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**KEVIN KLING RETURNS TO THE GUTHRIE with
Tales from the Charred Underbelly of the Yule Log
One night only: Monday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Wurtele Thrust Stage**

(*Minneapolis/St. Paul*)—The Guthrie Theater (Joseph Haj, Artistic Director) today announced Kevin Kling's return to the Wurtele Thrust Stage with his *Tales from the Charred Underbelly of the Yule Log*. Full of heartwarming stories, Kling's show will play on Monday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m. Single tickets are \$28 (\$23 for students and seniors) and are now on sale through the Guthrie Box Office at 612.377.2224, toll-free 877.44.STAGE, 612.225.6244 (Group Sales) and online at guthrietheater.org.

Best known for his popular commentaries on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and his storytelling stage shows, Kling delivers hilarious, often tender stories that have delighted audiences around the country. With *Yule Log*, he spins hilarious yarns of family traditions and holiday merriment.

Kling's plays and adaptations have been performed around the world. As a playwright, he penned *21A*, *Home and Away*, *Fear and Loving in Minneapolis*, *The Ice Fishing Play*, and *Lloyd's Prayer*, in addition to his co-adaptations of Goldoni's *The Venetian Twins* and *The Canterbury Tales* for the Guthrie. In 2005, the Guthrie launched an eight-week regional tour of Kling's *Freezing Paradise: An Evening with Kevin Kling*, which visited more than 20 Minnesota communities and performed in Iowa, Michigan, and North and South Dakota.

In the wake of a number of compact disc collections of his stories, Kling's first book, *The Dog Says How*, brought readers into his world of the skewed and significantly mundane. The follow-up *Kevin Kling's Holiday Inn* was a romp through a year of holidays and a lifetime of gathering material. In 2011, Kling released his first children's book, *Big Little Brother* and he followed up with the children's book *Big Little Mother*, and *On Stage with Kevin Kling*, containing the full texts from three of his popular stage pieces.

Kling describes his zodiac sign as "Minnesota with Iowa rising..." He grew up in Osseo, a Minneapolis suburb, and graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theater. His storytelling started when a friend from the now defunct Brass Tacks Theatre asked him to perform his stories. Since then, he has been awarded numerous arts grants and fellowships. The National Endowment for the Arts, The McKnight Foundation, The Minnesota State Arts Board, The Bush Foundation, The Jerome Foundation and others have recognized Kling's artistry.

THE GUTHRIE THEATER (Joseph Haj, Artistic Director) was founded by Sir Tyrone Guthrie in 1963 and is an American center for theater performance, production, education and professional training, dedicated to producing the great works of dramatic literature and to cultivating the next generation of theater artists.

Under Haj's leadership, the Guthrie is guided by four core values: Artistic Excellence; Community; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Fiscal Responsibility. The Guthrie produces a mix of classic and contemporary plays on three stages and continues to set a national standard for excellence in theatrical production and performance, serving nearly 400,000 patrons annually. In 2006, the Guthrie opened a new home, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Jean Nouvel, located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Open to the public year-round, it houses three state-of-the-art stages, production facilities, classrooms, full-service restaurants and dramatic public lobbies. guthrietheater.org