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## *FOLLOW THE CIRCLE!* CIRCLE PLAYERS UNVEILS 64<sup>TH</sup> SEASON OF SHOWS

Dramatic, Delightful, and Daring Shows at Impressive Nashville Venues  
*Season Flex Passes Now on Sale*

Circle Players, Nashville's oldest community theatre, has announced five shows for the 2013-2014 64<sup>th</sup> Season. The lineup includes three musicals and two dramatic plays that will be performed at several different venues in the Nashville area. Inviting its audiences to "Follow the Circle," Circle Players is capitalizing on its relationships in the local community to broaden its reach and continue to enhance its live theatre productions.

One of those relationships is with Lipscomb University Department of Theatre, which teams with Circle this season for two productions: the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Rabbit Hole* (August 16-31, 2013) and the blockbuster musical, *SHREK* (March 7-16, 2014). The Lipscomb partnership was cultivated after Circle Players staged two successful productions at the university during the 2012-2013 season.

"It's an honor to be invited back to Lipscomb as a partner this time," says LaTonya Turner, Circle's immediate past president. "Lipscomb's Department of Theatre is taking bold and creative steps in developing its program, and the idea of expanding and enhancing our mission through community partnerships is one Circle has embraced for a long time."

"The two joint shows in particular are demanding artistically and technically, so teaming up with Lipscomb will allow our directors and artists to fully display their talents while also advancing Circle's mission to make live theatre experiences more accessible in our community."

A third Circle production will also be presented at Lipscomb, but not as a partnership: the Tony Award winning *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. For the next production, Circle will return to Tennessee State University's Cox-Lewis Theater in January 2014, this time with a production of the hit R&B musical *Dreamgirls*. The final show of the season is *bare*—a musical drama about teenage struggles with sexuality and peer pressure that will be in partnership with the Oasis Center, a youth support organization.

The directors who submitted for this season include familiar names who have been associated with some of Circle's most successful recent shows, along with a couple who are experienced directors in other realms, but newcomers to Circle.

"It's a very talented, enthusiastic group of directors and we are grateful to have their involvement," says Turner. "Some of their creative visions and production plans are so compelling and exciting. Circle is eager to help bring them to the stage for our audiences to enjoy."

The 2013-2014 64<sup>th</sup> Season of Shows includes:

1. ***Rabbit Hole***, August 16--31, 2013  
Directed by Whitney Vaughn
2. ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest***, November 15 – December 1, 2013  
Directed by Clay Hillwig
3. ***Dreamgirls***, January 23 – February 2, 2014  
Directed by Tim Larson



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4. ***Shrek the Musical***, March 7 – March 16, 2014  
Directed by Robyn Berg
5. ***bare, a pop opera***, May 2014  
Directed by Heather Alexander

Season Flex Passes are now on sale, providing 5 tickets that can be used throughout the season. They are the best option and value for seeing more than one show, at a savings of up to 20% off regular ticket prices. Through the month of July, buyers can save 10% off the cost of Season Flex Pass packages.

Single tickets for individual performances go on sale about one month before each show opens.

For more information on Flex Passes and Circle's 64<sup>th</sup> season, visit the web site at [www.circleplayers.net](http://www.circleplayers.net)

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Here are descriptions of the 5 shows in the 64<sup>th</sup> season (taken from information provided by the licensing companies):

***Rabbit Hole*** – Becca and Howie Corbett have everything a family could want, until a life-shattering accident turns their world upside down and leaves the couple drifting perilously apart. *Rabbit Hole* charts their bittersweet search for comfort in the darkest of places and for a path that will lead them back into the light of day. Winner of 2007 Pulitzer Prize.

***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** - Winner of the 2001 Tony Award, this play centers on a charming rogue who contrives to serve a short sentence in a mental institution rather than in a prison. This, he learns, was a mistake as he clashes with the head nurse. Quickly, he takes over the yard and accomplishes what the medical profession has been unable to do for twelve years: he makes a presumed deaf and dumb Indian talk. He leads others out of introversion, stages a revolt so that they can see the World Series on television, and arranges a rollicking midnight party with liquor and chippies. For one offense, the head nurse has him submit to shock treatment, and she continues to be after him at every turn.

***Dreamgirls*** - A show about a time in American musical history when what is called rhythm and blues blended with other styles of popular music creating a new American sound. Act One is set in the fabulous sixties—a time when we were still screaming at Elvis and listening to the Beatles, but were dancing to the new beat of countless girl and boy groups like The Supremes, The Marvelettes, The Temptations and The Shirelles. *Dreamgirls* is not just about the singing and the dancing and the performing. The play is also about the behind-the-scenes reality of the entertainment industry—the business part of show business that made possible this cultural phenomenon. Winner of 6 Tony Awards.

***Shrek the Musical***- Based on the Oscar® winning DreamWorks film that started it all, *Shrek* brings the hilarious story of everyone's favorite ogre to life on the stage in a dazzling blockbuster musical. In a faraway kingdom turned upside down, things get ugly when an unseemly ogre — not a handsome prince — shows up to rescue a feisty princess. Throw in a donkey who won't shut up, a bad guy with a SHORT temper, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand...and his name is Shrek.

***bare, a pop opera*** - A group of high school seniors at a Catholic boarding school face issues of sexuality and personal identity. As they struggle to come to terms with who they are, and who the world thinks they should be, they seek answers from their Church, their friends, and ultimately, from within themselves. Its rich, vibrant score draws on many styles of contemporary music.