LONE TREE ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES SENSORY-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE OF HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Modifications to the Holiday Extravaganza Make Show Accessible for All

LONE TREE, CO – The Lone Tree Arts Center (LTAC) announced today that the Tuesday, December 17, 7:30 performance of *Home for the Holidays* will be a sensory-friendly showing. LTAC and their co-producer Starkey Theatrix will make modifications to the holiday spectacular in order to make the show more accessible to individuals on the autism spectrum with sensory and communication needs, learning disabilities, or a variety of sensitivities. Generous underwriting by Starkey Theatrix, Charles Schwab, and Developmental Pathways has ensured all tickets will be available for $25 in this special performance.

A “sound down, lights up” performance such as this one involves several modifications. These changes include lowering the volume of the band and singers, dimming the audience lights just halfway, allowing individuals to leave and return to their seat throughout the performance, and encouraging patrons to wave their hands rather than applaud. Removing startling noises and keeping the audience visible will help make the show more comfortable and enjoyable for all. The welcoming and relaxed atmosphere created by an audience full of peers also removes the fear that someone won’t understand a disruption. Developmental Pathways, a Colorado non-profit agency supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families, is assisting LTAC by providing guidance around which performance aspects need to be modified to best meet the needs of this audience. “We are honored to partner with Lone Tree Arts...
Center on this groundbreaking project,” said Developmental Pathways CEO, Melanie Worley. “With just a few well-considered adaptations, this fun and inspiring production will become fully accessible to so many individuals who might otherwise be unable to enjoy all it has to offer. We can’t wait!”

*Home for the Holidays* made its debut last December at LTAC and returns to the stage after popular demand from patrons. The show is designed as a holiday spectacular for all ages, squeezing over 30 holiday songs and nearly 50 performers into the performance. This year, the show has evolved from its first iteration, keeping the performance fresh by preserving the most popular aspects and adding in new and exciting elements. “*Home for the Holidays* was always meant to be a feel-good show you could bring your entire family to,” says LTAC Executive Director Lisa Rigsby Peterson. “This sensory-friendly performance takes that mission to another level by ensuring all our patrons and their families can enjoy the same holiday tradition so many people have discovered in *Home for the Holidays*.”

The architect of *Home for the Holidays* is Chris Starkey, CEO of Starkey Theatrix. As a producer, performer, and writer of the show, Starkey has been intimately involved with *Home for the Holidays* since its inception. With this special performance, Starkey Theatrix has joined Charles Schwab and Developmental Pathways as an underwriter, providing the ability for families to attend for $25 per ticket, something personally important to Chris. “Starkey Theatrix is so pleased to have the opportunity to perform for our special needs audience members, because they truly are some of our most appreciative guests. Developmental Pathways holds a special place in our heart because my daughter Samantha is part of this organization, and their unbelievable mission has provided endless opportunities for her and for our family. Please enjoy the show!” said Starkey.

Starkey Theatrix, Charles Schwab, and Developmental Pathways have provided generous underwriting for this special performance to make $25 tickets available for everyone. Tickets may be purchased by calling 720-509-1000 Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm or at www.LoneTreeArtsCenter.org. Please note, due to the high demand for accessible seating at this performance, requests will be taken only via the box office at
720-509-1000. *Home for the Holidays* is made possible in part thanks to Park Meadows, the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, and Colorado Creative Industries.

**About LTAC**

The Lone Tree Arts Center is a professional, innovative and environmentally friendly, LEED Certified venue. LTAC operates a dynamic model for the performing arts by collaborating with some of the premier Colorado performing arts companies to present their productions in Lone Tree as well as presenting national and regional tours. LTAC has quickly discovered its place as a new provider of arts education programs for children and an important meeting and event rental site for corporate, civic, private, and community arts groups.

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