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Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure Wins Outstanding Production - Theatre for Young Audiences and Outstanding Direction in a Musical at the 34th Annual Helen Hayes Awards

BETHESDA, MD (May 15, 2015) At the 34th Annual Helen Hayes Awards, held Monday, May 14, *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure*, the final show of Imagination Stage's 2016-2017 season, received five nominations and won two Helen Hayes Awards, including **Outstanding Production - Theatre for Young Audiences**. Imagination Stage Associate Artistic Director Kathryn Chase Bryer won **Outstanding Direction in a Musical** for her direction of *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure*.

"We are so happy that Imagination Stage received so many nominations for *Wonderland*," says **Wonderland** director and Imagination Stage Associate Artistic Director Kathryn Chase Bryer. "The play and our production are near and dear to our hearts, and we are thrilled that Theatre for Young Audiences is being recognized across the board in so many different categories. We were honored to be nominated with such a talented group of people and enjoyed celebrating with everyone at last night's event!"

The Helen Hayes Awards nominations for *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure* include Outstanding Choreography in a Musical (Robert Bowen Smith), Outstanding Direction in a Musical (Kathryn Chase Bryer), Outstanding Ensemble in a Musical, Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical (Aaron Bliden), and Outstanding Production-Theatre for Young Audiences.

Based on the classics by Lewis Carroll, written by Rachel Rockwell (book and lyrics) and Michael Mahler (music and lyrics), and directed by Kathryn Chase Bryer, *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure* delighted audiences with a modern take on Alice's search for identity, complete with catchy live musical numbers, fantastical costumes, and a rock concert ambiance.

ABOUT THE HELEN HAYES AWARDS

An honor acknowledged by audiences across the United States and beyond, The Helen Hayes Awards recognize and celebrate outstanding achievement in professional theatres throughout the Washington area in nearly 50 categories. Named for the legendary First Lady of the American Theatre, the award pays tribute to artists and companies who exemplify the excellence found on Washington stages.

ABOUT IMAGINATION STAGE

Founded in 1979, Imagination Stage is a 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to inspire creativity through theatre and arts education programs that nurture, challenge, and empower young people of all abilities. It offers year-round professional theatre for young audiences and

classes in creative drama/acting, musical theatre, dance, and filmmaking for ages 1-18.

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