



**BROADWAY HIT, 'THE DROWSY CHAPERONE'
SETS THE STAGE FOR FUN AT THE NORRIS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

The Norris Center for the Performing Arts presents the sparkling musical comedy, "The Drowsy Chaperone" April 25 – May 11. A toe-tapping trip back to the golden age of musicals, the production took Broadway by storm, winning five Tony Awards.

"The Drowsy Chaperone" begins as a modern-day musical theatre fanatic tries to chase the blues away by playing his favorite cast album – the 1928 smash hit, "The Drowsy Chaperone." From the crackle of the hi-fi, the musical magically bursts to life in his living room, and he is suddenly immersed in the glamorous and hilarious tale of a pampered Broadway starlet who wants to give up show business to get married, while her producer plots to sabotage the nuptials. Adding to the uproarious wedding day mayhem is a cast of colorful characters including the starlet's tipsy chaperone, debonair groom, a Latin lover, a pair of gangsters disguised as pastry chefs, and an aviatrix. The comical show within a show is filled with thrills and surprises that take both the cast and the audiences soaring to the rafters.

Featuring music and lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison and book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar, "The Drowsy Chaperone" spoofs musical-comedy fanatics as well as the genre itself and the extravagant musicals of the 1920s. The catchy score includes such showstoppers as "Show Off" and "Accident Waiting to Happen," accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra and dazzling choreography. Critics have called "The Drowsy Chaperone" one of the wittiest, craziest shows ever to hit Broadway.

The Norris Center's production of "The Drowsy Chaperone" is produced and directed by James Gruessing, with choreography by Ann Myers and musical direction by Daniel

Thomas. The 17-member cast stars Broadway veteran Larry Raben (Man in Chair), Tracy Lore (Drowsy Chaperone), Jessica Ernest (Janet Van De Graaf), Jeff Max (Adolpho), Eric Michael Parker (Robert), Lindsay Brooks (Mrs. Tottendale), Greg Nicholas (Feldzeig), Chris Daniel (George), Noelle Marion (Kitty), Danny Michaels (Underling), Adam Trent (Gangster #1) and Jon Wailin (Gangster #2).

The show is generously sponsored by RE/MAX Estate Properties, The Law offices of William S. Lindheim and Bennett Landscape.

Performance times for the April 25 – May 11 engagement of “The Drowsy Chaperone” are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$25 for children ages 12 and under. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.norriscenter.com or call (310) 544-0403. The Norris Theatre is located at 27570 Norris Center Drive in Rolling Hills Estates. Free parking is available adjacent to the theatre, and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

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