ISU Theatre press release

Timeless classic “To Kill a Mockingbird” takes the stage in Fisher Theater

AMES, Iowa – To Kill a Mockingbird, based on the Pulitzer Prize winning book will take the stage at Fisher Theater at Iowa State University, beginning February 24.

The plot is a familiar one. Atticus Finch, a widower, is raising his two young children to have a code of honorable behavior. In the small town in Alabama where they live, a young black man is unfairly accused of accosting a white woman. Atticus agrees to be his lawyer and by doing so puts not only his client, but his children in grave danger.

Oprah Winfrey has written, "I think To Kill a Mockingbird is our national novel. If there was a national novel award, this would be it for the United States. I think it is a favorite book of almost everybody you meet.” Even British librarians who were polled in 2006 and asked, “Which book should every adult read before they die?” voted To Kill a Mockingbird number one.

Maybe that is because almost everyone can relate to it in one way or another since the book deals with love and hate, friendship and loneliness, justice and injustice, racism and inclusion, honor and cowardice.

The novel was adapted to a screenplay which won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1962 and fifty years later will be present as a play by ISU Theatre.

Heading the cast of ISU students are Kiah Kayser as Jean Louise Finch (Scout), Brent LeBlanc as Jeremy Finch (Jem), Taylor Sklenar as Atticus Finch, and Andre Johnson Jr. as Tom Robinson.

"To Kill a Mockingbird" will take place in Fisher Theatre. Performances are February 24 and 25 and March 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. and February 26 and March 4 at 2 p.m. Single tickets: Adults $16, Seniors $14, Students $8. Tickets are available through TicketMaster, the Iowa State Center Ticket Office in Ames or at the door before the performance.

For more information, visit the ISU Theatre website: www.theatre.iastate.edu/.

Publicity photos available upon request.

For Immediate Release
Kiah Kayser (Jean Louise Finch [Scout]) is a junior in performing arts from Nya, Minnesota

Brent LeBlanc (Jeremy Finch [Jem]) is a sophomore in performing arts from Urbandale

Taylor Sklenar (Atticus Finch) is a sophomore in chemistry and English from Treynor

Shongedzai Matangira (Calpurnia) is a sophomore in apparel, merchandising, and design from Cedar Rapids

Kim Paul (Maudie Atkinson) is a sophomore in psychology from Midland, Michigan

Danielle Levings (Stephanie Crawford) is a senior in psychology from Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin

Kathryn Olsen (Mrs. DuBoise) is an open option freshman from Rochester, Minnesota

Austin Schinke (Arthur Radley [Boo]) is a sophomore in performing arts from Marion

Ben Teske (Charles Baker Harris [Dill])

Paul Pint (Heck Tate) is a sophomore in performing arts from Evanston, Illinois

Larry Kaplan (Judge Taylor) is a graduate student in family and consumer sciences from Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Elliott White (Reverend Sykes) is a sophomore in biology from Galveston, Texas

Buffy Jamison (Church Choir Lady) is a senior in world languages and cultures from Des Moines

Mumbi Kasuma (Church Choir Lady) is a sophomore in mechanical engineering from Alexander Bay, South Africa

Calli Sandahl (Mayelle Ewell) is a sophomore in speech communication from Savage, Minnesota

Jeff White (Bob Ewell) is a senior in performing arts from Mount Vernon

Coulton Brouwer (Walter Cunningham) is a sophomore in psychology from Parkersburg

Zach Hackbarth (Mr. Gilmer) is a sophomore in English from Ames

Andre Johnson, Jr. (Tom Robinson) is a sophomore in performing arts from Des Moines

Michael Still (Clerk) is a freshman in performing arts from Knoxville

Matt Meldrem (Man in the Street and Jury) is a senior in performing arts from Grinnell

Brennan Blank (Man in the Street and Jury) is a junior in biology from Ankeny

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Seth Wilharm (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in animal science from Cedar Rapids
Doug Van Oostenrijk (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in performing arts from Clive
Eric Sharp (Man in the Street and Jury) is a junior in history from Clive
Alex Shum (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in interdisciplinary studies from Clinton
Taylor Diles (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in pre-journalism from Chaska, Minnesota
Stephen Haydon (Man in the Street and Jury) is a senior in performing arts from Ankeny
Seth Levings (Man in the Street and Jury) is a senior in performing arts from Ames
Max Wood (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in materials engineering from Fort Dodge
Mason Tyer (Man in the Street and Jury) is a freshman in philosophy and psychology from Winterset
David Sheets (Man in the Street and Jury) is a graduate student in electrical and computer engineering from Toddville, Iowa