

MEDIA RELEASE  
March 6, 2018

## **ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY INTRODUCES THE GRANT BURNYEAT STUDENT SERIES**

**VANCOUVER, B.C.**—A new education initiative at the Arts Club will provide free tickets to students at Vancouver public high schools, thanks to a generous donation by **Grant Burnyeat**.

After years of dedicated support as a patron, donor, and board member, Burnyeat continues to support the Arts Club in its ongoing development as a leader in producing engaging, thought-provoking, and artistically innovative theatre. His most recent contribution, the **Grant Burnyeat Student Series**, will give Vancouver's youth meaningful opportunities to participate in the arts on a more frequent basis. The series will offer 600 free tickets to be distributed annually among all Vancouver public high schools, affording students the opportunity to attend Arts Club performances at no cost.

On making this gift for the next 30 years, Burnyeat says, "Live theatre can change the way we see the world. As a donor, making theatre accessible to young people is the greatest gift that I can impart. It is my hope that the arts can challenge young people to grow and broaden their horizons, just as early access to theatre broadened mine."

In addition to providing secondary school groups with a complimentary theatre experience, the Arts Club will invite students who attend productions through this program to participate in the **Grant Burnyeat Annual Writing Competition**.

All essays submitted will go through an adjudication process. The two essays that best demonstrate considerable thought and insight regarding the impact of live theatre on youth today will be selected to receive cash prizes. The first-place writer will be awarded \$750 and the second-place writer will receive \$250. Further details about the writing competition can be found on the Arts Club's [website](#).

The Grant Burnyeat Student Series will launch in March 2018, providing tickets to Vancouver public high school students interested in seeing *The Humans*, *Misery*, *Me and You*, *Mamma Mia!*, or *Once*. This initiative will then relaunch in the fall for the 2018/2019 season recently announced by Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran.

### **CONTACT**

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### **ABOUT THE ARTS CLUB**

The Arts Club Theatre Company, founded in 1964, is Canada's largest not-for-profit urban theatre company. Led by Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran and Executive Director Peter Cathie White, it offers professional theatre at three venues—the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, Granville Island Stage, and the Goldcorp Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre—as well as on tour throughout the province.

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