Dear Friends,

Calling all Theatre lovers. Come and see the Stars of Tomorrow, right here at our own Jerry Herman Ring Theatre at the University of Miami. Just this past spring a former student, Joshua Henry, was nominated for the esteemed Tony Award for Best Actor in a Musical, *The Scottsboro Boys*. You may remember Josh when he played the lead in the musical at the Ring, *The Music Man*. How exciting it is for all of us to celebrate Josh’s success. Of course Josh is one of many UM Theatre Arts students who has gone on to achieve success in the business of Theatre.

You too can be a part of this great community which financially helps young theatre students reach their potential for success. By joining the Friends of Theatre, you will be providing scholarship monies, networking opportunities, and friendships with the students that are invaluable.

Your membership which is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law, includes many benefits such as:

- Opening night seats to student shows at the Ring
- Opening night reception to meet the cast in the Courtyard
- Pre-Season Fall Party
- Newsletters in the mail or via E-mail
- Theatre outings at local theatres at below box office prices
- Optional dinners and parties
- Membership Directory
- Four membership categories: $175, $300, $500, and $1000.

Visit our website at Miami.edu/ring and click on Friends of Theatre. This will enable you to keep current on our activities, allow you to see pictures of past events, and give you a briefing on upcoming activities.

If you are already a treasured member of Friends of or if you are a new member, please forward the enclosed application to membership chairman:

Carole Waldman, 6312 SW 93 Ave, Miami, FL 33173

We look forward to seeing you at our new season “Kick Off Party,” on Sunday, Sept. 11 from 6-8 PM. Details will be forthcoming shortly.

We welcome you as the curtain rises on a new spectacular season at the Ring.

Camille O. King, President

2011-12 Friends Performance Schedule (Descriptions on other side)

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JERRY HERMAN RING THEATRE’S 2011-2012 SEASON

NIGHT TRAIN TO BOLINA
Written and Directed by Nilo Cruz
Pulitzer-Prize-winning playwright and Miami native Nilo Cruz (Anna in the Tropics) spins this intriguing and haunting tale set in an unidentified, war-torn Latin American country where two peasant youths, Mateo and Clara, create an imaginary world to cope with the starvation and oppression of their daily lives. Bonded by an emotional link that is both innocent and erotic, the couple decides to stowaway on the night train to Bolina, a mythical city where lost kites “go to die.” Clara and Mateo truly believe that in Bolina they will find the peace and happiness they so desperately seek; what they find there, however, is far from the ideal world of their dreams. With its imaginative use of poetic realism, Night Train to Bolina is an adventure in fantasy, mysticism, loyalty and love.

THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA
By Federico Garcia Lorca; New translation by Karin Coonrod and Nilo Cruz
A co-production with the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts; all performances in the Arsht’s Carnival Studio Theater
Written by Spain’s most acclaimed modern playwright, The House of Bernarda Alba is the devastatingly powerful story of a domineering woman obsessed with maintaining the honor of her family’s name against the forces of a brutal society. Bernarda Alba’s iron-fisted oppression of her five daughters transforms their rural home into a powder keg of tension, jealousy and fear. In this stunning world-premiere-translation by Karin Coonrod and Nilo Cruz and featuring guest professional actresses in two leading roles, the Ring co-production with the Adrienne Arsht Center promises to be a shattering and not-to-be-missed dramatic experience. Although it is tragic in tone and story, The House of Bernarda Alba ultimately celebrates the enduring human struggle for freedom and happiness in the darkest of times.

FOREVER 54
Conceived and Directed by Tommy Tune; Written by Mark Saltzman
Once upon a time in New York City, there was a magical disco that everyone clamored to get into. Passing through Studio 54’s velvet ropes were the world’s most famous stars, politicians, and athletes — the glitterati of the 1980s. The Jerry Herman Ring Theatre will be presenting the first production of Tony-Award winner Tommy Tune’s exciting and glamorous musical portrait of the world’s most famous nightclub. Lucky South Florida theatre audiences will be the first to experience this exciting new musical.

STAGE DOOR
By Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman
This 1937 screwball comedy centers around a group of young actresses crammed into a theatrical boarding house in New York while waiting for their big break on The Great White Way. Stage Door showcases love affairs, despair, betrayals, wise-cracks, rejections, tragedy and plenty of delicious comedy. The central plot focuses on Terry Randall (Katherine Hepburn in the 1937 film), a stage-struck actress totally driven by her talent and ambition. What the other young women bring to the play is a veritable carnival of memorable characters. Stage Door is a genuine valentine to the legitimate stage as well as a comic send-up of the Hollywood film industry.

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM
Book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart; Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
"Tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight!" begins one of Broadway’s greatest farces. Forum is light, fast-paced, witty, irreverent and one of the funniest musicals ever written! It takes comedy back to its roots, combining situations from Roman farces with the slapstick energy of classic vaudeville. The result is a non-stop laugh-fest in which a crafty slave, seeking to earn his freedom, struggles to win the hand of a beautiful courtesan for his young master. What a great way to close out our exciting season!