

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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February 19, 2010

Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Company to open

**Cole Porter's
'ANYTHING GOES'
March 4 - 21, 2010
Tickets on sale now!**

Monterey, CA - "It's Delightful...It's Delicious...it's De-lovely!" That's what everyone will be singing after seeing the MPC Theatre Company's production Cole Porter's classic 1930's musical, ANYTHING GOES. Performances will run March 4 - 21, 2010.

What better way to open our final season in the building*, than with this spectacular musical that has won 3 Tony awards, as well as both the 1987 Outer Critic's Drama Award and Drama Desk Award for Best Revival, and the 2002 Olivier Award for Outstanding Musical Production. The musical also introduced several songs that have become legendary standards, such as "Anything Goes," "It's De-lovely," "Friendship," "You're the Top," "Blow, Gabriel, Blow," and "I Get a Kick Out of You."

Debuted in 1934 in the midst of the Depression, ANYTHING GOES became an instant success, running for over 400 performances. This age-old tale of 'Boy-Meets-Girl, Boy-Looses-Girl, Boy-Meets-Another-Girl, Boy-Gets-One-of-The-Girls'" done as a zany shipboard musical, features the words & music of Cole Porter. It has remained an audience favorite, playing to Off Broadway audiences in 1962, then returning to Broadway in 1987. ANYTHING GOES also had a successful run in England's West End in 1982, and was revived there in 2002. In addition, it remains a popular choice among High School, College, and Community Theatres, and has been adapted to both film and television.

When Billy Crocker learns his ex-fiancée Hope is onboard the S.S. American, he stows away to try and win her back, not knowing that Hope is heading to England to marry the very wealthy Sir Evelyn Oakleigh. Meanwhile, Billy's friend, Evangelist-turned-Nightclub-Singer Reno Sweeney, turns her sights upon Sir Evelyn Oakleigh. To remain on board the ship, Billy borrows an unused ticket & passport from incognito Gangster Moon Face Martin, disguising himself as the gangster's missing confederate. Will Billy get Hope? Will Reno get Sir Oakleigh? Will Billy be taken into custody, along with Moon Face? This madcap romantic comedy is filled with music, dance, mistaken identities, and hilarity. It promises to deliver a fun filled evening of theatre for all.

Directed by Walt deFaria, the cast of **ANYTHING GOES** includes over 40 local actors, many of whom are familiar faces. Others are appearing on the Morgan Stock Stage for the first time. Principle roles include:

GRACIE MOORE POLETTI as Reno Local theater credits include *Faye* in *Chapter Two* at MPC, *Maria* in *Sound Of Music*, *Anna* in *The King And I*, *Fiona* in *Brigadoon*, *Mrs. Darling* in *Peter Pan*, all at the Forrest Theater. Gracie's voice over resume includes over 1,000 performances on television shows, feature films, cartoons and soundtracks. On-camera acting credits include roles on *Murphy Brown*, *Double Rush*, *Candid Camera*, and a number of commercials and films. She was a regular at the world famous Comedy Store on Sunset Blvd for five years and performed at other major comedy clubs such as The Ice House in Pasadena and The Improv in Hollywood. Gracie gives acting and singing lessons, teaches after school drama at Carmel River School, and is director of the Actor's Forum Summer Theater Camp.

KRISTI LOVIK as Hope - Kristi grew up in Carmel Valley. She has returned to the Monterey Peninsula after studying musical theater at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London, England. She is delighted to be playing the part of Hope Harcourt in Walt deFaria's production of "Anything Goes"! A few of her most recent and favorite roles include playing Audrey in Conrad Selvig's production of *The 60's* at the Carl Cherry Theater, Queen Eleanor in MPC's Storybook Theatre production of *Sleeping Beauty*, and Evelyn in the Warner Brother's film *L.A. Confidential*. Kristi is a member of SAG.

PETER TUFF as Billy - Peter made his stage debut at age 9 as Whitney in *LIFE WITH FATHER* at Carmel's Circle Theatre. He is delighted to be returning to the local stages of the Monterey Peninsula after a decades-long absence. After a summer at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, Peter was able to persuade his beautiful and amazing wife (Carmel portrait artist LeAnna Tuff) of the merits of moving to Europe with no money, no job, nowhere to live, and with three small children (including a two-week-old). They stayed for ten years as Peter sang at the Vienna State Opera and in the Salzburg Festival. He has sung over 100 leading and supporting opera roles. Recent concert appearances include performances of Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*, and Copland's *Old American Songs*.

The Director: Walt deFaria

Walt directed *A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD* for MPC last year and is directing both Cole Porter's *ANYTHING GOES* and *A TAFFETA CHRISTMAS* this season. He has directed numerous productions at Carmel's outdoor Forest Theater for PacRep including *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*, *JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECNICOLOR DREAMCOATCOAT*, *THE WIZARD OF OZ* and *PETER PAN*. Currently he is Executive Producer on an animated film in Japan and a movie for television for the BBC, both based on the classic children's books, *THE BORROWERS*. He has a film project based on Russell Hoban's *THE MOUSE AND HIS CHILD* in development with Kennedy/Marshall Productions in Los Angeles.

The creative team includes **Walt deFaria** (*Director*); **Gloria Elber & Reed Scott** (*Choreographers*) **Barney Hulse** (*Musical Director*), **D. Thomas Beck** (*Technical Director*), **Nicole Bryant** (*Scenic Designer*), **Steve Retsky** (*Lighting Designer*), **David Rigmalden** (*Sound Designer*), and **Gloria Mattos Hughes** (*Costumes*).

Tickets for **ANYTHING GOES** are priced from \$10 - \$25, with Young Adult (16-25) and group discounts available. Performances are Thursday March 4th (Preview) 7:00 PM, Friday March 5th (Opening) 8:00 PM, Saturday March 6th 8:00 PM, Sunday March 7th 2:00 PM, Thursday March 11th 7:00 PM, Friday March 12th 8:00 PM, Saturday March 13th 8:00 PM, Sunday March 14th 2:00 PM, Friday March 19st, 8:00 PM, Saturday March 20th 8:00 PM, and Sunday March 21st 2:00 PM.

ANYTHING GOES is recommended for theatergoers 6 years and over. For tickets, go to www.mpctheatre.com, call the MPC Box Office at 831-646-4213, or visit the Box Office in person on the MPC Campus, Wednesday through Friday from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

About The MPC Theatre Company

(*At the end of this season, the MPC Theatre Company, MPC Storybook Theatre, and the MPC Theatre Arts Department will vacate our facility for approximately 18 months, while the building undergoes a much needed and much anticipated renovation. For more information on this, please contact Technical Director Dan Beck.)

The performing arts have always played an important part of life on the Monterey Peninsula, and for over 55 years the MPC Theatre Company has been entertaining, educating and enriching our community. In addition to making live Theatre a major part of our local culture, some of our past students have gone on to professional careers in theatre & television, and others have started their own amateur and professional theatre companies. MPC Outreach Programs also fund and support many local performing arts organizations, including Junior High & High School Drama Departments, Children's Theatres, and Dance Companies, as well as Community and Professional Theatres, such as the Pacific Repertory Theatre, the Staff Players Repertory Theatre, and the Forest Theatre Guild.

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