

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACTS:

Rachel Bliss, Starlight
Communications Manager
rachel.bliss@kcstarlight.com
(816) 997-1151



Tony-Award Winning Musical *Hairspray* Heads to Starlight June 7-12



Hairspray is part of the 2022 AdventHealth Broadway Series at Starlight Theatre.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Starlight is delighted to present Broadway’s Tony Award-winning musical comedy *HAIRSPRAY* June 7-12. Join 16-year-old Tracy Turnblad in 1960s Baltimore as she sets out to dance her way into TV’s most popular show. Can a girl with big dreams (and even bigger hair) change the world?

The *HAIRSPRAY* company is led by Andrew Levitt aka **Nina West** (“RuPaul’s Drag Race”) as Edna Turnblad, Niki Metcalf as Tracy Turnblad and Sandie Lee as Motormouth Maybelle and features the beloved score of hit songs, including “Welcome to the 60’s,” “Good Morning Baltimore” and “You Can’t Stop the Beat.” This all-new touring production reunites Broadway’s award-winning creative team led by Director Jack O’Brien and choreographer Jerry Mitchell to bring *HAIRSPRAY* to a new generation of theater audiences.

“Delivering messages of hope, acceptance, determination, and resilience, *Hairspray* is one of the most cherished Broadway musicals of the last 20 years,” Rich Baker, President + CEO of Starlight, said. “Tracy’s journey is a reminder for all of us to practice self-love and inspires us to dream big, no matter the obstacles.”

Tickets to *Hairspray* are on sale now and available online at kcstarlight.com, by calling (816) 363-7827, or by visiting the ticket office at 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City, Mo., 64132. Call the ticket office to inquire how to put your *Hairspray* tickets towards a season ticket package.

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About the Show:

Hairspray is the story of Tracy Turnblad, a teenager with big hair and big dreams. Despite the objections of her stay-at-home mother, Edna, Tracy becomes an overnight sensation when her dance moves win her a role on “The Corny Collins Show,” a teen dance show on local TV. Tracy’s talent also wins the heart of Link Larkin, the show’s dreamboat. Her success stirs the envy of Amber Von Tussle and her mother Velma, who see Tracy as Amber’s rival for the title of Miss Teenage Hairspray. But Tracy has bigger plans! Before long, she’s leading a campaign to integrate the all-white Corny Collins Show. Tracy teams up with Seaweed, a Black student who shares her passion for dancing. And she has the help of Seaweed’s mother, Motormouth Maybelle — a record store owner who shares Tracy’s vision of social justice. Together, they finally break down the color barrier that divides the show’s dance floor, proving that we all dance to the same beat.

About the Production:

The original production of *Hairspray* debuted on Broadway in August of 2002 and went on to win 8 Tony Awards® in 2003, including Best Musical and the GRAMMY for Best Musical Show Album. *Hairspray* features a book by Mark O’Donnell and Thomas Meehan, an original score by Marc Shaiman and lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman. *Hairspray* is based on the New Line Cinema film (1988) written and directed by John Waters, who serves as a creative consultant on the musical. The show is 2 hours and 30 minutes, including intermission, and is recommended for ages 8+.

How to Purchase Tickets:

Tickets to *Hairspray* are on sale now and available online at kcstarlight.com, by calling (816) 363-7827, or by visiting the ticket office at 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City, Mo., 64132. All Broadway performances begin at 8 p.m. For more information, including show content advisories, please visit kcstarlight.com. Season tickets are still available and include additional benefits like free parking, a “weatherproof” season, and more.

Discount prices for groups of 10 or more are available by contacting Starlight’s group sales department at 816-997-1137 or groups@kcstarlight.com. Please note that kcstarlight.com is the only official ticket source for all shows in the 2022 Broadway Series. If you purchase tickets from another website or ticket broker, we cannot guarantee those tickets are legitimate.

About the Producer:

NETWORKS PRESENTATIONS is an industry-leading producer of touring theatrical productions committed to delivering quality entertainment to audiences worldwide for more than 25 years. Current and upcoming productions include *1776*, *Anastasia*, *The Band’s Visit*, *Blue Man Group*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Hairspray*, *Les Misérables*, *The Prom*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Waitress*.

About Starlight:

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts institution in Kansas City and provides inspiring, one-of-a-kind experiences to its

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patrons. Starlight presents and produces Broadway musicals, concerts, and indoor shows in addition to offering extensive community engagement programming, including classes, scholarships, and Starlight's Blue Star Awards, one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation.

Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, Starlight's historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country and includes rehearsal halls, a museum, club area 3 for dining, concessions, gardens, fountains and a 10-story, climate-controlled stage. For more information, visit kcstarlight.com.

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