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The logo for Signature Theatre, featuring the word "signature" in a bold, orange, lowercase sans-serif font, followed by "news" in a smaller, lighter orange, lowercase sans-serif font.

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SIGNATURE THEATRE PRESENTS THE AMERICAN MUSICAL VOICES PROJECT: NEXT GENERATION REPERTORY OF TWO WORLD PREMIERE MUSICALS

**New Works by Hunter Foster, Matt Conner, Joe Meno,
and Adam Gwon to Launch Signature's 2011-2012 Season**

Arlington, VA, July 21, 2011 – Signature Theatre's 22nd season kicks off by making musical theatre history with its **American Musical Voices Project: Next Generation "World Premiere Repertory Series"** – the first time in the history of the American theatre that two world premiere musicals will be presented in rotating repertory, in full production. The eight-week series, beginning previews on August 23rd, will produce *The Hollow* (book by **Hunter Foster**; music and lyrics by **Matt Conner**), to be directed by Signature Theatre's Associate Artistic Director **Matthew Gardiner**; and *The Boy Detective Fails* (book by **Joe Meno**; music and lyrics by **Adam Gwon**), directed by Signature Theatre Artistic Associate **Joe Calarco**. Both musicals have been commissioned by Signature Theatre as part of its groundbreaking **American Musical Voices Project: The Next Generation**.

"It is essential for Signature to continue to break new ground in the production of new musicals for the American theatre," Signature's Artistic Director **Eric Schaeffer** said. "Producing this Repertory Series is a significant step forward in the work we are doing with some of the best writers working in musical theater today. It is a tremendous challenge that is both exciting and important for the future of the American musical."

Signature Theatre has assembled an award-winning design team to work on *The Hollow* and *The Boy Detective Fails*, which includes choreography by Helen Hayes Award-winner **Karma Camp** (*Urinetown* and more than 35 productions at Signature); set designs by **Derek McLane** (Tony Award®-winner, *33 Variations*); lighting by Helen Hayes Award-winner **Chris Lee** (*Kiss of the Spider Woman*, among his 17 Signature productions); costume design by Helen Hayes Award-nominee **Kathleen Geldard** (*The Neverending Story*, 13+ productions at Signature) and sound design by **Matt Rowe** (20+ productions at Signature). Each production will run in rotating repertory, with performances of both shows on every Saturday and Sunday to provide audience members the opportunity to see both in one day.

Heading the cast for *The Boy Detective Fails* will be Helen Hayes Award-winner **Stephen Gregory Smith** (*Les Miserables*, *110 in the Shade* at Signature) as the Boy Detective and **Anika Larsen** (*Avenue Q* and *Xanadu* on Broadway) as Penny. **Sam Ludwig** (Signature's *[title of show]* and *Show Boat*) will be playing the infamous Ichabod Crane in *The Hollow* opposite **Whitney Bashor** as Katrina. The Repertory cast starring in both musicals includes **Evan Casey**, **Sherri Edelen**, **James Gardiner**, **Tracy Lynn Olivera**, **Margo Seibert**, **Thomas Adrian Simpson**, **Russell Sunday**, and **Harry A. Winter**.

"With our extensive history of developing new musicals, we are proud that this first-time repertory will have its home at Signature," **Schaeffer** continued. "This is sure to be a major theatrical event in Washington this Fall." Managing Director **Maggie Boland** added, "With more than \$780,000 in direct support having been awarded to musical theater artists through our American Musical Voices Project to date, Signature is very proud to extend our commitment to these Next Generation composers to include full production of their extraordinary new works."

The Hollow is a distinctive reinterpretation of Washington Irving's classic tale *Sleepy Hollow* as created by **Hunter Foster** and **Matt Conner**. Following *Nevermore* and *Partial Eclipse*, this is Conner's third musical composition production at Signature Theatre. "I am so thrilled and honored to be a part of this historical project," said Conner. "New works come to life thanks to the leadership and vision of Eric Schaeffer along with the generous support of Ted and Mary Jo Shen. Their dedication to the theatre gives rise to opportunities for works that otherwise may be left on a shelf." Foster recently wrote *Summer of '42* as well as the new musical *Bonnie and Clyde*; among his many performing credits is the role of Molina in Signature's production of *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*.

