

A Chorus Line

Spring's Singular Sensation

As the Arts Center audience's number one choice for a musical for the 18-19 Theater Season, *A Chorus Line* is an enduring favorite, and arguably one of the most iconic shows of the American stage. Running from May 1 – June 2, the Arts Center's spring musical sensation will bring these beloved characters, songs, and stories to the stage.

Created by Michael Bennett, with a brilliant score by Marvin Hamlisch and Edward Kleban, and book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante, *A Chorus Line* is inspired by real experiences. Bennett, who directed and choreographed the original production, famously gathered his dancer friends for late-night taping sessions where they told their own stories about their experiences going from show to show with little job security beyond the hope of a long run. In the original production, many of the performers who gathered for those evenings played a version of themselves.

Directed by Casey Colgan – who knows the show inside and out, having directed it three times and performed in the international tour – said, "By the end of the evening, *A Chorus Line* has pulled off a huge achievement in that we feel we really know these individuals standing on that white line, none of them a stereotype, cliché or a billboard for some cause or other."

The trick to each character is, of course, to start with authenticity, and *A Chorus Line* famously sprouted from actual interviews with actual Broadway performers. When everyone ditches the studio-dance garb and suits up for the penultimate 1930s-style production number complete with top hats and sequins, "One," it's both dazzling entertainment in its own right and a distillation of every great showstopper that ever was.

Other memorable musical numbers include "What I Did for Love," "I Can Do That," "At the Ballet," "The Music and the Mirror," and "I Hope I Get It."

A brilliantly complex fusion of song, dance, and compellingly authentic drama, *A Chorus Line* is an achingly beautiful, joyously uplifting show that strikes an unforgettable chord in audiences and speaks to the power of music to connect us all.

Tickets for preview performances May 1-2 are \$49 for adults and \$36 for children ages 5-15. Regular performances, May 3-June 2, are \$59 for adults and \$46 for children ages 5-15. To purchase, visit artshhi.com or call 843.842.ARTS2787.

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