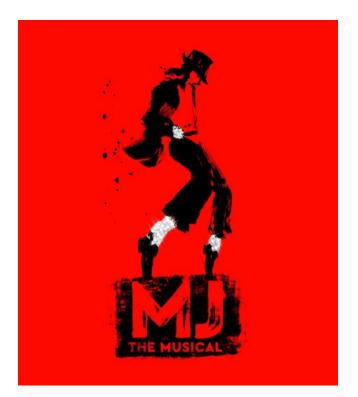
For media exclusive resources including press releases and show images, log in to the Bass Hall Press Room to download: <u>www.basshall.com/press</u>. B-Roll is available upon request.

Password: press

## "UTTERLY ELECTRIC!" Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*

*"MJ* IS A RUNAWAY HIT!" Peter Marks, *The Washington Post* 



## For Immediate Release

Erica Ludwig Performing Arts Fort Worth (817) 212-4400, eludwig@basshall.com

## THE FOUR-TIME TONY AWARD®-WINNING NEW MUSICAL IS STARTIN' SOMETHIN' IN FORT WORTH MAY 13-18 AT BASS PERFORMANCE HALL <u>TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6</u>

**FORT WORTH, Texas (December 2, 2024)** – Producers Lia Vollack, John Branca, John McClain and Performing Arts Fort Worth, the non-profit owner and operator of Bass Performance Hall, are thrilled to announce that tickets for MJ, the smash-hit musical, will go on sale Friday, December 6 at 10am. The winner of four Tony Awards® comes to Bass Hall in a limited engagement May 13-18 as part of the 2024-2025 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Bank.

Tickets start at \$69 and can be purchased online at <u>www.basshall.com/mj</u> or by calling 817-212-4280. The Performing Arts Fort Worth (PAFW) box office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm. For group sales discounts please visit <u>www.basshall.com/groups</u>.

He is one of the greatest entertainers of all time. Now, Michael Jackson's unique and unparalleled artistry comes to Fort Worth in **MJ**, the multiple Tony Award®-winning musical centered around the making of the 1992 Dangerous World Tour. Created by Tony Award®-winning Director/Choreographer **Christopher Wheeldon** and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner **Lynn Nottage**, **MJ** goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star, offering a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Michael Jackson into legendary status. It's thrilling sold out crowds on Broadway, in cities across North America, and in London's West End...and now **MJ** is startin' somethin' in Fort Worth as it makes its premiere at Bass Performance Hall in May 2025.

Jamaal Fields-Green plays the title role of 'MJ' after achieving the distinction of being the first and only person to have played the role in all three global productions: on Broadway, on the National Tour and in London's West End. He is joined on tour by Jordan Markus (MJ – Alternate) who will play the role twice a week, Erik Hamilton (Michael), Josiah Benson (Little Michael), Bane Griffith (Little Michael), Devin Bowles (Joseph Jackson/Rob), J. Daughtry (Berry Gordy/Nick), Josh A. Dawson (Tito Jackson/Quincy Jones), Anthony J. Garcia (Alejandro), Bryce A. Holmes (Little Marlon), Cecilia Petrush (Rachel), Jed Resnick (Dave) and Anastasia Talley (Katherine Jackson/Kate).

The ensemble includes JoJo Carmichael (Swing/Dance Captain), Joshua Dawson (Swing), Alaman Diadhiou (MJ/Michael Standby), Croix Dilenno (Ensemble/Assistant Dance Captain), Kellie Drobnick (Ensemble), Zuri Noelle Ford (Swing), Ui-Seng François (Swing), Jahir L. Hipps (Swing), Amber Jackson (Ensemble), Faith Jones (Swing), Rajané Katurah (Swing), Matteo Marretta (Ensemble), Jay McKenzie (Ensemble), Kendrick Mitchell (Swing), Zion Mikhail Pradier (Swing), Tyrone Reese (Universal Swing) Avilon Trust Tate (Ensemble), Brion Marquis Watson (Ensemble), Charles P. Way (Swing) and Malcolm Miles Young (Ensemble).

The **MJ** creative team features Scenic Design by two-time Tony® and Emmy Award® winner **Derek McLane**, Lighting Design by seven-time Tony Award® winner **Natasha Katz**, Costume Design by Tony® and Emmy Award® winner **Paul Tazewell**, Sound Design by Tony Award® winner **Gareth Owen**, Projection Design by two-time Tony Award® nominee **Peter Nigrini**, Hair & Wig Design by two-time Emmy Award® nominee **Charles G. LaPointe** and Makeup Design by Emmy® nominee **Joe Dulude II**. The creative team also features Musical Supervision by Tony Award® nominee **David Holcenberg**, Orchestrations and Arrangements by **David Holcenberg** and Tony Award® winner **Jason Michael Webb**, and Music Direction by **Nathanael Wilkerson** and **Jason Yarcho**. Casting by **The Telsey Office / Rachel Hoffman, CSA, Lindsay Levine, CSA**.

The **MJ** First National Tour is general managed by **Bespoke Theatricals**. The stage management team is led by Production Stage Manager **Nicole Olson**, Stage Manager **Xavier Khan** and Assistant Stage Managers **Alexander Pierce**, **Christopher K Anaya-Gorman** and **Lauren Taylor Winston**. The company management team is led by Company Manager **Justin T. Scholl** and Assistant Company Manager **Bianca Jean-Charles**.

For more information worldwide, visit: <u>www.mjthemusical.com</u>.

MJ comes to Bass Hall as part of the 2024-2025 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Bank. Continuing the season in 2025 is the story of one of the greatest R&B groups of all time, AIN'T TOO PROUD – THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS; the return of the world's most popular musical, LES MISÉRABLES; the uproarious new play based on the ultimate whodunit game, CLUE; Baz Luhrmann's revolutionary musical mashup, remixed for the stage, MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL; the highly anticipated revival of the innovative twist on the *Wizard of Oz* that took Broadway by storm, THE WIZ; and completing the season, the original musical from award-winning country music songwriters Brandy Clark and Mineral Wells native Shane McAnally, SHUCKED. Visit www.basshall.com/batb for more information.

## About Performing Arts Fort Worth

For over 25 years, the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall has been a Fort Worth icon and nationally distinguished performing arts venue. Built entirely with private funds, the Hall's mission is to serve as a permanent home to the major performing arts organizations of Fort Worth and as a premier

venue for other attractions to enhance the range, quality and accessibility of cultural fare available to the public; to promulgate arts education; and to contribute to the cultural life of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the region.

Bass Performance Hall is the permanent home to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and the Cliburn. Each resident company operates independently from Performing Arts Fort Worth and manages its own programming schedule at Bass Hall.

Performing Arts Fort Worth, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates Bass Hall, also presents national touring Broadway productions under the Broadway at the Bass Series presented by PNC Bank, as well as intimate concerts, holiday specials and family entertainment in the Irwin Steel Popular Entertainment Series.

The 2,042-seat multipurpose Hall is characteristic of the classic European opera house form. An 80-foot diameter Great Dome tops the Founders Concert Theater while two 48-foot-tall angels grace the Grand Facade. Since the Hall opened in May 1998, the angels have become preeminent cultural icons of the Dallas-Fort Worth community.

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