The Boy Detective Fails is based on the popular Joe Meno novel of the same name. In the twilight of a childhood full of wonder, Billy Argo, "boy detective," is brokenhearted to discover his young sister and crime-solving partner, Caroline, has committed suicide. Ten years later, Billy, age thirty, returns from an extended stay at St. Vitus' Hospital for the Mentally Ill to discover a world full of unimaginable strangeness. The score is by Adam Gwon, who most recently premiered *Ordinary Days* for Roundabout Theatre Company.

THE HOLLOW

Book by Hunter Foster

Based on the Book *Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving

Music & Lyrics by Matt Conner

Directed by Matthew Gardiner

August 23, 2011 – October 16, 2011

The MAX

THE BOY DETECTIVE FAILS

Book by Joe Meno (based on his best-selling novel)

Music & Lyrics by Adam Gwon

Directed by Joe Calarco

August 25, 2011 – October 16, 2011

The MAX

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

Joe Calarco (Director, *The Boy Detective Fails*) SIGNATURE: *Walter Cronkite is Dead.*, *Assassins* (Helen Hayes Award), *Urinetown* (Helen Hayes Award), *Sideshow* (Helen Hayes Award), *Nijinsky's Last Dance* (Helen Hayes Award), *Nest* (world premiere), writer of the last five Signature in the Schools plays. OFF-BROADWAY: Playwrights Horizons: *The Burnt Part Boys*, *Floyd and Clea Under the Western Sky*; Primary Stages: *In Transit*, *Boy*; Second Stage: *in the absence of spring* (writer/director);

Lucille Lortel: *Sarah, Plain and Tall*; The Transport Group: *Bury The Dead, The Audience* (contributing book writer); Dream Light Theatre Company: *Fugitive Songs. Shakespeare's R&J* (adaptor/director, Lucille Lortel Award, also West End and Tokyo). NATIONAL TOUR: *Ring of Fire*. REGIONAL: The Old Globe: *Lincolnesque*, (world premiere), *The Glass Menagerie*; Barrington Stage Company: *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* (book writer/director), *The Burnt Part Boys, The Memory Show*; Philadelphia Theatre Co.: *The Light in the Piazza* (Barrymore Award), *The Last Five Years* (Barrymore Award Best Musical), *Elegies, M. Butterfly*; Drama League Directing Fellow, Executive Board SDC.

Matt Conner (Music and Lyrics, *The Hollow*) COMPOSITIONS: Signature Theatre *Partial Eclipse: A Rock Song Cycle* (2009), *Girl from No Man's Land* (incidental music, 2007), *Nevermore* (commissioned by Signature Theatre, book by Grace Barnes, 2006), *Crossing* (commissioned by Signature Theatre, Signature Theatre Workshop, book by Grace Barnes, 2008 and Workshop Production at Shenandoah University, 2011); Creative Cauldron: *The Selfish Giant* (adapted book, music and lyrics, 2011), *Martin: The King of Pizza* (commissioned by Creative Cauldron, book by A.K. Brink and Ryan Dean Halbrook, 2009); GMCW: *A Carol Christmas* (commissioned by GMCW, book, music and lyrics, 2007). READINGS: *Nightofthelivingdead: The Musical* (book by Stephen Gregory Smith, 2011). RECORDINGS: *Winter* (2010). AWARDS: American Musical Voices Project: The Next Generation Grant Award 2008. EDUCATION: BFA Shenandoah University 1997.

Hunter Foster (Book, *The Hollow*) SIGNATURE: *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (Helen Hayes nomination). BOOK: *Summer of '42* (2002 Outer Critic Nomination: Best Off Broadway Musical), *Bonnie and Clyde: A Folktale* (New York Musical Theatre Festival's Most Promising New Musical in 2008). WRITING: Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS: annual comedy sketches for the *Gypsy of the Year* and *Easter Bonnet* competitions; *Broadway Bares*; NBC variety show: *Rosie Live!* (2008). BROADWAY: *Million Dollar Quartet, The Producers, Little Shop of Horrors* (Tony nomination), *Urinetown, Les Misérables, Footloose, Grease, King David*. OFF-BROADWAY: *Ordinary Days, Happiness, Frankenstein, Dust, and Modern Orthodox*. DC AREA: Kennedy Center: *Mister Roberts*. REGIONAL: La Jolla Playhouse: *Little Miss Sunshine* (James Lapine/Bill Finn). EDUCATION: University of Michigan.

