FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MADISON REPERTORY THEATRE
ANNOUNCES
DYNAMIC MIX FOR 2007-08 SEASON, INCLUDING AN ARTHUR MILLER CLASSIC AND THE WORLD PREMIERE OF
LOMBARDI/THE ONLY THING

“Largest, most ambitious season yet,”
Declares Artistic Director Richard Corley

Madison Repertory Theatre unveils plans for its 39th season, a dynamic mix of classics, and new works, featuring three exciting “off subscription” events: the 5th edition of the Madison New Play Festival, the previously announced summer musical Carousel, and the return of last season’s sold-out hit Muskie Love. In announcing the plays slated for 2007-08, Artistic Director Richard Corley stressed the size and scope of the season, as well the variety of offerings.

“Madison has told us they want to see large cast plays of ideas, full of humor and the wide breadth of human experience, and next season they will see just that,” said Corley. “Its our largest, most ambitious season yet,” he stressed, “and it reflects not only our ambitions and the wishes of our audience, but our successful “settling-in” to our home, The Playhouse, in Overture Center. Additionally, we are bringing back to our stage many actors that our audience has told us they love, from Rick Peeples in the role of a lifetime, Willy Loman in Death of a Salesman, to Lee Becker, so wonderful in Guys On Ice and Muskie Love, who will play the hilarious title role in The Nerd. Finally,” Corley added, “I am proud to announce that in its 5th year the Madison New Play Festival has birthed its first World Premiere, Eric Simonson’s astonishing portrait of the legendary Vince Lombardi. Truly, this will be a season to remember.”

Managing Director Julie Jensen added to Corley’s enthusiasm about the new season when she stated, “Our thirty ninth year is a testament not only to the exceptional artists who grace our stage, but also the financial health of Madison Repertory Theatre, which is stronger than ever, with audiences growing at a record pace.”

The 2007-08 Season, generously sponsored by US Bank, includes, five mainstage productions as follows:

- more -
Death of a Salesman
By Arthur Miller
Directed by Richard Corley
September 21 - October 14, 2007
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24, 2007
www.madisonrep.org

*Death of a Salesman*, the classic by Arthur Miller, has captured the essence of riveting theatre for over half a century. Madison Repertory Theatre invites you to rediscover the story of Willy Loman, one of the great characters in theatre history, in this deeply beautiful and thrilling masterpiece. *Death of a Salesman* received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and the Tony Award for Best Play in 1949, as well as the New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award for Best Play. *Death of a Salesman* was the first play to win these three major awards, and marked the beginning of Miller’s international prestige.

Featuring, Roderick Peeples, last seen in *Moon for the Misbegotten*, and *The Price*, and Patricia Boyette, last seen in *Our Town*, and *The Price*.

Lombard/The Only Thing
A World Premiere
By Eric Simonson
Directed by Richard Corley
November 9th – December 2nd, 2007
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24, 2007
www.madisonrep.org

*Sponsored by The Evjue Foundation—the charitable arm of The Capital Times and Associated Bank.*

We all know he was a legend, but who was Vince Lombardi really? Academy Award winner and Steppenwolf Theatre Company ensemble member Eric Simonson brings the great man to life, and shows us the ideas and people who made him the complex, extraordinary icon he was. Madison Repertory Theatre commissioned this World Premiere, inspired by *When Pride Still Mattered*, David Maraniss’ biography of the great Packers coach.

The Diary of Anne Frank
By Francis Goodrich and Albert Hackett
Newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman
Directed by Jennifer Uphoff Gray
January 11th - February 3rd, 2007
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24, 2007
www.madisonrep.org

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In honor of the 60th anniversary of the publication of Anne Frank’s *The Diary of a Young Girl*, we present Wendy Kesselman’s newly revised version of the play, which includes material from the recently unedited version of the book. Feisty, joking, dreamy, awakening to her new body, this Anne is a real teenage girl, not a symbol. Her loss is all the more moving in this poetic, powerful play.

“I want to be useful and bring enjoyment to all people, even those I’ve never met. I want to go on living even after my death.”

