



For Immediate Release
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American Stage in the Park, 2018 presents the musical THE PRODUCERS by Mel Brooks.

**'We can do it!' as this cult classic comedy makes its way to
Demens Landing on April 18th through May 13th. #asPRODUCERS**

GET IN THE KNOW ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION

1. Winner of a record 12 Tony Awards including 'BEST MUSICAL'
2. American Stage in the Park has been a celebrated Tampa Bay tradition for over thirty years; performed under the stars each spring at Demens Landing Park in St. Pete.
3. Starring Matthew McGee returning from American Stage's hit production HAIRSPRAY and playing the role of Max Bialystock

"...a sublimely ridiculous spectacle." -NY Times

St. Petersburg, FL – American Stage in the Park is excited to celebrate over 30 years outdoors with the opening of the musical **THE PRODUCERS**, winner of a record **twelve Tony Award including "Best Musical."** The book & lyrics are by Mel Brooks with music by Thomas Meehand from Brooks' 1967 film of the same name. The title sponsor of American Stage in the Park is Bank of America.

"Our creative team for THE PRODUCERS is so talented and is thrilled to be presenting this record-breaking Tony winner. This year's park show is an ambitious and exciting undertaking for us and we are looking forward to delivering a really special experience to our community." - Producing Artistic Director Stephanie Gularte

Rye Mullis will be making his American Stage in the Park directorial debut and Shain Stroff (SPAMALOT and HAIRSPRAY) will be returning as choreographer. Shain Stroff, received the Outstanding Choreography/Fight Direction Theatre Tampa Bay award for smash hit SPAMALOT. THE PRODUCERS will have 20 actors both national and local. This large cast will feature St. Petersburg favorites Matthew McGee* as Max Bialystock, James Larosa* as Leo Bloom, Scott Daniel* as Roger Debris, Gretchen Beiber* as Ulla, Jim Sorensen* as Franz Liebkind, and more.

Mullis said, ***"I am so honored and excited to work with Americans Stage for the first time on THE PRODUCERS."*** *It's only proper to try and make people laugh through the magic of musical comedy. As Mel Brooks once said "You can't bring dictators down on a soapbox of rhetoric. But if you can make people laugh at them, you've won."*

Stroff added, ***"THE PRODUCERS is such a fun show for audiences. It's as entertaining and lavish as any big dance musical, but it's also so intelligent, witty, and hilarious. As an audience member, you really find yourself leaning in so you don't miss any of the jokes or hilarious moments built into the show. It's such a blast from start to finish!"***

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THE PRODUCERS runs from April 18 through May 13, 2018. Gala Under the Stars, our Opening Night, is Friday, April 20, 2018. The evening begins at 6 PM, with a gourmet dinner from Parkshore Grill Catering and an open bar of wine provided by Southern Wine and Spirits and Constellation Brands, and beer provided by Green Bench Brewing Co., followed by the 8 PM performance of THE PRODUCERS. Guests will enjoy a host of activities before the show, that help provide support for American Stage's artistic and educational programming year-round. This includes a live auction with a one of a kind glass art piece created by Duncan McClellan inspired by the American Stage in the Park production of THE PRODUCERS.

Gala Under the Stars is the organization's largest fundraising event of the season. Proceeds support American Stage's artistic and educational programming.

THE MUSICAL

American Stage in the Park brings Mel Brooks' classic cult comedy to Demens Landing! Winner of a record twelve Tony Awards including 'Best Musical', The Producers sets the standard for modern, outrageous humor. The story centers around down-on-his-luck Broadway producer, Max Bialystock, and his mild-mannered accountant, Leo Bloom, come up with a scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history, bilking their backers out of millions of dollars. Only one thing goes awry: the show is a smash hit! The Producers skewers Broadway traditions and takes no prisoners as it proudly proclaims itself an "equal opportunity offender!"

ABOUT AMERICAN STAGE IN THE PARK

American Stage in the Park has been a celebrated Tampa Bay tradition for over thirty years. Established in 1986, American Stage in the Park was first known for presenting Shakespeare to audiences in and around Tampa Bay. American Stage in the Park expanded to include comedies and modern musicals presented under the stars each spring at Demens Landing Park in St. Pete.

FOOD & DRINK

Leave the food and fun to us!

Food and beverages (both alcoholic and non) are available at concessions. In support of American Stage, an exclusive park menu is being created specifically for American Stage in the Park by GotoSteves.com Executive Chef Chuck Bandel. A specialty beer has been crafted by Green Bench Brewing Co. in honor of 2018 American Stage in the Park. This beer is Hefeweizen which is a straw colored German-style wheat with a medium-full body, packed with aromas and flavors of fruity banana and delicate clove.

