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RICHMOND TRIANGLE PLAYERS ANNOUNCES 2009-2010 SEASON
Five Area Premieres Celebrate Move to New Home

Richmond, VA -- A recent Tony-award winner, entries in both the local “Acts of Faith” and statewide “Minds Wide Open” festivals, a zany holiday show, and a new comedy by a famed playwright – all area premieres – are featured in Richmond Triangle Players’ 2009-2010 season, the first to be produced in its new home at 1300 Altamont Avenue in the Scott’s Addition neighborhood.

The season opens on Wednesday, October 7, 2009. Subscriptions will go on sale to current subscribers July 1 and to the general public in late July; individual tickets go on sale four weeks prior to each opening night.

Beginning its 17th Season, Richmond Triangle Players is the only professional theatre company in the entire Mid-Atlantic region which expressly and regularly serves a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. While other theatres in the region occasionally produce plays relevant to this particular community, only Triangle Players has made an ongoing commitment to LGBT artists, issues, audiences and community support.

“The fact that Triangle Players is well into its second decade as one of the area’s most recognizable theatres – especially in a city seemingly as conservative as Richmond – always surprises some people,” says founding director Michael Gooding. “But the fact that we are here and, with the support our community, producing this season in a newly-renovated theater, speaks to the simple fact that this particular need was unmet by the other companies in our area.”

Triangle Players had performed for most of its existence at Fieldens, a popular Richmond nightspot. But by its second decade, RTP was rapidly outgrowing the space both artistically and in audience amenities.

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Inspired at RTP's 15th Anniversary Gala, local real estate entrepreneur Robb Moss decided to do something to help the company. "Robb knew of a building for sale that housed a radiator shop," Gooding recalls. "He got in touch with me and told me he would buy it on behalf of RTP if it suited our needs. Our artistic group agreed that the space was right for our next stage of development, and the full Board agreed that the location was exactly where our planning indicated it should be. We brought in our architects and moved quickly ahead to make our dreams into reality."

The theater is designed as a 4000-square foot performing arts facility accommodating flexible seating arrangements for up to 90 patrons. Envisioned is a graceful lobby, which will eventually include a generous bar, catering capability and box office. The building will open in the fall with fully ADA-compliant access and comfortable restrooms, and will be made available for art shows, cabaret performances and private events.

"We couldn't have done it without the generous support of many individuals in our community, as well as the Richmond Gay Community Foundation and the Carpenter Foundation, which both lent us support very early on. Their faith in us – especially in these troublesome economic times – is appreciated more than I can express," Gooding says.

The 2009-2010 season productions will open on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. and will continue to play Thursday through Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m., with two Sunday matinees per show at 4:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20 for Thursday Evenings and Sunday Matinees, and \$25 for Wednesday Openings, Friday and Saturday Evenings. Subscription prices range from \$80 - \$100 will be available by mail, and on the theater's web site at www.rtriangle.org, which also contains a complete calendar listing.

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THE 2009-2010 SEASON

October 7-31, 2009

THE NEW CENTURY by Paul Rudnick

Directed by RTP artistic director John Knapp

When the playwright is Paul Rudnick, who wrote the RTP hits *Jeffery* and *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, expectations are high for a play both hilarious and smart, and *The New Century* is no exception. It is a provocative and outrageous comedy, featuring a collection of hilarious characters. The *New York Times* raved “The one-liners fly like rockets in *The New Century* ... Mr. Rudnick turns stereotypes into bullet-deflecting armor and jokes into an inexhaustible supply of ammunition...” while the *New York Post* exclaimed that “the evening contains so many gut-busting one-liners that those with heart conditions are advised to steer clear.”

November 18 - December 12, 2009

SCROOGE IN ROUGE (*an English Music Hall Christmas Carol*) with book and lyrics by Ricky Graham, additional material by Jeffery Roberson (a.k.a. cabaret icon Varla Jean Merman), other interesting bits by Yvette Hargis, and original music composed by Jefferson Turner.

Directed by Shon M. Stacy

A mixture of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* and *Noises Off*, *Scrooge in Rouge* is a Victorian-era music hall version of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, in which 17 members of the Royal Music Hall 20-Member Variety Players have taken ill from the cast party the night before, leaving only Charlie Schmaltz, an animated character actor; Lottie Obligato, a bubbly, over-the-hill ingénue; and Vesta Virile, a male-impersonating diva, to play and sing all the male and female parts in the show.

