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Kory Kelly – Director of Marketing & Communications at Pasadena Playhouse:

## Playhouse**Live** Presents

# Iceboy!

### The first look at a new musical in development

## Starring Megan Mullally, Nick Offerman Adam Devine and Laura Bell Bundy

## Created by Mark Hollmann, Erin Quinn Purcell and Jay Reiss

## Launching today on PlayhouseLive

### Watch now for free at <u>www.playhouselive.org</u>

December 16, 2020, Pasadena, CA | Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman announces the launch today of *In Development: Iceboy!* on PlayhouseLive. This work gives an insiders' look at an unproduced theatrical work as it is introduced to the world for the first time. Join Megan Mullally, Nick Offerman, Adam DeVine and Laura Bell Bundy as they perform 4 new songs and give a rare early look at *Iceboy!*, a new musical by Mark Hollmann, Erin Quinn Purcell and Jay Reiss. This preview of *Iceboy!* is directed by Kevin Chamberlain with musical accompaniment by Jesse Vargas.

From the co-creators of the Broadway hits *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Urinetown: The Musical. Iceboy!* tells the absolutely untrue story of a 10,000-year-old Neanderthal who's discovered frozen in the Arctic, brought to New York, and adopted by Vera Vimm (Mullally), the biggest Broadway star of 1938. But once thawed, Iceboy (DeVine) becomes

an acting sensation whose talents threaten to upstage the once mighty Vera. It's All About Eve if only Eve were a caveman.

*In Development: Iceboy!* is available to view for free on PlayhouseLive. Once you create your free account at <u>www.playhouselive.org</u>, *Iceboy!* can be watched on any of the PlayhouseLive apps including Apple OS, Android OS, Roku, FireTV and more. Closed captioning is available in both English and Spanish.

Other PlayhouseLive programming highlights include:

- Poet, performance artist and professor **Javon Johnson** in **Still.**, a timely one-man performance about the complexities of the Black experience, commissioned by Pasadena Playhouse and kept online by popular demand. **Still.** can be rented for \$19.99.
- *Holiday on Strings* by Bob Baker Marionette Theater is a holiday tradition for audiences of all ages. This joyful family feature can be viewed for \$14.99.
- In second episode of *Intermission with Hashtag Booked*, hosts LaNisa Frederick and Danielle Pinnock take an intermission with **Jeff Perry** ("Scandal") to talk about his distinguished career in front of the camera and his roots in the theatre. Jeff will recount the beginnings of Steppenwolf Theatre Company and share some insider stories about his time with Laurie Metcalf, John Malkovich, and more. *Intermission with Hashtag booked* is available for free to the public.

Additional information about Playhouse**Live** and its programming, including new announcements and pricing specials, are available at <u>www.playhouselive.org</u>.

#### **BIOS:**

#### **Megan Mullally**

Emmy Award-winning actor and musician Megan Mullally has appeared on Broadway in revivals of *Grease, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (opposite Matthew Broderick), and Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein*. Megan has appeared in Terrence McNally's smash Broadway hit *It's Only a Play* and starred as the role of Adelaide opposite Nathan Lane in Carnegie Hall's celebrated *Guys and Dolls* revival. In recent years, Mullally has toured the world as the bandleader, singer and choreographer of the beloved punk-vaudeville band, Nancy And Beth. The band will release its second album, *Imaginary Friend* in 2021.

Television credits includes seven seasons of the Emmy Award-winning *Children's Hospital, Parks and Recreation* (as the Evil Tammy II), Lydia on acclaimed cult favorite *Party Down*, Aunt Gayle on the animated FOX series *Bob's Burgers*, Alyson on *The Great North* (also animated by FOX), and as Karen Walker on NBC's hit sitcom *Will & Grace*, for which she received two Emmys, four Screen Actors Guild awards and four Golden Globe nominations.

In film, Megan stars opposite Bryan Cranston and James Franco in the hit comedy *Why Him?* and appears in Oh *Lucy!, LEMON, The Disaster Artist* and *Infinity Baby*. Megan and her husband Nick Offerman have toured the US and UK with their comedy show *Summer of 69: No Apostrophe* and released The New York Times best-selling book, *The Greatest Love Story Ever Told*. Together, they host your favorite podcast, *In Bed with Nick and Megan*.

