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For Immediate Release:

CITY THEATRE HOSTS ITS 19TH ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION

**MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012, 5:30 - 10:00 P.M.
HEINZ FIELD EAST CLUB LOUNGE**

STUDIO 54 FABULOUS!

PITTSBURGH, PA (May 14, 2012)—City Theatre is excited to host its 19th annual Gala & Auction on Monday, May 21, 2012 from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. at Heinz Field East Club Lounge, chaired by Board President Clyde B. Jones, III. Coinciding with City Theatre's new musical *POP!*, a freewheeling spin through Warhol's famous Factory scene of 1960s Manhattan, on stage now, this year's gala theme is **Studio 54 Fabulous**. Dress to impress and fashion your fifteen minutes of fame on this memorable May evening—all in support of Pittsburgh's artistic home for the development and production of bold, innovative, new plays.

Tickets, \$225 per person, are available by contacting Dianne Duursma in City Theatre's Development Office at **412.431.4400 x278** or dduursma@citytheatrecompany.org. Visit citygala.wordpress.com for information.

Gala Schedule:

5:30 P.M. / COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Enjoy Warhol-inspired cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and dazzling raffle

6:30 - 7:30 P.M. / DINING

Savor artful fare and wine pairings at four eclectic stations

7:45 P.M. / LIVE AUCTION

Auctioneer: Ken Rice, KDKA-TV

Experience the thrill of live bidding on extraordinary outings and adventures

8:30 P.M. / DESSERT, COFFEE, AND DANCING

Move to the grooves of DJ Kelli Burns in Studio 54 style

AMUSEMENTS

Fashion your fifteen minutes of fame with a trio of Gala activities:

Photoscape Photo Booth, Screen Test Booth, Mystery Bags

-- more --

Gala Menu:

PASSED APPETIZERS

Tuna art-tar
Crispy pork belly
Tomato soup & cheesy breadstick

FOOD STATIONS

THE MEATBALL FACTORY

Arugula, prosciutto, fennel, melon salad with white balsamic & olive oil
Classic beef & tomato meatball served with campanelle pasta & Pecorino Romano
Spinach & turkey meatball served with creamy polenta & Alfredo sauce
TOMARESCA NEPRICA 2012, Italy

DOUBLE ELVIS

Carrot, zucchini squash, apple & cilantro slaw
Jalapeño bacon hush puppy served with bacon aioli
Rotisserie chicken, smoked cheddar shells-n-cheese,
foraged mushrooms, tobacco onions & BBQ sauce
CARMENET CHARDONNAY 2010, California

PARK AVENUE POP

Coca-Cola braised short ribs
Yukon gold whipped potatoes
Charred asparagus, roasted peppers & chive blossoms
ESTRELLA SHIRAZ 2010, California

SUPERSTARS OF SPAIN

Farmer Jones's pickled beets, young chevre, white frisée & toasted pistachios in lemon oil
PEI mussels, Gulf shrimp, fennel, roasted peppers, green olives, sweet peas, & saffron paella
VILLA MARIA SAUVIGNON BLANC 2011, New Zealand

Vegetarian options are available at each station.

DESSERT

Sea salt caramels, dark chocolate truffles, donut holes,
sugar cookies, banana parfaits, cake pops

-- more --

Gala Live Auction Items:

Duquesne Club Wine Cellar Dinner

Opening Bid: \$2,500

Gather your friends together and join hosts Judy and Michael Cheteyan for a six-course, gourmet dinner with wine pairings at the Duquesne Club, one of Downtown Pittsburgh's most eminent establishments. The Executive Chef will create a meal to remember, specially designed to complement the Cheteyans' extensive and impeccably kept vintage wine collection.

Oh, Mexico

Opening Bid: \$5,500

James Taylor may have sung about this sunlit destination, but you'll be humming your own blissful tune when you unwind in Casa Piazza, a private, full-service luxury villa located in the exclusive, five-star community of La Punta in Manzanillo. Beautified with lush, tropical plants and a unique blend of Mexican and Italian-Mediterranean architecture, Casa Piazza features outdoor and rooftop dwellings, striking ocean views, leisurely poolside lounging, and recreational diversions galore. Available exclusively via auction, this spacious, five-bedroom villa accommodates ten people and is fully staffed with a personal chef, house manager, maid, and houseman. And, for an intimate seaside experience, the package includes complimentary access to the private La Escondida Beach Club—just a five-minute stroll from Casa Piazza.