Matthew Gardiner (Director, *The Hollow*) SIGNATURE: Director: *Side by Side by Sondheim, Art, [title of show], See What I Wanna See*; Choreographer: *Sweeney Todd, Dirty Blonde*; Assistant Director and Choreographer: over 20 productions at Signature Theatre, alongside Eric Schaeffer, Frank Galati, John Rando, Karma Camp, Christopher D'Amboise and Jeremy Skidmore. Resident Assistant Director 2006-present; SIGNATURE CABARET: Director: *Broadway Duets, Lost Songs of Broadway 1950s, Signature Sings* (featuring Natascia Diaz & Euan Morton), *December Divas II, Singing Shakespeare*. NEW YORK: Director: NYMF: *The Greenwood Tree*; Assistant Director: Circle in the Square: *Glory Days*. DC AREA: Director/Choreographer: Kennedy Center: *Snow White, Rose Red & Fred*; Everyman Theatre: *Let Me Sing And I'm Happy*; MetroStage: *tick, tick...BOOM!*; Catholic University of America: *La Boheme, Candide*; Co-Director/Choreographer: Studio Theatre: *Jerry Springer: The Opera, Reefer Madness* (2008 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Musical and Direction of a Musical), Choreographer: Studio Theatre: *Grey Gardens, Adding Machine*. Assistant Director: Kennedy Center: *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof*. EDUCATION: Carnegie Mellon University.

Adam Gwon (Music and Lyrics, *The Boy Detective Fails*) NEW YORK: Roundabout Theatre Company: *Ordinary Days*. WEST END: Trafalgar Studios: *Ordinary Days*. REGIONAL: South Coast Repertory, Adirondack Theatre Festival, Human Race Theatre Company, Pennsylvania Centre Stage, Serenbe Playhouse, Peppermint Creek Theatre Company, others. RECORDINGS: *Ordinary Days* (Ghostlight Records). AWARDS: Kleban, Ebb, and Loewe awards for excellence in musical theater writing; ASCAP Harold Adamson Lyric Writing award; MAC John Wallowitch Award for outstanding songwriter under 35. COMMISSIONS: Signature Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Broadway Across America, EST/Sloan Project. FELLOWSHIPS: MacDowell Colony, Dramatists Guild. EDUCATION: NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. UPCOMING: *Cloudlands* (w/ Octavio Solis; world premiere, South Coast Repertory, spring 2012); *Bernice Bobs Her Hair* (w/ Julia Jordan; NAMT, 2011).

Joe Meno (Book, *The Boy Detective Fails*) REGIONAL: House Theatre of Chicago: *Star Witness*; Girl Go Bang: *Don the Army Blue*; Greasy Joan Theatre Company: *Lady Into Fox*; Redmoon Theatre: *Once Upon a Time or the Secret Language of Birds*; House Theatre of Chicago: *The Boy Detective*

Fails; O Theatre: *Love in Your Arms and a Knife in Your Heart*. NOVELS: *The Great Perhaps*, *The Boy Detective Fails*, *Hairstyles of the Damned* and the short story collection *Demons in the Spring*. AWARDS: Nelson Algren Award, a Pushcart Prize, The Great Lakes Book Award, and a finalist for the Story Prize.

REPERTORY CAST BIOS

Whitney Bashor OFF-BROADWAY: *The Fantasticks*. NATIONAL TOURS: *Happy Days*, *Whistle Down the Wind*. DC AREA: Kennedy Center: *Broadway Three Generations*. REGIONAL: Philadelphia Theatre Co.: *The Light in the Piazza* (2010 Barrymore Award), *Runaway Beauty Queen*, *Hot n' Cole*; Berkeley Rep: *To The Lighthouse*; Lincoln Center: *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, *EDGES*. TV: *Boardwalk Empire*, *All My Children*, *Love Monkey*. EDUCATION: University of Michigan BFA Musical Theatre Program.

