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For immediate release.

CENTER THEATRE GROUP TO OFFER FREE TICKETS FOR THEATREGOERS 25 YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER

FreePlay Tickets Available For the First Preview of All Center Theatre Group Productions at the Mark Taper Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre

Tickets Will Be Free at the Box Office \$5 Per Ticket Handling Fee Required For Phone or Online Reservations

Center Theatre Group Artistic Director Michael Ritchie announced the new **FreePlay** program. Anyone who is 25 years old or younger will be able to reserve free tickets to the first preview of all Center Theatre Group productions at the Mark Taper Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre. Reservations are free if made in-person at the box office. There will be a \$5 per ticket handling fee to reserve online at CTGLA.org/FreePlay or over the phone by calling (213) 628-2772.

"Center Theatre Group's mission focuses on introducing the largest possible audiences, from all across Los Angeles, to theatre," said Ritchie. "Through programs like FreePlay, we are making a direct effort to welcome new theatregoers by lowering any perceived barriers of our organization or live theatre overall. It's imperative that we strive to create a more vibrant Los Angeles with a stronger cultural fabric that supports such accessible experiences."

Reservations will be made available approximately two weeks before the first preview of each production – people who would like to receive emailed notifications of each production's availability can sign up at CTGLA.org/FreePlay. Beginning Friday, August 17 reservations will be available for "Sweat" at the Mark Taper Forum (first preview on August 29) and for "School Girls" at the Kirk Douglas Theatre (first preview on September 2).

Patrons will be allowed to reserve two FreePlay tickets. Tickets will be distributed at will call on the day of the performance and each person utilizing a FreePlay ticket

must be 25 or under with a valid ID. Tickets must be picked up from the box office no less than 30 minutes prior to curtain.

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.

For more information on FreePlay, please visit CTGLA.org/FreePlay. For general ticket information, please visit CenterTheatreGroup.org, call Audience Services at (213) 628-2772 or in person at the Center Theatre Group Box Office (at the Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles). The Mark Taper Forum is located at The Music Center, 135 N. Grand Avenue in Downtown L.A. 90012. The Kirk Douglas Theatre is located at 9820 Washington Blvd. in Culver City, CA 90232.

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