CAST

Max Bialystock: Matthew McGee*

Leo Bloom: James Larosa*

Ulla: Gretchen Beiber*

Roger Debris: Scott Daniel*

Carmen Ghia: Alex Ringler*

Franz Liebkind: Jim Sorensen*

Ensemble - Hold Me Touch Me: Lauren Buglioli

Ensemble – Usherette: April Berry*

Ensemble – Usherette: Courtney McLaren

Ensemble – Showgirl: Kellyanna Polk

Ensemble – Showgirl: Emily Bainbridge

Ensemble – Showgirl: Alyssa Elrod

Ensemble – Showgirl: Alicia Thomas

Ensemble – Marx/Green: Tyler Fish*

Ensemble – Scott: Charles Logan*

Ensemble – Kevin: Emanuel Carrero

Ensemble – Bryan: Tyler Pirrung

Ensemble – Sabu: Tato Castillo

Ensemble – Black Irish: Dequan Mitchell

Ensemble – Lead Tenor: Trenton Bainbridge

DIRECT LINK to publicity photos: www.AmericanStage.org/media

**Promotional photo credit is Joey Clay. Please note that publicity photos are not typically available until 2 weeks prior to opening. Please contact the American Stage marketing team for immediate needs.*

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For Cast Bios please visit www.AmericanStage.org/park

CREATIVE

Rye Mullis (Director)

Shain Stroff (Choreographer)

Jeremy D. Silverman (Music Director)

Jerid Fox (Scenic Design / Properties Master)

Mike Wood (Lighting Design)

Jill Castle (Costume Coordinator)

Scott Daniel (Wig and Make-up Design)

Steve Kraack (Sound Design)

Allison Davis (Scenic Painter)

Rachel Harrison* (Stage Manager)

Susan Haldeman* (Assistant Stage Manager)

*Members of Actors' Equity Association

THE SONGS

Act 1

Overture

Opening Night

The King of Broadway

We Can Do It

I Wanna Be A Producer

In Old Bavaria

Der Guten Tag Hop-Clop

Keep It Gay

When You've Got It, Flaunt It

Along Came Bialy

Act 2

That Face

Haben Sie Gehört Das Deutsche Ban?

Opening Night (Reprise)

You Never Say 'Good Luck' On Opening Night!

Springtime for Hitler

Where Did We Go Right?

Betrayed

Til Him

Prisoners of Love

Goodbye

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AT A GLANCE

WHAT: American Stage in the Park presents THE PRODUCERS the Broadway Musical

WHERE: Demens Landing Park
located on the corner of 1st Avenue Southeast and Bayshore Drive
in downtown St. Petersburg, FL.

WHEN: April 18 – May 13, 2018
WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY | 8pm
Gates open at 6 pm and Will Call opens at 5:30 pm

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES:

Preview Wednesday, April 18, 8pm, “Pay What You Can”
Preview Thursday, April 19, 8pm, “Pay What You Can”

Opening Night Gala Fundraiser: Friday, April 20, 6pm (Performance: 8pm)
For more details or to purchase tickets and/or tables, visit: AmericanStage.org/gala

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION NIGHTS:

Sunday, April 29th – PRIDE PLUS in the Park
Show your support for the LGBT+ community.
Sunday, May 6th - Pets in the Park*

Pets are allowed only on designated night.*

BOX OFFICE:

TICKETS START AT \$18
Lawn and Reserved seating available.

GENERAL Lawn Admission (ADVANCE):

Wed, Thurs, Sun – \$18
Fri & Sat – \$25

GENERAL Lawn Admission (AT THE GATE):

Wed, Thurs, Sun – \$22
Fri & Sat – \$30

PREMIUM Blanket Seating:

Wed, Thurs, Sun – \$32
Fri & Sat – \$35

RESERVED Chair Seating:

Wed, Thurs, Sun – \$38
Fri & Sat – \$40

Children 6 and under are free on the lawn.

TICKET PURCHASES:

Box Office: (727) 823-PLAY (7529)

Email: BoxOffice@AmericanStage.org

Online: www.americanstage.org/park

Walk-up: 163 3rd Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33701 or at Demens Landing Park when gates open.



SERVICES & FACILITIES

Accessible parking, entrances, restrooms, and seating.

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AMERICAN STAGE | AS/40

American Stage celebrates **40 Years Strong** this season. Since 1977, American Stage, has contributed to the vitality of Tampa Bay as a regional professional theatre. American Stage's mission is to reinforce the power of live theatre with high quality productions that excite and challenge a diverse audience. Our year-round programming seeks to realize this through our Mainstage season, Spotlight Series, 21st Century Voices: New Play Festival, American Stage in the Park and Improv. American Stage Education's offerings include award-winning Teaching Artist Outreach focused on bringing theatrical arts experiences to underserved populations, helping them to excel onstage & beyond.

We believe that through the telling of dynamic stories, live theatre has the power to unite us in our shared experiences and to deepen our connection to one another through the illumination of diverse perspectives. American Stage artists and stakeholders are responsible for helping a small theatre touring company blossom into a thriving world-class professional theatre providing nearly 70,000 Tampa Bay residents and tourists with accessible, relevant art and arts education annually.

Powerful Stories. Boldly Told. 40 Years Strong.

SOCIAL MEDIA



@americanstage
#asINTHEPARK
#asPRODUCERS

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