Evan Casey SIGNATURE: *Tamar and the River* (21/24 workshop), *Urinetown*, *Ten Unknowns*, *Allegro*. NEW YORK: NYMF: *River's End*. DC AREA: Kennedy Center: *Snow White*, *Rose Red* (and Fred), *Tales of Custard the Dragon*; Ford's Theatre: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Meet John Doe*, *Shenandoah*; Olney Theatre: *Camelot*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Lend Me a Tenor*; Studio Theatre: *TempOdyssey*, *Dog Sees God*; Shakespeare Theatre, Round House Theatre, Rep Stage, Theater of the First Amendment, Imagination Stage, Bay Theatre Company. REGIONAL: North Carolina Theatre, Everyman Theatre, New London Barn Playhouse. FILM: *Bare Knuckle*, *Treasure Hunt*, *Flanking The Sentinel*, *Jargon*. TV: *Missing Person's Unit*, *Stage Fright*. OTHER: Capitol Steps. EDUCATION: Catholic University, London Dramatic Academy. TEACHING: Signature Theatre Stage One, National Conservatory of Dramatic Art, Howard Community College, Round House Theatre, Adventure Theatre.

Sherri L. Edelen SIGNATURE: *Side by Side* by Sondheim, *Walter Cronkite is Dead.*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes Award), *Urinetown*, *Elegies* (Helen Hayes nomination), *Side Show* (Helen Hayes Award). DC AREA: Kennedy Center/Sondheim Celebration: *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Merrily We Roll Along*; Shakespeare Theatre: *Design for Living*; Olney Theatre: *She Loves Me* (Helen Hayes nomination); Rep Stage: *Kimberly Akimbo*; Round House Theatre: *The World Goes 'Round*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*; Arena: *Cabaret* (Helen Hayes nomination); REGIONAL: NY Fringe Festival: *Citizen Ruth*; Arden Theatre: *Our Town*, *Caroline, or Change* (Barrymore nomination); Philadelphia Theatre Co.: *The Light in the Piazza* (Barrymore Award), *Elegies* (Barrymore nomination); Stages St. Louis: *The Music Man*, *Annie Get Your Gun*.

James Gardiner SIGNATURE: *I Capture the Castle* (21/24 workshop), [title of show], *Chess*, *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Ensemble), *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Saving Aimee*. BROADWAY: *Glory Days* (book writer). DC AREA: Ford's Theatre: *Liberty Smith*, *A Christmas Carol* (Associate Director); Library of Congress: *West Side Story: 50th Anniversary Concert*; Everyman Theatre: *A Tribute to Irving Berlin*; Olney Theatre: *Call of the Wild*; Woolly Mammoth/UM: *The Distance From Here*; Kennedy Center: *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *The Brand New Kid*; Round House Theatre: *A Prayer for Owen Meany*; Studio Theatre: *Dog Sees God*. REGIONAL: Williamstown Theatre Festival: *Home Free!*, *Create Fate, This is a Chair*.

Anika Larsen BROADWAY: *Avenue Q*, *Xanadu*, *All Shook Up*, *Rent*. OFF-BROADWAY: *Zanna*, *Don't!*, *How to Save the World and Find True Love in 90 Minutes*, *Miracle Brothers*, *Shafrika*, *The White Girl*. NATIONAL TOUR: *Avenue Q*, *Xanadu*, *Rent*. EDUCATION: BA, Theater Studies, Yale University. Co-Founder, Jaradoa Theater.