#### **Nick Offerman**

Nick Offerman is an actor, author, humorist and woodworker, best known as the character of Ron Swanson on NBC's hit comedy series *Parks & Recreation*, as well as Karl Weathers in the acclaimed FX series *Fargo* and co-host and executive producer of NBC's *Making It*. He recently toured the world with his new comedy show, *All Rise* and co-starred in *Devs*, the FX limited series from writer-director Alex Garland. Recent film credits include *Hearts Beat Loud*, *Lucy in the Sky, The Founder, Bad Times at the El Royale, The Hero, The Lego Movie* (1&2), *White Fang,* and *The Little Hours*. Offerman has penned four New York Times Bestselling books, *Paddle Your Own Canoe, Gumption, Good Clean Fu*n, and most recently *The Greatest Love Story Ever Told,* written with his wife, Megan Mullally. Together, they host the podcast, *In Bed with Nick and Megan*. In his spare time, he can be found at his woodshop in Los Angeles building handcrafted items ranging from fine furniture to canoes and ukuleles.

#### **Adam Devine**

Adam Devine has become one of the most sought after comedians and actors in the comedy world. Most recently, he launched a podcast, *This is Important*, along with his Workaholics castmates, Anders Holm, Blake Anderson and Kyle Newacheckl. Each episode has the group talking about the least important issues facing Americans today. He can be seen in Season 1 of HBO's *The Righteous Gemstones* where he stars opposite Danny McBride, John Goodman, and Edi Patterson, which was recently picked up for a second season. Devine released his first Netflix stand up special, *Best Time of Our Lives* in June 2019 and starred in CBS Films' *Lexi* alongside Alexandra Shipp in October 2019.

He can be seen alongside Betty Gilpin, Rebel Wilson, Priyanka Chopra, and Liam Hemsworth in *Isn't It Romantic* released in February 2019 and *Game Over, Man*, which he produced and starred in with Anders Holm and Blake Anderson. Devine is best known as a co-creator, writer, and star of the hit Comedy Central show *Workaholics*, which recently wrapped it's seventh and final season. Devine starred opposite Zac Efron in *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates*, a comedy based on the true story of brothers who attempted to find a wedding date by placing an ad on Craigslist. In 2017, Devine starred alongside Alexandra Daddario in *When We First Met*, which was released on Netflix. Devine can also be seen in Nancy Meyers' *The Intern* opposite Anne Hathaway and Robert DeNiro, where he plays the head of the interns in the Warner Bros' comedy about a seventy-year-old widower (DeNiro) who enters an intern program. He can also be seen in Sony's *Final Girls* opposite Nina Dobrev and Thomas Middleditch. Devine was recently seen in Universal's *Pitch Perfect 2*, where he returned as Bumper Allen, leader of the all-male campus singing champions.

Devine starred in the Universal comedy *Pitch Perfect*, which follows the competitive world of collegiate a cappella and also stars Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, and Rebel Wilson. He can also be seen in his scene-stealing recurring guest star role as a nanny in ABC's *Modern Family*.

His sketch-comedy group, Mail Order Comedy, has headlined sold-out comedy shows all over the nation. Devine acts, writes and produces all of Mail Order Comedy's material, including *Workaholics*.

Devine also performed in the "New Faces" show at the Montreal Comedy Festival, shortly after which he was cast opposite Jon Heder and Diane Keaton in the Warner Bros' movie *Mamma's Boy.* He appeared on Comedy Central's *Live at Gotham* and on TBS' *Frank TV* and ABC's *Better Off Ted.* Additionally, Devine was a recurring guest-star on ABC's *Samantha Who?* 

#### Laura Bell Bundy

Laura Bell Bundy is an actress, recording artist, songwriter, director, producer and natural birth giver. A native of Kentucky, it all started when she won pageant at age 5 and received a new car! At the age of 9 years old, Laura Bell had her stage debut at Radio City Music Hall. Since then she has originated the stage roles of Tina in *Ruthless* (Outer Critics/ Drama Desk Nominations), Amber in Broadway's *Hairspray*, Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde The Musical* (Tony Nomination), played Glinda in *Wicked* and recently received an Ovation nomination for her role of Charity in Reprise 2.0's *Sweet Charity*.

She's appeared in over 100 hundred episodes of television including roles on *Perfect Harmony*, *Good Behavior*, *American Gods*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *The Guest Book*, *Angie Tribeca*, *Idiotsitter*, *Hart of Dixie*, *Fuller House*, *Documentary Now*, *AJ* & *The Queen*, and *Anger Management*, and over a dozen television pilots that were not picked up! Films include *Dreamgirls*, *Jumanji*, *Life With Mikey*, *Adventures of Huck Finn*, *After The Reality*, and the award winning *Beauty Mark* among others.