Your Home is a Stage

Opening Bid: \$1,000

Transform your living room into a theatrical adventure with an exclusive reading of a hometown World Premiere. Writer and actor Tami Dixon will perform selections from *South Side Stories*, her vibrant, one-woman show all about the dynamism of Pittsburgh's ever-changing neighborhood. Embedded in the concrete of South Side's city steps are testimonials of teenage mischief, steel mill toil, and townie haunts. Hear all about the stories and interviews that Tami collected for her script, and learn about the creative process as she and the play's director, City's Associate Artistic Director Matt Morrow, make your home a stage. City Theatre will provide hors d'oeuvres and wine for twelve.

French Countryside Château

Opening Bid: \$1,000

Described as "a superb island of vines," Château Caronne Ste Gemme is a distinguished vineyard located in the Haut-Medoc Bordeaux region of France. Experience the history of this prestigious property, dating back to 1648, as you tour and taste to your heart's delight with the vineyard's expert owner, François Nony. Breakfast is included daily during this week-long stay, as is one exclusive dinner on the grounds. The château accommodates up to four guests with two separate double bedrooms and one single. And, with easy access to the entire Bordeaux area, the beauty of this celebrated southwest region of France is yours to explore.

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Captiva Island Escape

Opening Bid: \$3,500

Experience the serenity of a bayside villa in South Seas Island Resort, located on Florida's gorgeous Captiva Island. Surrounded by tranquil views of the bay and mangrove forest, this airy, three-bedroom villa is just a short walk from the beach as well as restaurants, shops, and markets. Pick up fresh, local ingredients to cook in your fully-equipped kitchen or stroll over to the nearby eateries for coastal fare and entertainment. South Seas Island Resort and wildlife sanctuary boasts a sprawling, crescent-shaped, white-sand beach and opportunities for adventure on both land and sea. Snorkel and windsurf or sail and unwind. And, the resort offers a glimpse of native Florida's awe-inspiring beauty, so don't miss the nature offerings. This magical, five-night escape accommodates six.

Marvelous New Mexico

Opening Bid: \$2,000

Bask in the Southwest sunshine and make yourself at home in Casa Azul, an authentic Santa Fe, New Mexico adobe, adorned with plush furniture, colorful kitchen tiles, luminous candle sconces, kiva fireplaces, and a serene private garden. Completely restored and featuring tinwork designed by a local artisan, this charming, three-bedroom dwelling is the ideal domestic getaway for seven relaxing nights. Walk just three blocks to Canyon Road galleries and restaurants and six blocks to the historic Plaza. This peaceful New Mexico haven is perfect for you and five guests.

Dine with the Playwright

Opening Bid: \$1,000

Invite five of your closest friends to dine at the restaurant of your choice with City Theatre's Artistic Director Tracy Brigden and Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, one of the hottest playwrights in the business. Roberto is the author of *Abigail/1702*, an enthralling drama that takes place a decade after *The Crucible*'s infamous seductress, Abigail Williams, danced with the devil in Salem. In addition, Roberto's writing credits include Marvel Comics, the TV shows *Big Love* and *Glee*, as well as Broadway's *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*.

And...the fun continues on City Theatre's Opening Night of *Abigail/1702* on May 10, 2013. You and your friends are invited to enjoy the performance and attend a post-show party with the cast, crew, artists, VIPs, and fellow theatre lovers.

Visit citygala.wordpress.com to view photos of live auction items and strategize your bidding!

Please direct all press inquiries to Emily Price, Director of Marketing and Communications, 412.431.4400 x230 or eprice@citytheatrecompany.org.

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City Theatre's 38th season begins this fall. Located on Pittsburgh's historic South Side, City Theatre specializes in contemporary and new plays and has brought to Pittsburgh playwrights such as Adam Rapp, Christopher Durang, Eric Simonson, and Jeffrey Hatcher. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tracy Brigden, Managing Director Mark R. Power, and a 45-member Board of Directors, City Theatre's mission is to provide an artistic home for the development and production of contemporary plays of substance and ideas that engage and challenge a diverse audience. www.citytheatrecompany.org