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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES AND THE COMMERCIAL THEATER INSTITUTE PRESENT THE FIRST ANNUAL *CHICAGO PRODUCING INTENSIVE CONFERENCE* MARCH 13-15, 2009

Presenters to include David Hawkanson, Eileen LaCario, Michael Leavitt, Stuart Oken, Michael Ritchie, David Saltiel, Roche Schulfer, David Stone and Jack Viertel

CHICAGO – (January 7, 2009) – Non-profit and commercial producers, theater managers, company managers and anyone aspiring to learn more about producing theater are invited to the first annual *Chicago Producing Intensive Conference* the weekend of **March 13-15, 2009** at the **Goodman Theatre's Owen Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn**. Interested individuals are encouraged to visit **CommercialTheaterInstitute.com** for more information. Register before February 13 and save money with the early bird discount.

CTI has trained over 5,000 participants since its inception. The 3-Day Producing Intensive has been held each spring in New York City. For the first time the program will be offered in another locale.

The conference kicks off Friday, March 13 with opening remarks at 10 a.m. Attendees will take part in three days of presentations and discussions covering a wide variety of topics including *Moving Your Show to New York, The Legal Aspects of Producing, Front Edge Marketing Techniques, How to Develop the Work, How to Make the Deal, The Tour: How to Get One, Press and Promotional Strategies, Creative Producing* and more. Question-and-answer sessions and networking opportunities will also be available throughout the weekend. The evenings will be free for attendees to hit the town and take in Chicago's exciting and diverse array of theater productions and companies.

Well-known producers and speakers from Chicago and around the country will present throughout the conference weekend including Michael Leavitt from Elephant Eye Productions, Stuart Oken from the American Musical Theatre Project, Michael Ritchie from Center Theatre Group, Tom Viertel from Scorpio Entertainment, Laura Matalon from Allied Live, David Stone from Stone Productions, Eileen LaCario from Broadway In Chicago, Jack Viertel from Jujamcyn Theatre, David Saltiel from Bell, Boyd and Lloyd, David Hawkanson from Steppenwolf Theatre, Roy Gabay from Roy Gabay Theatrical Management and Roche Schulfer from the Goodman Theatre.

"We are thrilled to present the first annual Chicago Producing Intensive Conference with the Commercial Theater Institute," said Deborah Clapp, Executive Director of the League of Chicago Theatres. "We believe the conference will provide an excellent professional development opportunity not just for producers and theater managers in our local community, but anyone that is interested in the art of producing and visiting our world-class theater city."

"The Commercial Theater Institute has been producing producers for 28 years," said Jed Bernstein, Director of the Commercial Theater Institute. "We're excited to be co-presenting this first-of-its-kind conference in Chicago with the League of Chicago Theatres. We're dedicated to training the next generation of producers and this conference will do just that."

The League of Chicago Theatres (LCT) is an alliance of theaters which leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. The League of Chicago Theatres Foundation (LCTF) is dedicated to enhancing the art of theater in the Chicago area through audience development and support services for theaters and theater professionals.



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FACT SHEET:

- Event: **First Annual Chicago Producing Intensive Conference**
- Dates: **Friday, March 13 through Sunday, March 15, 2009**
- Time: **Opening remarks begin at 10 a.m. on the 13th. The Conference will wrap up at 1 p.m. on Sunday the 15th.**
- Location: **The Goodman Theatre, Owen Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn**
- Tickets: **\$250** per person early bird rate for members of the League of Chicago Theatres. **\$325** early bird rate for non-member organizations and individuals. After February 13 regular rates are **\$300** for League members and **\$400** for non-members. Sponsorships available. The early bird deadline is February 13. **Register online at CommercialTheaterInstitute.com.**

Topics Include: *Moving Your Show to New York, The Legal Aspects of Producing, Front Edge Marketing Techniques, How to Develop the Work, How to Make the Deal, The Tour: How to Get One* plus question and answer sessions and networking opportunities.

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COMMERCIAL THEATER INSTITUTE

The Commercial Theater Institute, now in its 28th year, is a project of Theatre Development Fund (TDF) and The Broadway League, Inc. Dedicated to training the next generation of commercial theatre producers; CTI provides resources and guidance to individuals interested in the various paths one can take towards creating commercial productions for the stage.

THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES

Founded in 1979, the League is an alliance of theaters that leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. Currently, the League serves a diverse membership of 200 theaters and theater companies, ranging from small storefront, non-union companies to major cultural centers with multi-million dollar facilities and productions.

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