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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE:

POLITICAL NEWCOMER CAUSES MAYHEM AND MERRIMENT
IN NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE'S *THE OUTSIDER*

By Paul Slade Smith

Performances Beginning Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Running Through Sunday, March 15, 2020

NOW EXTENDED TO MARCH 22, 2020

A West Coast Premiere Directed by David Ellenstein

Solana Beach, Calif. – ***THE OUTSIDER***, a razor-sharp, hilarious satire of modern American politics, is currently getting a witty and smartly paced West Coast premiere at North Coast Repertory Theatre. Written by Paul Slade Smith (*Unnecessary Farce*) and overflowing with clever plot twists, the play is a fun-house mirror held up to reflect the often confounding, yet proudly enduring American political system. This thoroughly non-partisan laugh-fest is the ideal antidote for anyone who is overwhelmed with today's headlines. This non-partisan laugh-fest is just what you need. Tickets are going fast, so reserve early.

David Ellenstein directs Louis Lotorto,* Max Macke, John Seibert,* Natalie Storrs,* Jacque Wilke* Christopher M. Williams,* and Shana Wride* in ***THE OUTSIDER***. The design team includes Marty Burnett (Resident Scenic Designer), Matthew Novotny (Lighting), Elisa Benzoni (Costumes), Philip Korth (Props) and Peter Herman (Wigs). Dean Remington* is the Stage Manager.

*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association. For photos, go to www.northcoastrep.org/press.

THE OUTSIDER previews begin Wednesday, February 19. Opening Night on Saturday, February 22, at 8pm. A new **Preview Matinee has been added on Friday, February 21, at 2pm**. There will be a **special talkback on Friday, February 28**, with the cast and artistic director. It will play Wednesdays at 7pm, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm with Sundays at 7pm through March 22, 2020 (See Schedule below). North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Tickets: Previews - \$46 (**including Friday preview at 2pm**), Week Nights/Wed. & Sat. Matinees - \$52; Sat. Eve. & Sun. Mat. \$57; Sun Night - \$49. By popular demand, a **Wednesday Matinee has been added on March 11 at 2pm** - \$52. Seniors, Students, Military & Educators - \$3 off admission. Call 858-481-1055, or visit www.northcoastrep.org to purchase tickets.

THE OUTSIDER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			19 8pm The Outsider PREVIEW	20 8pm The Outsider PREVIEW	21 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider PREVIEW	22 8pm Opening
23 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider	24	25	26 7pm The Outsider	27 8pm The Outsider	28 8pm The Outsider TALKBACK	29 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider
March 1 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider	2	3	4 7pm The Outsider	5 8pm The Outsider	6 8pm The Outsider	7 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider
8 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider	9	10	11 2pm The Outsider 7pm The Outsider	12 8pm The Outsider	13 8pm The Outsider	14 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider
15 2pm The Outsider	16	17	18 7pm The Outsider	19 8pm The Outsider	20	21 2pm The Outsider 8pm The Outsider
22 2pm The Outsider						

FACT SHEET:

WHAT: NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents
THE OUTSIDER
 By Paul Slade Smith
 Directed by David Ellenstein

CAST: Louis Lotorto,* Max Macke, John Seibert,* Natalie Storrs,* Jacque Wilke,* Christopher M. Williams,* and Shana Wride.*

WHERE: North Coast Repertory Theatre
 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive
 Solana Beach, CA 92075

SCHEDULE: **Previews: February 19, 2020**
Closes: March 22, 2020
Wed. @ 7pm, Thurs-Sat @ 8PM; Sat & Sun @ 2PM, Sun @ 7pm
New Preview Matinee @ 2pm, Friday, February 21, 2020
New Wednesday Matinee @ 2pm, March 11, 2020
Talkback with cast & director: Friday, February 28, 2020

PRICES: Previews \$46.00
 Week Nights & Sat. Matinees \$52.00

Sat. Nights & Sunday Matinees	\$57.00
Wed. Matinee (ADDED) March 11	\$52.00
Friday Matinee (ADDED) Feb. 21	\$46.00

DISCOUNTS: Seniors, Students, Military & Educators \$3.00 off admission. Rush tickets available for \$20.

