnastasiaBway</u>Facebook: <u>AnastasiaBway</u>Instagram: @<u>AnastasiaBway</u> www.anastasiathemusical.com

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Safe & Clean Commitment + Flexible Ticket Policy

We will always put the safety of our guests, artists, and staff first, and we have worked closely with partners, producers, artists, guests and other performing arts centers around the nation to develop the most comprehensive plan to safely reopen our doors. We are committing to a healthy and clean environment with increased disinfection, enhanced ventilation, and will enforce recommended health authority guidelines, including masks and proof of vaccination.

For more information on our Safe & Clean Commitment, please visit kimmelculturalcampus.org.

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Masks are required to be worn at all times when on the Kimmel Cultural Campus, except when actively consuming food or beverage in designated locations. Prolonged periods of mask removal are not permitted.

All attendees for public events must show proof of full vaccination at the time of entry, with valid photo ID and copy of vaccination card (physical or photo). Proof of negative COVID-19 tests will not be accepted, with the exception of children under the age of 12; children under 12 will be required to show a negative PCR test result taken within 72 hours of the event. This policy is subject to change based upon guidance from the CDC and local health authorities.

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THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION

The Shubert Organization is America's oldest professional theatre company and the largest theatre owner on Broadway. Since the dawn of the 20th century, Shubert has operated hundreds of theatres and produced hundreds of plays and musicals both in New York City and throughout the United States. Shubert currently owns and operates 17 Broadway theatres, six off-Broadway venues, and the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. Under the leadership of Robert E. Wankel, Chairman and CEO, The Shubert Organization continues to be a leader in the theatre industry. Notable productions and co-productions include *Cats*, *Sunday in the Park with*

George, Dreamgirls, The Heidi Chronicles, Jerome Robbins' Broadway, Amadeus, Children of a Lesser God, The Grapes of Wrath, Ain't Misbehavin', Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Spamalot, The Elephant Man, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, School of Rock, Dear Evan Hansen, Come From Away, and more. Shubert delivers innovative ticketing solutions via its Telecharge interface, API distribution, and private-label technology, offering unparalleled distribution and marketing to the theatre industry and beyond. Its consumer-facing brands – Telecharge for retail ticket sales and Broadway Inbound for group buyers, tour operators, and the travel industry – sell millions of tickets each year. The Shubert Foundation, sole shareholder of The Shubert Organization, Inc., is dedicated to sustaining and advancing live performing arts in the United States. The Foundation provides general operating support to not-for-profit theatres and dance companies. Foundation grants in 2019 totaled \$32-million.

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KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1-million guests per year and includes Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, and SEI Innovation Studio), the Academy of Music, and the Merriam Theater - representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the proud Kimmel Cultural Campus Season Sponsor. Read Kimmel Cultural Campus' vision statement, world view, and mission statement here. Learn more about our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and how it encompasses our mission, co-workers, and programs here.

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For photography, please visit <u>https://kcccpress.smugmug.com</u>