January 20 - February 13, 2010, part of the **ACTS OF FAITH** festival

FACING EAST by Carol Lynn Pearson

An eloquent and multifaceted portrayal of a family grappling with unspeakable loss, *Facing East* is the story of Ruth and Alex McCormick, an upstanding Mormon couple reeling from the suicide of their gay son. Stuck between their faith and their new reality, they encounter their son's partner, Marcus, for the first time. *Facing East* is accessible to anyone of any faith, anyone with a family, anyone who has felt the pain of loss, anyone with hope for change. “Some theatre is good drama. Some drama is important theatre. Carol Lynn Pearson's *Facing East* is both.” - *NYTheatre.com*

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March 10 – April 3, 2010, part of **MINDS WIDE OPEN: Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts**

LAST SUMMER AT BLUEFISH COVE by Jane Chambers

Directed by Noreen Barnes

Jane Chambers' zesty and heartfelt play is considered a milestone in lesbian theater, much like its male counterpart *The Boys in the Band*. A woman spends what she knows will be her last summer with her circle of friends, while at the same time having unexpectedly fallen in love. Alternately hilarious and poignant, Last *Summer at Bluefish Cove* deals with issues of love, romance, monogamy, infidelity, and ultimately, what really makes a family.

May 5 – 29, 2010

TAKE ME OUT by Richard Greenberg

Directed by Scott Wichmann

Acclaimed playwright Richard Greenberg's play is a deeply funny, provocative take on America's favorite pastime. The boys in the locker room of the fictional baseball team, "The Empires," will never be the same when a young athlete at the top of his game reveals a personal truth. Ballplayer Darren Lemming calls a press conference that results in the shocking announcement that he is gay, and *Take Me Out* chronicles the fall-out from Lemming's action as it spreads through the team, the media and across the nation. Winner of the 2003 Tony Award for Best New Play, this fascinating piece is an American tale infused with a genuine passion for the game.

ABOUT RICHMOND TRIANGLE PLAYERS

Beginning its 17th Season, Richmond Triangle Players, a nonprofit, professional theater company based in Richmond, Virginia, is committed to the passionate exploration of theatre and its role in the global community. We embrace a wide audience with a focus on works relevant to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities. Our highest aim is to enlighten those around us with theatre that warms the heart, educates the mind and entertains the spirit.

RTP offers a five play subscription season, as well as special events and cabaret nights at its new location, 1300 Altamont Avenue, Richmond, VA. For more information, please call (804) 346-8113, or visit RTP's Web site at www.rtriangle.org.

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DETAILED PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

October 7-31, 2009

THE NEW CENTURY

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|----------------------|-----------|
| Wednesday, October 7 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, October 8 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, October 9 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, October 10 | 8:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, October 15 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, October 16 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, October 17 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, October 18 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, October 22 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, October 23 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, October 24 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, October 25 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, October 29 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, October 30 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, October 31 | 8:00 p.m. |

November 18 - December 12, 2009

SCROOGE IN ROUGE

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|------------------------|-----------|
| Wednesday, November 18 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, November 19 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, November 20 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, November 21 | 8:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, November 26 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, November 27 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, November 28 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, November 29 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, December 3 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, December 4 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, December 5 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, December 6 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, December 10 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, December 11 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, December 12 | 8:00 p.m. |

January 20 - February 13, 2010, part of the **ACTS OF FAITH** festival
FACING EAST

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Wednesday, January 20 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, January 21 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, January 22 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, January 23 | 8:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, January 28 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, January 29 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, January 30 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, January 31 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, February 4 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, February 5 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, February 6 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, February 7 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, February 11 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, February 12 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, February 13 | 8:00 p.m. |

March 10 – April 3, 2010, part of **MINDS WIDE OPEN: *Virginia Celebrates Women in the Arts***

LAST SUMMER AT BLUEFISH COVE

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|---------------------|-----------|
| Wednesday, March 10 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, March 11 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, March 12 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, March 13 | 8:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, March 18 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, March 19 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, March 20 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, March 21 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, March 25 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, March 26 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, March 27 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, March 28 | 4:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, April 1 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, April 2 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, April 3 | 8:00 p.m. |

May 5 – 29, 2010

TAKE ME OUT

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|------------------|-----------|
| Wednesday, May 5 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 6 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, May 7 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, May 8 | 8:00 p.m. |
| . | |
| Thursday, May 13 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, May 14 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, May 15 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, May 16 | 4:00 p.m. |
| | |
| Thursday, May 20 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, May 21 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, May 22 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, May 23 | 4:00 p.m. |
| | |
| Thursday, May 27 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, May 28 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, May 29 | 8:00 p.m. |