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## “ORPHANS” TO DAZZLE AUDIENCE IN RENOVATED WCFTA THEATRE

Actors, audience, and new technology to share the stage at Wichita Center for the Arts

Wichita, KS, August 28, 2014– The Wichita Center for the Arts (WCFTA) is proud to present two weekend performances of Lyle Kessler’s “Orphans,” September 19-21 & 26-28, 2014. Audiences will be seated on stage to experience the play directed by Shaun Michael-Morse and starring David Bailey, Damian Padilla, and Sean Gestl on a set designed by John Hammer. The “in-the-round” seating will offer up to 150 patrons a night an unprecedented view of the play and the completely upgraded light and sound system.

*“This timely show, which recently closed on Broadway, will be produced with theatre-in-the-round staging. We cannot dream of a better way to introduce our patrons to our new look! We hope that doubling performances to two weekends {...} will make it convenient for more people to attend.” –John Boldenow, Theatre Director*

In Orphans, two grown orphan brothers live in a dilapidated North Philadelphia row house. Deserted as children by an unfaithful father and the death of their mother, violent older brother Treat, provides for his younger brother Phillip by being a petty thief while forcing him to live in a world of illiteracy and innocence: relegating him to their lost childhood. When Treat kidnaps a gangster named Harold the tables turn. Harold, an orphan himself, loosens the ties that bind him and with gun in hand, puts himself into the role of teacher, healer and surrogate parent. This performance contains adult language.

*Orphans is “theater for the senses” and “a taut trampoline for its levitating performers” –The New York Times*

The Wichita Center for the Arts is the area's oldest and most comprehensive visual and performing arts organization. For more than 94 years the Center has made art and art education available to the citizens of Wichita and the surrounding communities.

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