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New community theatre, Gravity Defied Theatre presents 'bare: the musical'

Denver CO (August 1) — Gravity Defied Theatre will present 'bare: the musical' on August 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, and 22 at Aurora Fox Arts Center (9900 E. Colfax Avenue) at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 (advance) and \$32 (at door) and are available at the Rocky Mountain Arts Association Web site (<http://rmarts.org>). (Parental guidance is suggested for children 13 and under.)

In a pop-opera style reminiscent of 'Rent' and 'Spring Awakening,' 'bare: the musical' centers on the coming-of-age story of a group of high-school seniors at a Catholic boarding school. Knowing that their stay in this insular world is soon ending, they question where they are in their lives and what the future holds in store. Answers are sought in their confessionals and in less formal venues including the school's stage, a rave, and a well-locked dorm room. At the center of the story are students Peter and Jason, in love yet uncertain of how to respond.

Gravity Defied Theatre is a project of Rocky Mountain Arts Association, home of the Denver Gay Men's Chorus, Denver Women's Chorus, Out Loud: The Colorado Springs Men's Chorus, and Mosaic Youth Chorus. Ten members of those groups help make up the musical's cast of over 25.

Gravity Defied Theatre is Colorado's first musical-only theatre company that gives back a portion of proceeds from each production to another Colorado nonprofit organization; our first beneficiary is the nonprofit group PHAMALY — the Physically Handicapped Actors and Musical Artists League (www.phamaly.org).

The play offers music by Damon Inrabartolo, lyrics by Jon Hartmere, with both co-authoring the book. Inrabartolo is a Los-Angeles-based composer, orchestrator, and conductor who works in the film industry and attended the University of Southern California. Fellow Los Angeleno Jon Hartmere has written screenplays for Nickelodeon and Disney and is co-author for the Paramount Pictures 2010 remake of Footloose.

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The Denver production is directed by Keith Rabin Jr., with musical staging and choreography by Danny Harrigan, and music direction by Kendall Bridges.

The musical premiered at Los Angeles's Hudson Mainstage Theater in October 2000 and played off Broadway at the American Theatre of Actors in 2004. Since then, it has been produced in Baltimore, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Seattle and in Canada and Australia.

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For additional information:

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Gravity Defied Theatre is a project of the Rocky Mountain Arts Association, home of the Denver Gay Men's Chorus, Denver Women's Chorus, Out Loud: The Colorado Springs Men's Chorus, and Mosaic Youth Chorus. Rocky Mountain Arts Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

*Media release by J.R. Norton, Media Relations/Rocky Mountain Arts Association
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