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RUDOLPH MUSICAL SOARS INTO MESA ARTS CENTER, NOVEMBER 29 THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Family-Friendly Stage Adaptation of CBS' Highest Rated Christmas Special of All Time Returns with Three North American Tours

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MESA, AZ – In 1964, the beloved stop-motion animated television classic, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, made its network television debut delighting audiences across the country. This holiday season, the “most famous reindeer of all” from the longest running and highest rated television special will return live on stage with **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical** (www.rudolphthemusical.com). Back by popular demand following last year’s critically acclaimed and hugely successful inaugural tour, the world’s most famous reindeer and a holly jolly cast of iconic characters including Hermey the Elf, Yukon Cornelius and the Abominable Snow Monster will help Santa save Christmas during three North American tours visiting 50 cities this holiday season.

Rudolph and friends will visit Mesa Arts Center on Sunday, November 29. Tickets are on sale now and are available at Mesa Arts Center’s Box Office, mesaartscenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

“Because our inaugural run was so popular, we will have three tours this year in an effort to bring Rudolph and his friends to even more families and young theatregoers across North America,” says Producing Partner Jonathan Flom.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical practically transports audience members into the television special as songs drive the plot while familiar and nostalgic set design with

projections, costumes and characters are brought to stage. The cast brings new energy to the classic songs and dialogue, while irresistible and loveable puppets help showcase the charming “roughness” from the television show’s stop-motion effects. “We address all of the familiar story elements from the television special with a talented cast and puppeteers who help recreate the magic on stage,” says Producing Partner Bob Penola.

The story tells the tale of a young Rudolph who, because of the appearance of his bright, shining nose, is ousted from the reindeer games in Christmas-town. He flees town, meets up with new friends Hermey and Yukon, and a series of funny and endearing adventures ensue including a visit to The Island of Misfit Toys. Rudolph journeys home, where a snowstorm of epic proportions is threatening Christmas. Can Rudolph save his family and friends and help Santa save the holiday?

The production will expand on its campaign benefiting PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center that launched in conjunction with the tour last year (more details will be announced).

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical is produced by Iconic Entertainment Studios, Right Angle Entertainment and Wishing Star Productions.

For more information, visit www.rudolphthemusical.com.

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About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest multidisciplinary arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries in the MCA Museum, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment, performances and festivals, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.