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For immediate release.

CENTER THEATRE GROUP HOSTS FREE, FOUR-COURSE SEWING SERIES AT THE SHOP IN BOYLE HEIGHTS ON SELECT DATES IN JUNE

Center Theatre Group will provide a free, four-course sewing series to community members at The Shop. Center Theatre Group staff will teach sewing techniques through several different projects. Each project will demonstrate a new fundamental of sewing and build upon a skill taught in a previous course in the series. The courses will be held on select dates in June from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are bilingual in English and Spanish.

The schedule is as follows:

- **June 2 –Industrial Machines 101 and Bib Aprons:** Attendees will get an introduction to industrial sewing machines, steam irons and overlock machines and create an apron with a fold-up pocket. They will learn how to operate industrial machines, cut from a pattern and do an industrial straight stitch.
- **June 9 – Tote/Felt Bag:** Attendees will create either a felt bag or a canvas tote. They will learn how to reinforce their creations using stabilizing materials or interfacing.
- **June 16 – Decorative Pillows:** Attendees will create decorative pillow covers. They will learn how to sew in a zipper and create a border finish like piping or cording.
- **June 23 – Pajama Pants:** Attendees will create a pair of draw-string pajama pants. They will learn how to choose the correct pattern size and how to fit a clothing item to a person’s specific measurements.

“With this series, we wanted to provide community members with a buildable skill that they could continue to refine through multiple different projects,” said Center Theatre Group Costume Shop Manager Brent M. Bruin. “We’re really treating this as an introductory course that teaches a skill with many real-world applications—one that will hopefully be valuable to our community members for years to come.”

Space for the sewing series is at capacity at this time. To express interest in future workshops at The Shop or in upcoming community events in Boyle Heights and beyond, please contact Jesus A. Reyes at jreyes@CTGLA.org or call (213) 972-8028. The Shop is located at 2856 E. 11th Street in Boyle Heights, 90023.

More information on other Center Theatre Group community programs and events can be found at www.CenterTheatreGroup.org/Community.

Center Theatre Group began its community programming at The Shop in the fall of 2013 with a pilot series of workshops and events that offered opportunities for Boyle Heights residents to express creativity, build community and connect the craft of theatre with their daily lives.

The series is led by the Center Theatre Group Education and Community Partnerships Department. One of the most active theatre education programs in the country, Education and Community Partnerships reached roughly 34,000 students, teachers, patrons and community members throughout Southern California in the 2016-2017 season.

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation's preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles' leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under Artistic Director Michael Ritchie, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1600 to 2000-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation's leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics and circumstance to serve Los Angeles.

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