GUTHRIE THEATER TO HOST A BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR ALL SQUARE, A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE AND CRAFT GRILLED CHEESE RESTAURANT EMPOWERING PEOPLE IMPACTED BY THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL TO MATCH UP TO $10,000 WHILE PATRONS EXPERIENCE THE FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL FOR THE WORLD PREMIERE OF FLOYD’S BY LYNN Nottage

Friday, July 26 at 7:30 p.m. on the McGuire Proscenium Stage

(Minneapolis/St. Paul) — The Guthrie Theater (Joseph Haj, artistic director) announced it has partnered with Ameriprise Financial to host a one-night-only fundraising performance for All Square, a professional institute and community-focused gourmet grilled cheese restaurant in Minneapolis that
educates and empowers people impacted by the criminal justice system. The fundraiser is offered in conjunction with the final dress rehearsal for the world premiere of Floyd’s by two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage on Friday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m. on the McGuire Proscenium Stage.

Dress rehearsals at the Guthrie are generally reserved for staff and volunteers, so this marks a special opportunity for patrons to witness a world premiere play before it begins public preview performances the following day.

Tickets to the performance will be available for $25, $50 or $75 per seat, with all proceeds directly supporting All Square. Ameriprise Financial has generously pledged to match up to $10,000 of these donations. Tickets are now on sale through the Box Office at 612.377.2224, 1.877.44.STAGE (toll-free) and online at guthrietheater.org. To donate an amount greater than $75, contact the Box Office.

This summer, the Guthrie presents the world premiere of Floyd’s by Lynn Nottage, directed by her longtime collaborator Kate Whoriskey. Floyd’s is a razor-sharp, disarmingly vulnerable comedy centered on a truck stop sandwich shop named after its tough-as-nails owner. But Floyd’s is more than just a respite for truckers — it’s the first step for its formerly incarcerated employees and their last hope for survival. A motley crew of line cooks forms under Zen Master Montrellous to learn the secret art of making the perfect sandwich.

The Guthrie’s partnership with All Square began because of its uncanny similarities to the sandwich shop in Floyd’s and will continue throughout the run. On July 2, All Square staff and fellows attended the first day of rehearsal at the Guthrie to learn more about the production. As part of the rehearsal process, the cast and creative team will visit the nonprofit’s Minneapolis restaurant and Dream Lab to learn more about the fellows’ experiences working with All Square and the organization’s mission. In addition, All Square staff and fellows will participate in select post-play discussions.

ALL SQUARE is a civil rights social enterprise centered on a craft grilled cheese restaurant and professional development institute. Its aim is to ensure that people impacted by the criminal justice system have the health, wealth and social capital necessary for a bright and productive future. The name All Square refers to the shape of its sandwiches and communicates the notion that those who have paid their debts to society are “all square” and free to move forward with a clean slate.

This production of Floyd’s is sponsored by Ameriprise Financial and the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional support provided by the Laurents/Hatcher Foundation and the Edgerton Foundation New Play Award.

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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 cultivating the next generation of theater artists. Under Haj’s leadership, the Guthrie is guided by four core values: Artistic Excellence; Community; Equity, Diversity 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

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