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**Four Local Theatres Receive Helen Hayes Nominations
ARTSFAIRFAX Celebrates 2020 Nominees - 1st Stage, Creative Cauldron, The
Hub Theatre and NextStop Theatre**

Fairfax County, VA– The 2020 Helen Hayes Awards, celebrating theater excellence in the Washington, D.C. area, nominated four local theaters for a total of 31 nominations. Leading the nominations in Fairfax and second in overall nominations is 1st Stage who received 18 nominations followed by The Hub Theatre with three nominations and NextStop Theatre Company received one nomination. The City of Fairfax’s Creative Cauldron received nine nominations. Winners will be announced at the 36th annual Helen Hayes Awards on Monday, May 18 at The Anthem - District Wharf.

1st Stage, led by Artistic and Managing Director Alex Levy, received the following nominations:

- Outstanding Choreography in a Play: Paige Hernandez, Cliff Williams III, *The Royale*, Olney Theatre & 1st Stage
- Outstanding Choreography in a Play: Jessica Redish, *Airness*, The Keegan Theatre & 1st Stage
- Outstanding Lighting Design: William D’Eugenio, *The Brothers Size* and Conor Mulligan, *columbinus*
- Outstanding Set Design: Giorgos Tsappas, *The Brothers Size*
- Outstanding Sound Design: Kenny Neal, *The Royale* Olney, Theatre Center & 1st Stage; Sarah O’Halloran, *The Brothers Size*; Kenny Neal, *columbinus*; and Kenny Neal, *Airness*, The Keegan Theatre & 1st Stage
- Outstanding Direction in a Play: Jose Carrasquillo, *The Brothers Size* and Alex Levy, Juan Francisco Villa, *columbinus*
- Outstanding Ensemble in a Play: *columbinus*
- James MacArthur Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Play: Brett Cassidy, *columbinus*; Gary Perkins III, *Airness*, The Keegan Theatre & 1st Stage; and Chris Stezin, *Airness*, The Keegan Theatre & 1st Stage
- Robert Prosky Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play: Gary-Kayi Fletcher, *The Brothers Size* and Patrick Joy, *columbinus*
- Outstanding Production in a Play: *The Brothers Size*

Creative Cauldron, led by producing director Laura Connors Hull, received the following nominations:

- Outstanding Musical Direction: Refiye Tappan, *On Air*
- Outstanding Lighting Design: Lynn Joslin, *On Air*
- Outstanding Direction in a Musical: Matt Conner, *Disney’s Beauty and the Beast*
- Outstanding Ensemble in a Musical: *Disenchanted!* and *On Air*
- Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical: Josh Simon, *Disney’s Beauty and the Best*
- Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical: Molly Rumberger *Disenchanted!*

- Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical: Nora Palka *On Air* and Eleanor Todd *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*

The Hub Theatre, led by artistic director Matt Bassett, received the following nominations:

- James MacArthur Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Play – Elliott Kashner, *The Burn*
- Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Play: Chloe Mikala *The Burn* and Gabby Wolfe *The Burn*

NextStop Theatre Company, led by producing artistic director Evan Hoffman, received the following nomination:

- Outstanding Choreography in a Musical: Robert Mintz, *Singin' in the Rain*

“Fairfax County theatre companies are presenting high-quality productions for a broad range of interests,” said Linda S. Sullivan, President & CEO of **ARTSFAIRFAX**. “The Helen Hayes awards recognition of the excellence and vitality of our local theaters illustrates a growing vibrant arts community. **ARTSFAIRFAX** has invested in each of these theatres over the years and we applaud their success.”

About ARTSFAIRFAX

ARTSFAIRFAX is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, incorporated in 1964, as Fairfax County’s designated local arts agency. **ARTSFAIRFAX** is funded in part by Fairfax County, corporations, foundations, individuals, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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