



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTEREY, CA – Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Arts Department presents

Superior Donuts

by Tracy Letts

Directed by Kurt Schweickhardt

November 21 to December 8, 2019

Tickets available from the MPC Theatre Box Office (831-646-4213) or online at www.mpctheatre.com

About the MPC Production of *Superior Donuts*

MPC Theatre Arts continues our 66th season, which focuses on *identity*, with this fun and tasty comedy by Tracy Letts, recipient of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for his play ***August: Osage County***. With ***Superior Donuts***, Letts takes a modern look at what it means to be American and part of a changing community. The play is about the unlikely friendship that develops between Arthur Przybyszewski, a burnt out former 1960s radical, and owner of a rundown donut shop in Uptown Chicago, and Franco, his energetic, somewhat troubled young African American employee, who wants to update the shop with new music and a healthy menu. Both men are at risk; Arthur from despondency and lack of motivation; Franco from past decisions that continue to endanger him. Like a multicolored donut, this play is sprinkled with both humor and drama, along with quirky neighborhood characters, some of them absurd, some endearing, and others threatening. And of course, cops. You can't have a donut shop without cops. One of whom just might be interested in Arthur...

Superior Donuts includes strong language & simulated fighting, and should be considered PG-13.

About the Director

Kurt Schweickhardt – Kurt got his B.A. in Acting and Directing from Cal State Hayward (now East Bay), and his M.F.A in Acting from the University of Minnesota. After grad school he worked as an actor and acting instructor/coach in the Twin Cities. Kurt performed on most of the professional stages there, including The



THEATRE ARTS

MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE

Guthrie, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, The Jungle, Park Square and others. He has performed in movies and on TV as well, including featured roles in **Amerika**, **Fargo**, and **Factotum**. He is a member of Actors Equity Association and is part of the Financial Core of SAG-AFTRA. He taught a variety of Theatre courses at Normandale Community College in the Twin Cities for 34 years. He returned home to CA in the fall of 2017. Kurt served as Text Coach for the MPC productions *Romeo & Juliet* (2019) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2019). **Superior Donuts** will be Kurt's directorial debut here at MPC.

About the Design Team

The Design team includes **Dan Beck** (Production Coordinator), **Eric Maximoff** (Scenic Designer and Master Carpenter), **Teddy Eck** (Producer & Costumes), and **Chas Moore** (*Lighting Designer*.)

Performance Dates and Times:

Superior Donuts previews Thursday, November 21 at 7:30 PM. Opening Night is Friday, November 22 at 7:30 PM. Performances run Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2:00 PM from November 21 through December 8. There is an added discount performance on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:30 pm, with all tickets being \$12.50, and NO performance on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28.

Opening night post-show reception

The opening night performance on Friday, November 22, includes a post-show reception with refreshments.

Post-show Talk Backs:

Join the director & cast for a post-show discussions immediately following the **Sunday, November 24** and **Friday, December 6** performances, to discuss the concepts, themes, and creative process of this production.

The full performance schedule is:

Thursday	November 21	7:30 PM	Preview/Discount Thursday
Friday	November 22	7:30 PM	Opening Night - with post-show reception
Saturday	November 23	7:30 PM	
Sunday	November 24	2:00 PM	Matinée with post-show Talk Back

Wednesday	November 27	7:30 PM	Bonus Discount performance.
Thursday	November 28	-	Thanksgiving – No Performance!
Friday	November 29	7:30 PM	
Saturday	November 30	7:30 PM	



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THEATRE ARTS

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Sunday	December 1	2:00 PM	Matinée
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Thursday	December 5	7:30 PM	Discount Thursday
Friday	December 6	7:30 PM	With post-show Talk Back
Saturday	December 7	7:30 PM	
Sunday	December 8	2:00 PM	Matinée – Final performance

Thursday Ticket Prices

Thursday November 21 (Preview), Wednesday November 27, and Thursday, December 5 are all discount performances and all tickets are \$12.50 each.

Please Note: Campus Parking is required for Thursday and Wednesday evening performances - cost is \$3.00. Some kiosks take quarters and others take dollar bills.

For All regular performances

24-hour advance tickets are \$20.00 for Adults and Seniors (or \$25 and \$22 at the door.)

Military, Teachers, and Young Adults (13-21) are \$15.00 each. Reservations are recommended.

Tickets are available online at www.mpctheatre.com or by calling The MPC Box Office at 831-646-4213.

Tickets are available through the MPC Box Office on the Monterey Peninsula College Campus at 980 Fremont Street. The Box Office 831-646-4213 is located in the lobby of the Theatre Arts building on the southwest corner of the MPC campus, adjacent to parking lot "C" just off Fishnet road. The Box Office is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3:00 – 7:00 PM and two hours prior to performances during performance weeks.

Tickets are also available online at www.mpctheatre.com.

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