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For Immediate Release

IMAGINATION STAGE PRESENTS THE BELOVED MUSICAL, *YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN*
June 23- August 12, 2018

BETHESDA, MD (June 4, 2018) Imagination Stage brings the characters of the lovable *Peanuts* comic to life in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, directed by acclaimed playwright and director Aaron Posner and featuring a cast of celebrated regional actors. Opening in Imagination Stage's Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Theatre on June 23, this beloved musical will delight audiences of all ages.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown explores the struggles and successes of childhood. The show follows Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Lucy, Linus, Sally, and Schroeder as they sing and dance through book reports, baseball games, glee club, and the trials of young love, all while questioning what it really means to be "good." Familiar songs like "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" and "Happiness" capture both the nostalgia of childhood and the universal search for meaning at the heart of this touching play.

***You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, best for ages 5+, runs June 23 to August 12, 2018** in Imagination Stage's Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Theatre. Tickets start at \$10 and may be purchased online at www.imaginationstage.org, at the Imagination Stage box office, or via phone at 301-280-1660. Group rates are available.

Press tickets and photos are available upon request.

Contact press@imaginationstage.org for more information.

ABOUT THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown features a star-studded cast of acclaimed actors. Last seen as The Lion in Ford's Theatre's production of *The Wiz*, **Christopher Michael Richardson** makes his Imagination Stage debut as Charlie Brown, adding to an impressive regional resume with credits at Shakespeare Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, Round House Theatre, and Constellation Theatre. **Michael J. Mainwaring** plays Schroeder. Mainwaring was recently nominated for the Helen Hayes award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical for his role in *In the Heights* at Olney Theatre Center. **Joe Mallon**, last seen in *Translations* at Studio Theatre, has toured

internationally as Elephant Gerald in *Elephant and Piggie: We are in a Play!* He plays Charlie Brown's beloved dog, Snoopy, in this production. Also making her Imagination Stage debut, **Awa Sal Secka** plays Lucy, following up her performance as Glinda in *The Wiz* at Ford's Theatre. Secka has previously worked with The Kennedy Center, Signature Theatre, Round House Theatre, and Studio Theatre, among others. **Harrison Smith**, who has previously worked with Signature Theatre, Round House Theatre, and The Keegan Theatre, among others, makes his Imagination Stage debut in the role of Linus.

Rounding out the cast, **Erin Weaver** returns to Imagination Stage in the role of Sally. In addition to starring in Imagination Stage's Helen Hayes Award-winning production of *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure*, Weaver is a six-time Helen Hayes Award winner who has worked at Arena Stage, The Folger Theatre, Signature Theatre, and others, and began her professional career playing young Cosette/Eponine in the first national tour of *Les Misérables*.

Aaron Posner (Director) is an award-winning playwright, director, teacher, and former artistic director of two LORT theatres. He's pleased to be at Imagination Stage for the first time. His plays include *Stupid F***ing Bird* (which was one of the ten most produced plays in the country in 2015), *Life Sucks*, and *No Sisters* (all three Chekhov re-imaginings), *District Merchants* (inspired by *The Merchant of Venice*), *Who Am I This Time? & Other Conundrums of Love* (from Kurt Vonnegut stories), *The Chosen* and *My Name Is Asher Lev* (from Chaim Potok novels), *Sometimes a Great Notion* (from Ken Kesey), and many more. He has directed more than 150 productions at major regional theatres across the country, and currently lives outside of Washington, D.C.

The remainder of the creative team for the Imagination Stage production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* includes Music Director **Deborah Jacobson**, Choreographer **Tony Thomas**, Scenic Designer **Nate Sinnott**, Costume Designer **Kelsey Hunt**, Lighting Designer **Max Doolittle**, Sound Designer **Patrick Calhoun**, Stage Manager **Trevor A. Riley**, and assistant director **Danielle Gallo**.

SHOW SCHEDULE

- Weekday performances at 10:30 a.m.
- Public performances on Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Tickets: \$10+; best for ages 5+

Open Captioning performance: Sunday, July 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Sensory-Friendly performance: Sunday, July 22 at 11:00 a.m.

ASL-Interpreted performance: Sunday, August 12 at 4:00 p.m.

Please call 301-280-1660 for more information and to ensure proper seat location for these performances.

LOCATION

4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814

Parking: Metered parking in the adjacent public parking garage; parking is free on weekends

Metro: Red Line/Bethesda Station

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook.com/ImaginationStage

Twitter.com/I_Stage

Instagram.com/imaginationstage

#IStageCharlie

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.

www.imaginationstage.org

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