

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2017

Media Contact: Anna Ables, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
(773) 325-7938, aables@depaul.edu, <http://theatre.depaul.edu>

Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences Presents CINDERELLA: THE REMIX

Performance on May 13 will Welcome Audiences with Sensory Sensitivities

CHICAGO — The Theatre School at DePaul University presents *Cinderella: The Remix*, book and lyrics by Psalmayene 24, music by Nick tha 1Da, and directed by Coya Paz. *Cinderella: The Remix* is a part of The Theatre School's Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences Series.

The production tells the story of Cinderella, an amazing DJ, stuck in her Stepmother's basement and forced to give up her beats to her stepbrother, Chocolate Ice. When the famous J Prince announces auditions for his Hip-Hop Hollywood "Jam", Cinderella goes in disguise trying to score the biggest gig in the land. Join us for an urban twist on the classic Cinderella fairy tale. Girl power! Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Complimentary teacher guides for *Cinderella: The Remix* are available online for educators and interested audience members. Guides include activities and discussions for before and after the performance, which highlight core learning goals. Themes from this production include: fairy tales; gender roles; girl power; hip-hop; identity; pop culture; and sexism.

Cinderella: The Remix opens April 22, 2017, and runs through May 27, 2017, at DePaul's historic Merle Reskin Theatre. Performances are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 AM, and Saturdays 2 PM. Special Friday performances (10 AM) will occur on April 28 and May 12. A Sunday performance will be held on May 21 (2 PM). There is no Thursday performance on May 11 and no Saturday performance on May 20.

The performance of *Cinderella: The Remix* on Saturday, May 13 will be sensory friendly. A social narrative and adapted teacher guide will be available prior to the performance. Accommodations to this performance include reduced sound and lighting cues and some added light in the house of the theatre to welcome audience members with sensory sensitivities. The performances on May 18 and 21 will be interpreted in American Sign Language. Call TTY: 773.325.7975. April 22 is USO of Illinois Day. U.S. Armed Forces personnel and their families with a valid military ID can attend the performance for free. Visit www.tixfortroops.org to reserve tickets, or call 312.922.1999 for more information. Join the cast for an autograph session after the performance on April 22. The performances on April 28 and May 6 will be followed by a post-show discussion. Visit the website or call the box office for additional details.

-- MORE --

Tickets are \$10. Subscriptions and group rates (15 or more people) are available. DePaul employees, alumni, and college students receive a discount (with ID). Tickets are available online or by calling the Box Office at (312) 922-1999.

DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre is located at 60 E. Balbo Drive at Michigan Avenue, in Chicago. For information about parking, please contact the Box Office. The theatre is accessible via CTA busses (3-King Drive, 29-State Street, 146-Michigan/ Museums and others), and CTA El stops (Red, Blue, Brown, Green, Orange, Purple and Pink).

The cast features **Chanell Bell Copeland** (*Cinderella*), **Hunter Bryant** (*Chocolate Ice*), **Mariana Castro Florez** (*Chin Chilla*), **Samantha Newcomb** (*Bad Mamajama/Hoperah*), and **Nosakhere Cash-O'Bannon** (*J Prince*).

The production staff includes **Coya Paz** (Director), **Angela McIlvain** (Scenic Design), **Emilee Orton** (Costume Design), **Richard Latshaw** (Lighting Design), **Madeline Doyle** (Sound Design), **Yasmin Mitchel and Spencer Olson** (Dramaturgy), and **Emily Mills** (Stage Management).

About the Director: Coya Paz teaches full time in The Theatre School at DePaul University and is the Artistic Director of the historic Free Street Theater, which has been making performance by, for, about, with and in Chicago's diverse communities since 1969. She's currently at work on *The Miracles/Los Milagros*, which celebrates everyday miracles and community resilience. It will tour Chicago parks this summer.

###

The Theatre School trains students to the highest level of professional skill and artistry in an inclusive and diverse conservatory setting.