Sam Ludwig SIGNATURE: [title of show] (Jeff), *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias), *Show Boat* (Rubberface), *A Fox on the Fairway* (Justin, workshop), *Partial Eclipse*, *Curveball Workshop* (Ludwig), *Les Misérables* (Feuilly). DC AREA: Rep Stage: *Speech and Debate* (Solomon); Kennedy Center TYA: *Snow White Rose Red* (and Fred) (Sammy/Fred); MetroStage: *Glimpses of the Moon* (Nick); DC Fringe: *Super Claudio Bros.* (Luis); Creative Cauldron: *The King of Pizza* (Martin); Red Branch Theatre: *Urinetown* (Bobby); Olney Theatre: *Big River* (Huck), *1776* (Courier); Theatre J: *The Playdoh*

Golem Workshop (Sam); Toby's Dinner Theatre: *La Cage Aux Folles* (Jean-Michele), *Titanic the Musical* (Barrett).

Tracy Lynn Olivera SIGNATURE: *Les Misérables* (Fantine, Helen Hayes nomination), *Anyone Can Whistle* in Concert, *ACE*, *The Happy Time*, *Merrily We Roll Along* (Helen Hayes nomination); *Allegro* (Helen Hayes nomination); *Follies*, *Side Show*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Mack and Mabel* in concert, and many concerts and cabarets. BROADWAY: *Ragtime* (2009 revival). DC AREA: Kennedy Center: *Ragtime*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Passion*, *Merrily We Roll Along*; Shakespeare Theatre: *Candide*; Ford's Theatre: *Liberty Smith*, *Meet John Doe*, *Shenandoah*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Songs from the Tall Grass*; Folger Theatre: *Comedy of Errors*; MetroStage: *Closer Than Ever*, *The Last Five Years*; Olney Theatre: *West Side Story*, *Grease*, *Carousel* (Helen Hayes nomination); Rorschach: company member, *Rough Magic*, *J.B.*, *God of Vengeance*. REGIONAL: Goodman: *Candide*.

Margo Seibert SIGNATURE: *The Boy Detective Fails* (21/24 workshop), *December Divas Cabaret*, *Saving Aimee*. NEW YORK: Old Vic New Voices: *Taming of the Shrew*. NATIONAL TOUR: *The Phantom Tollbooth*. DC AREA: Two River Theatre & Folger Theatre: *Orestes- A Tragic Romp*; Folger Theatre: *Arcadia*, *School for Scandal*; Ford's Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*; Olney Theatre: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Cinderella*; Studio Theatre: *Reefer Madness*.

Thomas Adrian Simpson SIGNATURE: *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes Award), *The Witches of Eastwick*, *My Fair Lady*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Urinetown*, *Twentieth Century*, *110 in the Shade* (2004 Helen Hayes nomination), *Floyd Collins*, *Grand Hotel*, *Over and Over*, *Vera*, *The Raft of the Medusa*, *Mack and Mabel*. DC AREA: Ford's Theatre: *Liberty Smith*, *Meet John Doe*, *1776*, *A Christmas Carol*; Arena Stage: *The Light in the Piazza*, *The Fantasticks*; Shakespeare Theatre: *Candide*; Kennedy Center: *Regina* (w/ Patti LuPone); Olney Theatre: *Oh, Coward!*, *1776*, *Oliver*; Studio Theatre: *Adding Machine: A Musical*. REGIONAL: Goodman Theatre: *Candide*; Wayside Theatre: *Shenandoah*, *Man of La Mancha*; Delaware Theatre Co.: *A Murder A Mystery and A Marriage*.

Stephen Gregory Smith SIGNATURE: *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Boy Detective Fails* (21/24 Workshop), *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes Award, Best Ensemble), *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Funny Girl in Concert* (Eddie Ryan), *Into the Woods* (Jack), *My Fair Lady*, *Assassins* (Balladeer/Lee Harvey Oswald), *Pacific Overtures*, *The Highest Yellow* (Dr. Barrault), *One Red Flower* (Billy), *Allegro* (Charlie), *110 in the Shade* (Jimmy, 2004 Helen Hayes Award), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Grand Hotel*, *Gypsy*. DC AREA: DCAC: *High Fidelity* (Rob); Studio Theatre: *Adding Machine: A Musical* (SHRDLU); MetroStage: *tick, tick...BOOM!* (Jon); Ford's Theatre: *The Civil War*, *Meet John Doe* (Beany); Arena Stage: *Damn Yankees*; Kennedy Center: *Regina*; Wolf Trap: *Street Scene* (Dick); Olney Theatre: *The Secret Garden* (Dickon).