-From *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank

**Permanent Collection**

By Thomas Gibbons  
Directed by Richard Corley  
March 7th - March 30th, 2008  
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts  
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24, 2007  
[www.madisonrep.org](http://www.madisonrep.org)  
Part of the American Family Insurance African-American Artist Series

An African American businessman, Sterling North, is appointed as the new director of The Morris Foundation, a little known gallery in a predominantly white suburb. There he discovers that the gallery, which houses the works of Picasso, Renoir, Cézanne, and Matisse, has tucked away in storage a distinctive selection of African art. His proposal to add the art to the gallery is met with stern opposition by Paul Barrow, the institution’s long-time education director. This conflict sets in motion a culture clash, which opens the wounds of a social and racial divide.

Featuring **Patrick Sims**, last seen in *Our Town*, as a participating playwright in the 2006 Madison New Play Festival, and later this season in *Home*.

**The Nerd**

By Larry Shue  
Directed by Tony Simotes  
May 2nd - May 25th, 2008  
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts  
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24, 2007  
[www.madisonrep.org](http://www.madisonrep.org)

Rick is a hopeless “nerd”—a bumbling halfwit who is socially challenged, with little intelligence and less tact…and he is here to stay. When Willum Cubbert, an ex-army buddy, reunites with Rick on his thirty-fourth birthday, he is delighted to find the man who saved his life, on his doorstep. But his enthusiasm soon dissipates, as Rick shows no sign of vacating, and Willum’s patience, composure, and temperament grow thin.

Featuring **Lee Becker**, of *Guys On Ice*, and *Muskie Love*.

-**more**-
Special Productions

The following plays are presented as non-subscription “special events.” Tickets for these events may be obtained from the Overture Center box office and Barrymore Theatre box office where applicable.

Carousel
By Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein II
Directed by Richard Corley
July 13 - July 29, 2007
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale now
www.madisonrep.org
Sponsored by Thompson Investment Management and The Burish Group of UBS Financial Services Inc.

Madison Repertory Theatre is thrilled to present its first summer musical. The enchanting classic Carousel features such beloved songs as “If I Loved You,” “You’ll Never Walk Alone,” and, of course, “June Is Bustin’ Out All Over.” This masterpiece, by the award-winning duo of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, has been a Broadway favorite since it first opened in 1945 and was chosen by Time Magazine as “Best Musical of the 20th Century.” The Madison Repertory Theatre production will feature more than 25 actors, including professionals from Chicago and locals from UW Madison and the Madison community, an orchestra, elaborate scenery and period costumes.

Madison Repertory Theatre will celebrate this milestone with a Grand Opening Night Celebration. Tickets to opening night are $100, and will feature live entertainment, complimentary champagne. Ticket buyers will automatically be entered in a unique prize drawing, featuring one-of-a-kind artwork by past winners of the Art Fair Off the Square; each piece is themed after the musical Carousel.

Madison New Play Festival
Various playwrights/directors
October 20-21 and October 27-28, 2007
The Playhouse, Overture Center for the Arts
Tickets 608-258-4141, on sale August 24th 2007. Discounted passes available with subscription order.
www.madisonrep.org

Madison Repertory Theatre celebrates another season of new play development with the Fifth Annual Madison New Play Festival. Playwrights from around the nation will present new work through workshops and readings in The Playhouse at The Overture Center for the Arts. This season’s Festival will continue to bring our patrons up close and personal with playwrights and actors, through a question and answer session after each presentation. The Madison Repertory Theatre is privileged to have the Madison community be part of our commitment to developing new plays for future production.

Muskie Love
By Dave Hudson and Paul Libman
Directed by Pam Krieger
January 18th – January 27th, 2008
The Barrymore Theatre
Tickets 608-241-8864, on sale August 24, 2007
Also available at participating outlets
www.madisonrep.org and www.barrymorelive.com

Back by popular demand Madison Repertory Theatre presents the smash hit *Muskie Love*. A musical comedy that finds love pulling hard on the line in Green Bay and not only for the beloved Packers. Two rival fishing guides, Bea and Ben, are lured into romance by the clever plotting of young sweethearts Claude and Sarah, and Bea’s witty uncle, Roy. Loosely based on Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Muskie Love* is a homegrown Wisconsin delight by the winners of the Richard Rodgers Award.