BIOS:

PAUL SLADE SMITH (Playwright) is a writer and actor living in Brooklyn, New York. His play, *Unnecessary Farc*e, winner of nine regional theatre awards, has had over 250 productions throughout the United States and in Canada, Great Britain, Australia, Switzerland, Iceland and Singapore. As an actor, Paul recently appeared in the Broadway revival of *My Fair Lady* at Lincoln Center. His past performing credits include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Finding Neverland* (original Broadway casts), national tours of *Wicked* and *The Phantom of the Opera*, and productions at American Repertory Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, The Goodman and Steppenwolf.

DAVID ELLENSTEIN (Director) Born into a theatrical family, David has worked in theatres across the country. Before joining North Coast Rep in 2003 he served as Artistic Director for the Los Angeles Repertory Company and the Arizona Jewish Theatre Company (AJTC). A veteran of over 250 theatrical productions including over 100 productions at North Coast Rep. Directorial favorites include: *Holmes & Watson*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Father*, *This Random World*, *Travels with my Aunt*, *The Illusion*, *Hedda Gabler* (World Premiere Translation), *Way Downriver: William Faulkner's 'Old Man'* (West Coast Premiere), *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Great Nome Gold Rush* (World Premiere), *Freud's Last Session*, *Side by Side By Sondheim*, *Words By Ira Gershwin*, *Faded Glory* (World Premiere), *Mandate Memories* (World Premiere), *Becoming Cuba* (World Premiere), *Time Stands Still*, *Words by: Ira Gershwin and the Great American Songbook* (World Premiere). Other theatres: Coconut Grove Playhouse, Papermill Playhouse, Portland Stage. Renaissance Theatre, Actor's Theatre of Phoenix, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Laguna Playhouse, Southwest Shakespeare Company, AJTC, Meadow Brook Theatre, Portland Rep and Gaslamp Quarter Theatre. Winner of the *San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Craig Noel Award* for "2018 Director of the Year Award."

LOUIS LOTORTO* (Arthur Vance) is thrilled to return to North Coast Rep after appearing as Emperor Joseph II in *Amadeus* earlier this season. You might also remember Louis as Milt in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, Leo in *Chapter Two* and Felix in *The Odd Couple*. Based in L.A., he has worked in Regional Theatre for over 30 years. Credits include the Royal National Theatre's tour of *An Enemy of the People* (w/ Sir Ian McKellen), Camille in *A Flea in Her Ear* with A Noise Within (Ovation Award Nomination), ACT in Seattle, Ariel in *The Tempest* at The Shakespeare Theatre Company (Helen Hayes Award Nomination), Oregon and California Shakespeare Festivals, Portland Center Stage, Berkeley Rep, San Jose Rep, Artists Rep and South Coast Rep theatres, and most recently playing Clarence the Angel in *It's a Wonderful Life, a Radio Play*, at Ensemble Theatre in Santa Barbara. A proud member of Actors Equity Association since 1988. www.louislotorto.com

MAX MACKÉ (A.C. Petersen) is ecstatic to be back at North Coast Rep. He was last seen here in *Of Mice and Men* as Carlson, *Way Downriver* as Deputy Buckworth and *Leading Ladies* as Butch. Other credits include: *Handbagged*, *Voyeurs de Venus*, *Enron* and *Eurydice* at Moxie Theater. *Servant of Two Masters*, *Awake and Sing*, *Wait Until Dark*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* at New Village Arts Theater. *The Birthday Party* for New Fortune Theater. Max is also an original member of the Poor Players Theater Company, with whom he appeared in over a dozen Shakespearean plays. Max would like to thank his wife and daughter for their continued love and support.

JOHN SEIBERT* (Ned) is thrilled to be making his debut at North Coast Rep. A Detroit-based actor, director and educator, some of his most recent credits include *A Doll's House Part 2*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (Tipping Point Theatre); *Chapatti*, *Sirens*, *The Woman In Black* (Williamston Theatre) and George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (Performance Network Theatre-Wilde Award, Best Actor). Film credits include "Batman vs. Superman", "Supersucker" and "Kill the Irishman". John also serves as a full-time lecturer in theatre arts at Eastern Michigan University.

