



2015-2016
Season



Press Release

UT Department of Theatre • 206 McClung Tower • Knoxville, TN 37996

For more information contact: Robin Conklin, Marketing & Communications Director
rconkli1@utk.edu or 865-974-2497

For immediate release:

Clarence Brown Theatre Receives Funding from East Tennessee Foundation To Continue Open Captioned Performances

The East Tennessee Foundation recently awarded the Clarence Brown Theatre a grant of \$5,000 to continue providing Open Captioning at select performances over the next two seasons. Funding received from this grant will help offset the expenses incurred by providing this unique service.

“The CBT is thrilled to continue offering this wonderful service to our patrons and the Knoxville community at large. Open Captioning has become very popular at the CBT and as the National Open Captioning Initiative funding came to a close, the East Tennessee Foundation jumped in to help us continue to offer this service which increases access for all to the performing arts,” said David B. Byrd, CBT Managing Director.

Open Captioning is a text display of all of the words and sounds heard during a production—very similar to Closed Captioning on a television. The first professional producing theatre in Tennessee to offer this service, the CBT partnered with the New York Theatre Development Fund National Open Captioning initiative in order to provide this service for members of the Deaf and hard of hearing community, free of charge for the past two seasons.

“The Clarence Brown Theatre was amazing to work with during our two-year partnership and is very much a national model for best practices in the field of Open Captioning for theatre,” said Lisa Carling, Director of TDF Accessibility Programs.

Open Captioning will be available on the third Sunday matinee for each of the 2015/2016 Season productions. More information on the service and specific Open Captioned performance dates is available at clarencebrowntheatre.com/open-captioning.

With a dual mission to train the next generation of theatre artists and to provide top quality professional theatre, like that of a teaching hospital, the Clarence Brown Theatre at the University of Tennessee Knoxville is one of only 12 academic LORT (League of Resident Theatre) institutions in the nation. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Calvin MacLean and Managing Director David B. Byrd, the CBT season runs from September through May and features eight productions ranging from musicals to drama. Tickets are on sale now for the 2015/2016 Season which includes: *The 39 Steps*; *Of Mice and Men*; *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play*; *A Christmas Carol*; *The Santaland Diaries*; *Titus Andronicus*; *A Lesson Before Dying*; *The Open Hand*; and, *South Pacific*. To order tickets, call the Box Office at (865) 974-5161 or online 24/7 at clarencebrowntheatre.com

For more information, tickets or accessibility accommodation requests including ASL, and assistive technologies, please call the CBT Box Office at 865-974-5161 or visit us online at clarencebrowntheatre.com/access. Stay Connected to the Clarence

Brown Theatre on Facebook (Clarence Brown Theatre), follow us on Twitter (@ClarenceBrown) and view Clarence Brown videos on YouTube (Clarence Bro).

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