

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR
MCKINNEY SUMMER MUSICALS'
FIRST 2014 PRODUCTION: "SIDE BY
SIDE BY SONDHEIM"

DATE:

JANUARY 21, 2014

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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In response to numerous requests for a multi-show season, McKinney Summer Musicals will be presenting *Side by Side by Sondheim* on March 1-2 as a prelude to its major production, *Footloose*, which will run July 13-20.

The ensemble cast for the Sondheim musical revue features several MSM alumni. Patrick Briggs who had starring roles as The King of Siam in *The King and I* and Mr. Applegate in *Damn Yankees*; Jared Duncan, who played Alfred Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* and Mordcha in *Fiddler on the Roof*; Cindy Johnston, whose MSM roles include Eulalie Shinn in *The Music Man* and Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*; and Stewart Kouba, who appeared as Freddy Eynsford-Hill in *My Fair Lady* and Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof*, are all in the Sondheim cast. Joining them are Tracy Lastrapes, who starred as Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly!* and played Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees*; Hunter Lewis, who first appeared with MSM as Perchik in last summer's *Fiddler on the Roof*; Amy Samuel, whose MSM experience dates back to 1993, when she played Sandy in *Grease*, and most recently appeared as Grandma Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*; and Devora Vaughn, who

also has a long history with MSM, having played Daisy Mae in 1991's production of *Li'l Abner* and other leading roles in MSM's productions during the 1990's.

The cast also includes MSM newcomer Danielle Estes, a familiar face in the DFW musical theater scene. Estes' previous roles include Carla in *Nine*, Charlotte in *Flora and the Red Menace* and Cinderella in *Into the Woods*.

Side by Side by Sondheim director Noelle Chesney said of the cast, "There is so much talent in this community, and this cast is a perfect example of that fact. Sondheim's brilliant songs provide a wonderful setting to showcase such incredible talent."

While MSM's major summer production, *Footloose*, will take place at McKinney Boyd High School, the Sondheim revue will be presented in a more intimate venue--the chapel at Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney. Chesney explained, "Trinity Presbyterian Church has been a great support to MSM. We rehearse there during the summer, and the chapel lends itself extremely well to smaller productions such as this."

Tickets to *Side by Side by Sondheim* are now on sale on the MSM website:

www.mckinneysummermusicals.com .