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BROADWAY BY THE BAY
ANNOUNCES 43RD SEASON:

***INCLUDING DEFYING GRAVITY: STEPHEN SCHWARTZ AND FRIENDS
PLUS LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE,
INTO THE WOODS***

SAN MATEO (November 8, 2007) – Under the leadership of Artistic Director Brooke Knight, **BROADWAY BY THE BAY** (BBBay) announces a stellar four-show season, including a special appearance by Broadway lyricist-composer Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked, Pippin, Godspell*) live on stage. Launching its 43rd season of presenting Broadway quality productions at affordable prices will be the Off-Broadway smash musical adaptation of the Roger Corman B-movie, *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS* (April 3 – 20); followed by the flapper-era musical favorite *THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE* (July 10 - 27); and Stephen Sondheim's fantastical fairy-tale musical *INTO THE WOODS* (Sept 18 – Oct. 5). To close the season, BBBay presents *DEFYING GRAVITY: STEPHEN SCHWARTZ AND FRIENDS* (Nov. 6 - 9). Each production will play at the 1600-seat San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Season subscriptions for 2008 (\$92-\$136) are now available to the public by calling (650) 579-5565. **Single tickets go on sale February 1, 2008.** Target will underwrite BBBay's Family Matinee series which will provide specially priced tickets for the Saturday matinee performance of every production for the 2008 season.

In chronological order, the BROADWAY BY THE BAY 2008 season is as follows:

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics and Book by Howard Ashman

April 3-20, 2008

San Mateo Performing Arts Center, 600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

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BROADWAY BY THE BAY 2008 SEASON

2-2-2-2-2

A nerdy florist finds his chance for success by making a Faustian pact with a man-eating plant in the horror flick turned sardonic musical tale, ***LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS***. An adaptation of Roger Corman's 1960s film of the same name, composer **Alan Menken** and writer/lyricist **Howard Ashman** (Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Aladdin*) set the man-eating plant down on Skid Row, with a trio of doo-wop divas singing the early Motown-inspired show-stoppers, such as "Skid Row (Downtown)," "Suddenly Seymour," and the infectious title song. Twenty-two years after Corman's B-movie classic (featuring the then unknown actor Jack Nicholson) debuted, *Little Shop of Horrors* became one of Off-Broadway's longest-running shows. It opened at the Orpheum Theatre July 27, 1982, and ran for 2,209 performances. That prompted a new movie version in 1986, directed by Frank Oz and starring Rick Moranis and Steve Martin.

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

Music by Jeanine Tesori

Book by Dick Scanlan and Richard Morris

Lyrics by Dick Scanlan

July 10-27, 2008

San Mateo Performing Arts Center, 600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

Winner of six 2002 Tony Awards including Best Musical, ***THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE*** takes audiences back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City, when "moderns" including a flapper named Millie Dillmount were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and rewriting the rules of love. This new stage version, based on the 1967 film, features 15 songs, including two from the film, four standards from the 1920s and nine new songs by Jeanine Tesori (music) and Dick Scanlan (lyrics).

INTO THE WOODS

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by James Lapine

September 18-October 5, 2008

San Mateo Performing Arts Center, 600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

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BROADWAY BY THE BAY 2008 SEASON

3-3-3-3-3

Taking a cue from Bruno Bettelheim's book *The Uses of Enchantment*, **INTO THE WOODS** combines the tales of Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, Cinderella and Little Red Riding Hood and turns them sideways to offer a completely fresh interpretation of the classic tales, exploring what happens *after* "happily ever after." **INTO THE WOODS** opened on Broadway at the Martin Beck Theatre on November 5, 1987 and won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and the Drama Desk Award for Best Musical, and the original cast recording won a Grammy Award.

DEFYING GRAVITY: STEPHEN SCHWARTZ AND FRIENDS

November 6-9, 2008

San Mateo Performing Arts Center, 600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

The Grammy and Oscar Award-winning composer and lyricist (*Wicked*, *Pippin*, *Godspell*) will take the stage to perform some of his most beloved work with the help of Broadway headliners Liz Callaway (*Cats*, *Miss Saigon*), Debbie Gravitte (*Les Miserables*, *Chicago*), and Scott Coulter (*Forever Plaid*, *Floyd Collins*). Part revue, part concert, **DEFYING GRAVITY** will give audiences an unforgettable night of musical theatre.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Brooke Knight, **Broadway By the Bay** creates full scale musical theatre productions of professional quality that are affordable and accessible. Now in its 42nd season, the company continues to grow with nearly 7,000 season subscribers and over 6,000 single show ticket sales per production. BBBay's recent production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* shattered box office records, garnering the largest ticket sale revenues in the company's 42-year history. Lauded for its efforts in education, the Youth Theatre Conservatory, for youths 4-18, gives younger students solid foundations in acting, singing, and dancing for the musical theatre. For those over 18, the company's Musical Theatre Conservatory offers professional classes to adults of all ages.

To download photos from BBBay's 2008 season, visit www.cb-pr.com/press/bbbayseasonannc.html.