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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Anna Ables,

Director of Marketing and Public Relations

(773) 325-7938, aables@depaul.edu, http://theatre.depaul.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Theatre School at DePaul University Presents: William Shakespeare's *Richard III* 

Directed by Jacob Janssen, MFA Directing, Class of 2018

The Theatre School at DePaul University is pleased to present William Shakespeare's *Richard III*, directed by Jacob Janssen (MFA Directing candidate, Class of 2018) in the Sondra & Denis Healy Theatre. The production premieres on Friday, January 27, and runs through Sunday, February 5, 2017. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2 PM. Previews are on January 25 and 26 at 7:30 PM. Post-show discussions will follow the performances on January 29 (2:00 PM) and February 2 (7:30 PM).

**About the production:** Richard, Duke of Gloucester, conspires, manipulates, and murders his way onto the English throne, making more than a few enemies along the way. Can Richard rule England? Or will his misdeeds undo him? This Shakespearean classic explores the effects of morality, or lack thereof, in a political state.

For patrons who are blind or have low-vision, the performance will be audio described on Friday, February 3 at 7:30 PM with a pre-performance touch tour. Call 773.325.7900. If patrons require wheelchair accessible and/or companion seating, or have any other hearing or vision needs, please let the Box Office staff know when you reserve your tickets, so that they can make sure your visit to our theatre is an excellent one.

The Theatre School's 2016-2017 season in Lincoln Park is generously supported by presenting level sponsor PNC Bank. Tickets are \$15, preview tickets are \$10, and student tickets are always \$5. Tickets are available online, or by calling the Box Office at 773.325.7900. Subscriptions and group rates are also available.

The Theatre School at DePaul University is located at 2350 N. Racine Avenue (at Fullerton). The school is easily accessible via the Fullerton CTA Station and the Fullerton (74) Bus. Visitors and audience members can receive discounted parking rates in DePaul University's Clifton Parking Deck, located at 2330 N. Clifton Avenue. Call

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the Box Office for additional information in order to plan your trip.

The cast features **Delaney Feener** (Richard), **David Shea Petersen** (Stanely/Clarence/Young York), **Elliot Gross** (Ratcliff/King Edward/Brackenbury), **Nick Trengove** (Hastings/Richmond/Tyrrel), **Anna Connelly** (Lady Anne/Prince Edward), **Skylar Okerstrom-Lang** (Catesby/River), **Emma Page** (Young Elizabeth/Grey/Scrivener), **Marjorie Muller** (Queen Elizabeth), **Daniel Gadaj** (Buckingham), **Chandler Smith** (Dorset/Bishop/Murderer 2), **Samantha Newcomb** (Queen Margaret/Lord Mayor/Herbert), and **Dekyi Ronge** (Duchess of York/Murderer 1/Blunt).

The production team includes Jacob Janssen (Director), Nick Sandys Pullin (Fight Director), Louis Colaianni (Text Coach), Patrice Egleston (Movement Coach), Jennifer Wernau (Scenic Designer), Elizabeth Martinez (Costume Designer), Jack Riley (Lighting Designer), Connor Wang (Sound Designer), Mariah Schultz (Dramaturg), and Maggie Hoffecker (Stage Manager).

Jacob Janssen (Director ) Jacob Janssen is from Kiel, Wisconsin. In Washington, D.C., Jacob worked as a director and producer at several theatres, most notably at Studio Theatre. Jacob produced 16 plays for Studio, and countless workshops and readings. As a director at Studio, Jacob worked on *Carrie: The Musical*, starring Barbara Walsh, 10,000 Grey with the German company Machina Ex, and assisted on the world premiere of Lucas Hnath's *Red Speedo*. Other recent directing projects include the world premiere of Peter Nachtrieb's *The Totalitarians* at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company as Assistant Director, and serving as the Associate Director of Caridad Svich's *Jarman* with Force/Collision, which premiered in Washington, D.C., before touring the United Kingdom. Before coming to D.C., Jacob was the Artistic Director of The Plimoth Players, the all male Shakespeare company resident at Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth, Massachusetts. For Plimoth he directed *Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo & Juliet, The Tempest,* and *Twelfth Night.* Jacob is an alumnus of Shakespeare Theatre's Fellowship program, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

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