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For Immediate Release:

CITY THEATRE OPENS ITS 2012-2013 SEASON WITH *MAPLE AND VINE* A PROVOCATIVE '50s FANTASY BY JORDAN HARRISON

"...sharply drawn and funny"—The New York Times

"...exceptionally clever...strikes a wonderfully off-kilter sense of ambivalence" — Chicago Sun-Times

Directed by Kip Fagan

October 13 – November 4, 2012

PITTSBURGH, PA (September 18, 2012)—City Theatre launches into the 2012-2013 season with *Maple and Vine*, a provocative '50s fantasy by Jordan Harrison. Directed by Kip Fagan, *Maple and Vine* runs on City Theatre's Mainstage from **October 13 to November 4, 2012**, with an **Opening Night performance on Friday**, **October 19 at 8pm**.

Burned out by their hectic lifestyles, a Manhattan couple moves to Maple and Vine, a corner of the world where the milkman still makes daily deliveries and the housewives' smiles are as sweet as their homemade apple pies. This is 1955—perpetually. Reenacting the era with startling authenticity, the community gives up their smartphones for switchboards. But when their civil liberties are in question, what will they sacrifice for happiness?

"We are thrilled to open City Theatre's 38th season just before the Presidential election with *Maple and Vine*, a new play about a community that reenacts 1955 indefinitely," says Tracy Brigden, City Theatre's Artistic Director. "The play is a striking portrait of American life, then and now, and the juxtaposition of the two worlds has profound and ironic resonance on our current national debate in this election year. In an age when we eagerly watch the latest *Mad Men* episode with equal parts envy and scorn, this play poses the intriguing question: Would you give up your fast-paced, twenty-first century life for the chance at happiness in a kinder, 'simpler' time?"

Maple and Vine marks New York director Kip Fagan's City Theatre debut. Mr. Fagan has developed new plays with Manhattan Theatre Club, The Public, New York Theatre Workshop, Playwrights Horizons, Vineyard Theatre, New Dramatists, Ars Nova, The Lark, and a variety of regional theatres. He has taught and/or directed

at SUNY Purchase, The Juilliard School, and NYU. Most recently, he directed Annie Baker's *Circle Mirror Transformation* (Marin Theatre Company co-produced with Encore Theatre) in the Bay Area.

In addition, *Maple and Vine* features Robin Abramson, Ross Beschler, Caralyn Kozlowski, Nelson Lee, and Greg McFadden. The design team includes Narelle Sissons (Scenic), Robert C.T. Steele (Costume), Matthew Richards (Lighting), and Eric Shimelonis (Sound).

CITY THEATRE PRESENTS

Maple and Vine By Jordan Harrison Directed by Kip Fagan

When: October 13 – November 4, 2012

Preview Schedule

Saturday, October 13 at 5:30pm Sunday, October 14 at 7pm Tuesday, October 16 and Wednesday, October 17 at 7pm Thursday, October 18 at 8pm

Dress Like It's 1955!

Ticket and drink specials for audiences who dress to impress—1950s style. Thursday, October 18 at 8pm

PRESS / OPENING NIGHT Friday, October 19 at 8pm

Regular Run Schedule

Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7pm Thursdays and Fridays at 8pm Saturdays at 5:30 and 9pm Sundays at 2pm

Weekday matinees on Wednesday, October 24 and Wednesday, October 31 at 1pm There will be no evening performance on Wednesday, October 31.

Where: City Theatre, 1300 Bingham Street on Pittsburgh's South Side

Tickets

\$35 to \$55

Box Office

412.431.CITY (2489) or <u>www.citytheatrecompany.org</u>

Full-time students and/or young professionals age 26 and younger may reserve \$15 tickets in advance for all performances except Fridays 8pm and Saturdays 5:30pm. On Fridays and Saturdays, tickets are available two hours prior to show time and based on availability.

Seniors (age 60+) may purchase \$22 rush tickets at the Box Office beginning two hours before show time.

Groups of 10 or more are eligible for discounts. Call Kari Shaffer at 412.431.4400 x286.

City Theatre is now in its 38th season. 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

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