NATALIE STORRS* (Rachel) is ecstatic to be back at North Coast Rep, after last appearing as Joan in *Dames at Sea!* First National Tour: *Sister Act*. Off-Broadway/NYC: *Red Roses*, *Green Gold* (Melinda Jones) Original Off-B'way Cast); *Urinetown* (Hope Cladwell). Regional highlights: *Holiday Inn* (Linda Mason) Musical Theatre West; *All Shook Up* (Natalie) Flat Rock Playhouse; *The Last Five Years* (Cathy) La Mirada Theatre; *RENT* (Maureen) Gateway Playhouse; *First Date* (Casey) Mason Street Warehouse - Wilde Award Nomination); *9 to 5* (Judy Bernly) Flat Rock Playhouse; *How to Succeed...* (Rosemary) Welk Resort Theatre - Craig Noel Nomination; *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Betty Jean) Utah Shakespeare Festival and Moonlight Stage Productions. Television: "Driven to Love", "The Hollywood News Report". Love and gratitude to her KMR Talent team, Mom, Dad & Ita, and Spence! www.nataliestorrs.com Follow along on Instagram: @natstorrs.

JACQUE WILKE* (Louise) was recently seen at the Old Globe in *Ebenezer Scrooge's Big San Diego Christmas Show*. Recent credits include *Moon Over Buffalo*, *The Father*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, and *Mistletoe, Music, and Mayhem* (North Coast Repertory Theatre), *Pride and Prejudice*, *Stupid F***ing Bird*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Travesties*, and *Mistakes Were Made* (Cygnet Theatre Company), *The Happiest Place on Earth*, *Ballast*, *The Divine Sister*, *The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabler*, *Scrooge in Rouge*, *Next Fall*, *Fair Use*, *The New Century*, and *Anita Bryant Died for Your Sins* (Diversions Theatre), *Ironbound and Or*, (MOXIE Theatre), *Abundance* (Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company), *Honky* (San Diego Repertory Theatre; Craig Noel Award for Outstanding Featured Performance in a Play), *Yoke* and *The Car Plays* (La Jolla Playhouse), and *The Winter's Tale* and *All My Sons* (Intrepid Theatre Company). Ms. Wilke is a graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts and a recipient of the Charles Jehlinger Award for Best Actress.

CHRISTOPHER M. WILLIAMS* (Dave) is an actor, director, producer and stage manager, and the current Associate Artistic Director of North Coast Rep. He most recently acted in *Amadeus*, *Holmes & Watson*, *How the Other Half Loves*, directed *Gabriel*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and stage managed *This Random World*. Christopher played Nathan Rothschild in the Off Broadway musical *Rothschild & Sons*, opposite Robert Cuccioli. Other theatres include: AZ Theatre Company, AZ Jewish

Theatre, Actor's Theatre, Phoenix Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Southwest Shakespeare Company, New Village Arts, and Intrepid Theatre. Christopher was the founding Artistic Director of Oceanside Theatre Company. He was a producer of the WWII feature film, "Walking with the Enemy," starring Jonas Armstrong and Ben Kingsley.

SHANA WRIDE*(Paige) has worked as a theatre actor and director both locally and regionally with The Old Globe, Diversionary Theatre, Cygnet Theatre, North Coast Repertory Theatre, Intrepid Theatre, Moxie Theatre, Compass Theatre, The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, The Colony Theatre, Open Fist Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Gaslamp Quarter Theatre, and Sledgehammer Theatre. She is the recipient of a San Diego Critics Circle Craig Noel Award for her solo performance in *2.5 Minute Ride* at Diversionary Theatre and as an Actor for her role as Amanda in Cygnet Theatre's *Private Lives*. While living in Los Angeles, she co-hosted the nationally syndicated radio show, "*Women Aloud*" with actor/comedienne Mo Gaffney.