Featuring **Lee Becker** from *Guys On Ice* and the 2006 production of *Muskie Love*.

### Subscriptions

Season subscriptions may be purchased by calling (608) 256-0029 x 23 beginning April 2007, or you may download an order form for new subscribers at www.madisonrep.org. Prices start at $107 for renewing subscribers and include priority seating.

New subscribers will receive 40% off, with subscriptions starting at $87; this special promotion will run for a limited time only.

Subscribers also received a discount on Madison New Play Festival passes when renewing or ordering a new subscription. Passes are $50 to all festival events.

### Single Tickets and Group sales

“Our Beat the Rush Days” tickets will go on sale, for subscribers only, August 21st-August 23rd 2007, single tickets will be available to the general public on August 24th 2007.

Single Tickets can be purchased in person at the Overture Center Box Office at 201 State Street, Madison, WI 53703, by phone at 608-258-4141, or online at www.overturecenter.com, beginning August 24th 2007.

- Wed, Th, Sun $40
- Fri, Sat $48
- Preview Wed $21 (presented Wednesdays before opening night)
- Preview Thu $26 (presented Thursdays before opening night)

A limited number of $16 dollar tickets are available for every performance.

Students (With valid ID)
Get 50% off ticket prices, excluding Preview performances.

**Madison New Play Festival**
- Single ticket $15
- Non-subscriber Festival Pass $70
- Subscriber Festival Pass $50

Groups can now receive a greater discount with your order, the larger your group the greater your discount. Is your group a book club? Let us know when you place your order, and we may be able to
supply your club with scripts of the show before you come.
There is a $10 Overture Center ordering fee applied to all group sales.
Groups of 10-24 receive 10% off
Groups of 25-49 receive 15% off
Groups of 50+ receive 20% off

Single tickets prices for Muskie Love TBD.

Show Times and Venues

Show times for mainstage productions and Carousel in The Playhouse:
Wednesday-Friday at 7:30pm
Saturday at 4pm and 8pm
Sunday at 2pm

Show times for the Madison New Play Festival in The Playhouse:
Saturday Oct 20th, and 27th at 2pm and 7pm
Sunday Oct. 21st and 28th at 2pm and 7pm

Show times for Muskie Love at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Avenue, Madison WI, 53704:
Thursday Preview January 17th  2008
Friday Jan 18th-Sunday Jan 27th

January 17th-20th
Thursday-Friday at 7:30pm
Saturday at 4pm and 8pm
Sunday January 20th at 2pm and 5pm

January 23rd-27th
Wednesday-Friday at 7:30pm
Saturday at 4pm and 8pm
Sunday at 2pm

Special Events

Please visit our website at www.madisonrep.org or join our mailing list to get updates on all special events throughout the 2007-2008 Season. You may join our mailing list by calling 608-256-0029 x23 or send your requests to Madison Repertory Theatre, 1 S. Pinckney Street, Suite 340, Madison WI, 53703.
Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman stems from both Arthur Miller’s personal experiences and the theatrical traditions in which the playwright was schooled. The play recalls the traditions of Yiddish theater that focus on family as the crucial element, reducing most plot to the confines of the nuclear family. Death of a Salesman focuses on two sons who are estranged from their father, paralleling one of Miller's other major works, All My Sons, which premiered two years before Death of a Salesman. Although the play premiered in 1949, Miller began writing Death of a Salesman at the time of the first half of the play. Arthur Miller reconnoiters subjects of money, death and the loss of individuality. Other than the American Dream, Willy Loman desires nothing. He craves his brother’s prosperity and endeavors for a flawless life, nonetheless, he frequently is unsuccessful to accomplish his dreams. He, as a salesman, is subject to the impulses of the flea market and thinks that it is this job that can only rise him in the world of business. But, due to a miserable financial status, he couldn’t secure a loan for his son to start his own business. And in the end, Willy commits suicide, rea