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For Immediate Release:

CITY THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2013 YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS CONTEST WINNERS

**Eight middle and high school student playwrights from Western PA
receive professional productions at City Theatre**

PITTSBURGH, PA (August 6, 2013)—**City Theatre** is pleased to announce eight Young Playwrights Contest winners who will develop their six scripts in collaboration with professional theatre artists—a director, dramaturgs, and actors—for productions in City Theatre’s Hamburg Studio during the 14th annual Young Playwrights Festival, October 1-11, 2013.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SELECTIONS:

The Amazon: Race to the Cure by Honesty LeGrande and Hope LeGrande
Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8

Deck the Halls by Lily Buchanan
Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12

What Are the Odds? by Ariana Distler and Alayna Perrine
Sharpsville Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL SELECTIONS:

Dial Tone by Mayah El-Dehaibi
Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12

Flicker by Shea Minter
Shady Side Academy

Tame (This Monkey’s Gone to Heaven) by Tyler Hudson
Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12

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The winning one-act plays were selected from 200 Young Playwrights Contest submissions. Students from middle and high schools in Western Pennsylvania are eligible to participate in the annual contest, which will expand outreach to West Virginia next year. Each script is read by at least two members of the Literary Committee, comprised of 40 theatre professionals from across the United States. All writers who submit scripts receive constructive criticism and encouraging suggestions for continued revisions.

“Young Playwrights encourages student writers to make their voices heard and to take ownership of their work in a professional, artistic environment,” says Kristen Link, City Theatre’s Director of Education and Accessibility. “Through our playwriting program, students not only learn a new craft, but also discover different ways to think critically, connect with their peers, and form valuable networks within the local theatre industry.”

This October, City Theatre’s Young Playwrights Festival will showcase diverse theatrical storytelling, including crisis in a post-apocalyptic radio station, adventures in the Amazon, a spirited holiday period piece, and more. Subjects tackled range from teen depression to consumerism, with poignant moments of nostalgia and flashback woven throughout.

The full festival schedule, including performances and workshops, will be announced in late August. Tickets will go on sale September 3, online at CityTheatreCompany.org or by phone at 412.431.CITY (2489).

Young Playwrights is City Theatre’s comprehensive, dynamic approach to arts education serving teachers, students, and the Pittsburgh community. The program fulfills state academic standards, including Arts & Humanities and Reading, Writing, Speaking, & Listening. Four major components make up the Young Playwrights program: the Young Playwrights Teacher Institute, In-School Workshops, the Young Playwrights Contest, and the Young Playwrights Festival.

City Theatre’s 39th season begins this fall. Located on Pittsburgh’s historic South Side, City Theatre specializes in new plays, commissioning and producing work by playwrights including Adam Rapp, Jeffrey Hatcher, Theresa Rebeck, and Christopher Durang. 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. CityTheatreCompany.org

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