DEAN REMINGTON* (Stage Manager) National Tours: *The Lion King*, (sub since 2004), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. International: *Hey, Mr. Producer!*, (Cameron Mackintosh). La Jolla Playhouse: *The Luckiest*, *3 Farids*, *The Garden*, *Annual Gala*. San Diego Repertory: *Outside Mullingar*, *Manifest Destinitis*, (World Premiere). Cygnet Theatre: *The Virgin Trial*, (US Premiere), *Pride and Prejudice*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Shockheaded Peter*, *The Wind and the Breeze*, *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon Marigolds*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Dean is delighted to join the team at North Coast Repertory for *The Outsider!*

DESIGN TEAM

MARTY BURNETT (Resident Scenic Designer) Marty is in his 27th season as Resident Designer/Technical Director at North Coast Rep. He has designed the last 191 shows. Other venues include: Laguna Playhouse, Portland Stage Company, Drury Lane (Chicago), Claridge Hotel (Atlantic City), Union Plaza, Sahara Hotel, Hacienda in Las Vegas, Coronado Playhouse, Scripps Ranch Theater, Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Marty is a proud alumnus of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

MATTHEW NOVOTNY (Light Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to forty shows over the past seven years. Matthew is currently the Lighting Designer in Residence for San Diego Musical Theatre as well as North Coast Rep, and his work can be seen at a wide variety of theatres across San Diego. Matthew holds a B.A. in Technical Theatre from San Diego State and a master's degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is Married to his Beautiful wife Amanda, with 5 AMAZING children: Ragan, Harper, Heston, Maddex and Harrison (Did he mention the oldest is only 7!!)

ELISA BENZONI (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working on her third season at North Coast Rep including numerous Craig Noel Nominated productions. Elisa has also worked on over a hundred productions across Southern California with theaters such as The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse, South Coast Repertory Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Diversionary Theatre and New Village Arts. Being Italian born, Elisa has also had the opportunity to work and perfect her craft in Europe. Elisa holds a costume design M.F.A. from UCSD where she currently is an adjunct professor. www.elisabenzoni.com

PHILLIP KORTH (Props) is an actor, writer, and craftsman. He earned B.A.s in Acting and Creative Writing from Western Michigan University and his M.F.A. in Acting from the University of Connecticut. He served six years as a Combat Engineer in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, deploying twice to Iraq. For the past two years, he and his wife, Erin, a professional wedding photographer, have traveled the country in their renovated 1976 Airstream Argosy travel trailer with their 110lb Labrador mutt, Scout. Phillip is also a published poet, produced playwright, and aspiring novelist. He currently is working as the Education Associate for the Theatre School @ North Coast Rep.

PETER HERMAN (Hair & Wig Design) has previously designed wigs for over 30 North Coast Rep productions. Peter teaches wig and makeup design at San Diego State University. He is glad to be part of the creative team on this show.

BACKGROUND:

Season 38 presents an eclectic mix that includes two West Coast premieres and one San Diego premiere. Next on the schedule is a powerful Tony Award winning drama, **THE HOMECOMING**. Often regarded as Harold Pinter's most enduring play, this masterwork of family warfare is set in an all-male household that is disrupted when a long-absent son returns with his new wife. Her presence ignites an explosive situation, one that is vicious, funny and unsettling. A must-see Tony Award winner for discerning theatre lovers. Runs April 8 – May 3. Suitable for mature audiences only. Following is the West Coast Premiere of **HUMAN ERROR**. Full of warmth, heart and outrageous humor, two couples – one liberal, the other conservative – are forced to meet and establish a relationship with binding implications due to a medical mix-up. Engaging and surprising, it runs May 27 to June 21. Season 38 concludes with **FORBIDDEN BROADWAY'S GREATEST HITS**. Celebrate Broadway's unforgettable musical legends! Meet Broadway's greatest satirist in this hilarious, loving, and endlessly entertaining tribute to some of the theatre's most cherished stars and songwriters. A sure-fire sellout, so reserve your tickets early. Runs July 8 to August 9.

About the North Coast Repertory Theatre:

North Coast Repertory Theatre, under the artistic leadership of David Ellenstein since 2003, is a professional Equity theatre founded in 1982 by Olive and Tom Blakistone. Currently celebrating its 38th season, North Coast Rep has received critical acclaim from media and audiences alike, and has evolved into one of the area's leading performing arts organizations. North Coast Rep prides itself on employing the majority of its actors from Actors' Equity Association for its high quality, award-winning productions, and staging works by established and emerging playwrights. Throughout its history, North Coast Rep has created a platform where artist and audience thrive through the intimacy of live theatre, recognizing the power of theatre to challenge complacency, revitalize the imagination, nurture the unexpected, and embrace the variety and diversity in our lives.

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