Russell Sunday SIGNATURE: *Chess* (Walter Anderson), *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble, Sweeney u/s), *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Ensemble, Jean Val-Jean u/s performed). DC AREA: Studio Theatre: *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Chucky, Helen Hayes nomination, Outstanding Ensemble); MetroStage: *Closer than Ever*, *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*; Theatre J: *David in Shadow and Light* (Goliath); Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Jekyll and Hyde* (Jekyll/Hyde, 2003 Helen Hayes nomination for Outstanding Male Lead), *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney Todd), *Titanic* (Andrews), *Aida* (Radames), *Miss Saigon* (Chris), *Kiss Me, Kate* (Fred), *Beauty and the Beast* (Gaston & The Beast), *Damn Yankees* (Young Joe), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Frank Butler), *Carousel* (Billy Bigelow).

Harry A. Winter NATIONAL TOURS: *Gigi*, *Jolson: the Musical*. DC AREA: *Allegro*, *110 in the Shade*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Racing Demon*, *The Laramie Project*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *Pins and Needles*, and *Bringing Up Amy*.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN MUSICAL VOICES PROJECT (AMVP)

Signature Theatre's **American Musical Voices Project** is the largest single musical theater commissioning and producing initiative of any U.S. theater. Founded in May 2006 and funded by **The Shen Family Foundation**, the AMVP demonstrates Signature's commitment to producing full productions of world premiere musical theatre works. Through the AMVP, **Musical Theater Composer Grants** have been awarded to **Ricky Ian Gordon**, **Michael John LaChiusa**, **Joseph Thalken**, **Adam Guettel** and **Jeanine Tesori**. Each of the grants includes a

commission to create a new full-length musical, with a commitment for full production as part of Signature Theatre's mainstage season. In April 2009, *Giant* by Michael John LaChiusa received its world premiere at Signature Theatre. Ricky Ian Gordon's *Sycamore Trees* premiered in May 2010, and Joseph Thalken's musical, *And the Curtain Rises* premiered in March 2011.

As part of the AMVP, **Musical Theater Leadership Awards** have been made to four individuals in recognition of their extraordinary influence on and contribution to the advancement of new musical theater, orchestrator Bruce Coughlin, composer Adam Guettel, singer/actress Audra McDonald, and director/musical director/orchestrator Ted Sperling.

In June 2008, the AMVP added **The Next Generation** program. That year, emerging composers Matt Conner, Adam Gwon, & Gabriel Kahane each received a commission to write new musicals for Signature Theatre and honorees Peter Foley and Marisa Michelson were given grants for the development of their musical ideas. In July 2009, the Theatre launched "21/24 Signature Lab," three weeks of rehearsal & performances of new works by **The Next Generation** composers. Also announced as part of The Next Generation segment of the AMVP were two additional musical commissions awarded to Peter Foley and Marisa Michelson, as well as honoree grants given to Chris Miller and Scott Davenport Richards for the development of future musical ideas. In 2010, Miller and Richards were awarded commissions through **The Next Generation** program, and Joshua Schmidt and Joshua Rosenblum were named honorees.

ABOUT SIGNATURE

Recipient of the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award®, Signature Theatre is a non-profit professional theater company in Arlington, Virginia dedicated to producing contemporary musicals and plays, reinventing classic musicals, and developing new work. Under the leadership of co-founder and Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boland, Signature has presented 32 world premiere productions and is renowned for combining Broadway-quality productions with intimate playing spaces.

In addition to hosting the finest talent from the DC metropolitan area and New York, Signature has been home to such theatre luminaries as Chita Rivera, George Hearn, Hunter Foster, Emily Skinner, Marc Kudisch, Judy Kuhn, John Kander and Fred Ebb, Cameron Mackintosh, Terrence McNally, and the company's signature composer, Stephen Sondheim. Since its founding in 1989, Signature has won 72 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in the Washington, DC region's professional theater and has been honored with 293 nominations.

Signature is partially supported by a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts and by a gift from Arlington County through the Arlington Commission for the Arts and the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources.

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