



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Off- Broadway Hit, *Application Pending*, at CATCO Jan. 23-Feb. 16

Comical satire spoofs world of elite New York Prep Schools

Visit Edgely Prep, an elite Manhattan private school with an acceptance rate that rivals Harvard's in CATCO's production of *Application Pending*. Greg Edwards' and Andy Sandberg's hilarious new play spoofs the convoluted and ridiculous world of prep school admissions while following the trials and tribulations of admissions head Christine Evans, who is forced to battle an army of parents who will stop at nothing to secure a spot for their kids.

"CATCO is thrilled to be working with Andy Sandberg again after our successful collaboration with the production of *Last Smoker in America*," said Steven C. Anderson, CATCO's producing director. "It's also a pleasure to have Vanessa Sawson back on our stage to play Edgely Prep's rookie director of admissions." Sawson performed the role of Pickles in CATCO's 2018-19 production of *Life Sucks*.

In 2010, Tony Award-winning producer Sandberg directed the world premiere of *The Last Smoker in America* at CATCO. The musical comedy had its New York City premiere in 2012 at the Westside Theatre. *Application Pending* originally premiered Off-Broadway in 2015.

"Deliciously twisted," according to *Time Out New York*, while *The NY Daily News* says, "Like recess for grown-ups. *Application Pending* will make you laugh."

Sawson, who plays admissions head Christine Evans, as well as more than 40 supporting characters, has performed on many stages in the Metro-Detroit area, including The Purple Rose Theatre (*Diva Royale*), Tipping Point Theatre (*Ripcord!*) and Williamston Theatre (*Beau Jest*). She is also a former touring company member for Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Michigan Shakespeare Festival, and Cincinnati Shakespeare Company. In addition, she is a part-time support facilitator for Shakespeare in Prison with Detroit Public Theatre.

Directing *Application Pending* is Steven Anderson. Anderson's directing credits include plays as diverse as the central Ohio premiere and first non-touring production in Ohio of *Fun Home*, as well as *My Way*, *A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra*, *Holmes and Watson*, *Life Sucks*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Avenue Q*, and the highly acclaimed production of Doug Wright's *I Am My Own Wife*. He has also directed *Candide* and *Hair* at The Ohio State University Theatre Department; *Love! Velour! Compassion!* and *The Taste of Sunrise* at CATCO; *Big River* and *Pippin* at Actors Theatre; *A Funny Thing Happened*

on the Way to the Forum at New Harmony Theatre; and *Greater Tuna, Little Shop of Horrors,* and *Assassins* at the former Players Theatre Columbus where he served as Associate Producing Director.

All general admission tickets for *Application Pending* are \$35; reserved table seating is available for \$45. Student tickets can be purchased for \$15 for any performance based on availability and valid I.D. All tickets can be purchased online at www.catcoistheatre.org, at the ticket office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location.

Show times for *Application Pending* are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23; 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24; 2 p.m and 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25; 2 p.m Sunday, Jan. 26; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30; 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6; 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7; 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13; 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Riffe Center's Studio Three Theatre, 77 S. High St.

Presenting sponsors for *Application Pending* are Robin and Peter Hersha.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 35th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Bernhart J. Mertz and Barbara B. Coons funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; presenting sponsor is the Columbus Metropolitan Library and media sponsor is WOSU Public Media. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit catco.org.

Subscriptions for CATCO and CATCO is Kids are available by calling the ticket office at 614.469.0919 or visiting catco.org. Single tickets are now on sale for *Home, Application Pending* and *Midnight and Magnolias* at CATCO and *Disney's Alice in wonderland JR., A Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas Tail* and *Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat* at CATCO is Kids. Remaining shows for the 2019-20 season are:

CATCO

- ***Moonlight and Magnolias***
Written by Ron Hutchinson
March 11-29, 2020
Studio Two Theatre, Riffe Center
77 S. High Street
- ***Nureyev's Eyes***
Written by David Rush
April 15-May 3, 2020

Studio Two Theatre, Riffe Center
77 S. High Street

- ***Desperate Measures***
Book and lyrics by Peter Kellogg
Music by David Friedman
June 3-21, 2020
Studio Two Theatre, Riffe Center
77 S. High Street

CATCO is Kids

- ***Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat***
Based on the book by Dr. Seuss
Play originally produced by the National Theatre of Great Britain
Jan. 10-26, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Press Start!***
Book by Denver Casado, Brian Dawson
Music and Lyrics by Denver Casado
March 6-15, 2020
Van Fleet Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Schoolhouse Rock Live! JR.***
Lyrics by Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg, George Newall,
Kathy Mandry Lynn Ahrens, Tom Yohe
Music by Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg, George Newall,
Kathy Mandry, Lynn Ahrens, Tom Yohe
Book by George Keating, Kyle Hall, Scott Ferguson
Based on the ABC-TV educational animated series,
which aired during the 1970s and 1980s.
March 21-22, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical***
Book by Dennis Kelly
Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin
Based on the book, *Matilda*, by Roald Dahl
May 7-24, 2020
Shedd Theatre, The Columbus Performing Arts Center
549 Franklin Ave.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages with CATCO is Kids, CATCO's imaginative, captivating theatre program for central Ohio's young theatre lovers and their families. Together, the theatres

have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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