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artistic director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SIGNATURE THEATRE RECEIVES 18 TOTAL 2006 HELEN HAYES AWARD NOMINATIONS. URINETOWN DOMINATES MUSICAL THEATER CATEGORIES WITH 12 NOMINATIONS.

Arlington, VA — Signature Theatre has received 18 2006 Helen Hayes Award nominations, a record number for the Theatre during its 16-year history. A dominant force in musical theater, “Signature Theatre’s acidic musical *Urinetown* received a leading dozen nominations,” stated today’s *Washington Post*. Signature’s signature – the annual presentation of a Stephen Sondheim musical – received the remaining balance with a re-imagined streamlined version of the rarely produced *Pacific Overtures* earning six nominations. Other notable mentions include three of the five nominations in the category of Outstanding Supporting Actor, Resident Musical (Christopher Bloch, *Urinetown*; Stephen F. Schmidt, *Urinetown*; and Harry A. Winter *Pacific Overtures*) and double nominations in an impressive six categories: Will Gartshore (*Urinetown* and *Pacific Overtures*) for Outstanding Lead Actor, Resident Musical; Erin Driscoll (*Urinetown*) and Donna Migliaccio (*Pacific Overtures*) for Outstanding Lead Actress, Resident Musical; Jay Crowder (*Urinetown*) and Jon Kalbfleisch (*Pacific Overtures*) for Outstanding Musical Direction, Resident Production; Joe Calarco (*Urinetown*) and Eric Schaeffer (*Pacific Overtures*) for Outstanding Director, Resident Musical; and *Pacific Overtures* and *Urinetown* for Outstanding Resident Musical.

The winners will be announced at the 22nd Annual Helen Hayes Awards scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2006, at The Warner Theatre.

SIGNATURE’S 2006 HELEN HAYES AWARD NOMINATIONS

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR, RESIDENT MUSICAL

Christopher Bloch – *Urinetown*
Stephen F. Schmidt – *Urinetown*
Harry A. Winter – *Pacific Overtures*

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTRESS, RESIDENT MUSICAL

Jenna Sokolowski – *Urinetown*

OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR, RESIDENT MUSICAL

Will Gartshore – *Pacific Overtures*
Will Gartshore – *Urinetown*

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OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS, RESIDENT MUSICAL

Erin Driscoll – *Urinetown*
Donna Migliaccio – *Pacific Overtures*

OUTSTANDING LIGHTING DESIGN, RESIDENT PRODUCTION

Chris Lee – *Urinetown*

OUTSTANDING COSTUME DESIGN, RESIDENT PRODUCTION

Anne Kennedy – *Urinetown*

OUTSTANDING SET DESIGN, RESIDENT PRODUCTION

James Kronzer – *Urinetown*

OUTSTANDING CHOREOGRAPHY, RESIDENT PRODUCTION

Karma Camp – *Urinetown*

OUTSTANDING MUSICAL DIRECTION, RESIDENT PRODUCTION

Jay Crowder – *Urinetown*
Jon Kalbfleisch – *Pacific Overtures*

OUTSTANDING DIRECTOR, RESIDENT MUSICAL

Joe Calarco – *Urinetown*
Eric Schaeffer – *Pacific Overtures*

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT MUSICAL

Pacific Overtures
Urinetown

Signature Theatre

Signature Theatre is a non-profit professional theatre dedicated to producing contemporary plays and musicals and to the development of new work. Now in its 16th season under Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer, Signature has been nominated for 209 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in the professional theatre and has been honored with 42 Helen Hayes Awards, including Outstanding Musical in 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2005 and Outstanding Play in 1999. Signature Theatre is a member of the Theatre Communications Group, The League of Washington Theatres, the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, the Arlington Arts Alliance, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

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