"LBB" has toured in concert worldwide since 2010. She's penned hundreds of songs as an EMI/ Sony songwriter (2009-2016) including her Universal Records album, *Achin' & Shakin'* which debuted on Billboard's Top 5 Country Music Chart, and has a gold record in Norway. She was nominated for CMT Breakout Video for "Giddy On Up." Her Big Machine album *Another Piece Of Me* received rave reviews in 2015 with all four music videos written, directed, & produced by Bundy. Her music has been featured in several video games including *Just Dance 3, Just Dance Now*, and *Guitar Hero*.

LBBTV is Bundy's production company founded to forge her own creative path, launching successful sketch comedy web series *Cooter County & Skits-O-Frenic* with millions of views on YouTube including her comedy song "You Can't Pray The Gay Away." She has directed over 30 sketches and music videos including "Two Step", "I Am What I Am", "Kentucky Dirty", "That's What Angels Do" for her Big Machine record *Another Piece of Me*.

In 2018, Laura Bell wrote and directed music/comedy videos for a Barefoot Wine campaign featuring Anna Ferris, Tituss Burgess, Cecily Strong, Chrissie Fit, and Yvonne Orji.

LBB was the director/creator of *Double Standards* at The Town Hall, a sold-out concert for the advancement of women featuring Broadway stars, comedians, and pop artists including Sara Bareilles and Rosie O'Donnell. *Double Standards* was later founded as a charitable organization to benefit and empower women.

Laura Bell is the creator, composer and lyricist for Netflix's *Mashville*. She is currently developing *Girl Time* — a women's history sketch comedy show for Freeform as creator, writer and executive producer.

She is now married to a "good guy" and has a son to whom she is teaching that "being a man" is about having the courage to be vulnerable.

#### **Kevin Chamberlain**

Kevin grew up in Moorestown, NJ. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting from Rutgers University. In 2000, Kevin originated the role of Charlie in Claudia Shear's *Dirty Blonde* which earned him his first Tony Nomination and Drama Desk Nomination. The following year, he received his second Tony Nomination, Drama Desk and Grammy nomination for playing Horton the Elephant in *Seussical*. In 2010, he received his third Tony nomination for his portrayal of Uncle Fester in *The Addams Family*. Other Broadway credits include Amos Hart in *Chicago*, starring opposite Rita Wilson and Usher, *Triumph of Love* with Betty Buckley and F. Murray Abraham, *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* with Sam Waterson and *My Favorite Year*. In 2007, he starred in a revival of Terrance McNally's *The Ritz* opposite Rosie Perez, directed by Joe Mantello and most recently spent a year playing the Wizard in *Wicked* on Broadway. In 2013, Kevin fulfilled a lifelong dream - making his Carnegie Hall debut - singing with the New York Pops Symphony Orchestra.

In Los Angeles, Kevin has starred in productions of *Hair, Spamalot* and *West Side Story* at The Hollywood Bowl - and Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Pasadena Playhouse with MJ Rodriguez, Amber Riley and George Salazar.

His film credits include Charlie in *Die Hard With A Vengeance, In and Out, Suspect Zero, Taking Woodstock* directed by Ang Lee, *Lucky Number Slevin, The Road to Perdition* directed by Sam Mendes, *Christmas with the Kranks, Trick.* This December, Kevin can be seen on Netflix starring opposite Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman, Andrew Rannells and James Corden and Keegan Michael Key in a film of the Broadway musical *The Prom*, directed by Ryan Murphy.

Kevin's numerous TV credits include *Grace and Frankie, A Series of Unfortunate Events, Modern Family, Younger, Heroes, CSI:NY, Frasier, nip/tuck, Ed, Without A Trace, Kingpin, It's All Relative, According to Jim,* and *Law and Order: SVU*. Family audiences will recognize him as the loveable butler, Bertram - on Disney Channel's long running hit sitcom, *Jessie*. Kevin also directs for TV, film and theater.

#### Jesse Vargas

Jesse has worked internationally as a Music Director, Arranger, Orchestrator and Music Producer. His theater credits include: Broadway – *Glory Days* (Music SPV, Arrangements & Orchestrations); *The Ritz* (Orchestrations); Off-Broadway – *bare-A Pop Opera* (MD & Vocal Arrangements); Rooms – *A Rock Romance* (Music SPV, Arrangements & Orchestrations); *Shida* (MD, Add'l Arrangements); *Saved*; *bare-A Pop Opera* (2004); National Tour Music Direction – *Xanadu*; *Barry Manilow's Copacabana*; Other – *A Little More Alive* (Music SPV, Arr & Orch-Kansas City Rep); *DCM* (Music SPV, Arr & Orch-The Rio, Las Vegas); *White Noise* (MD, Arr & Orch-Chicago 2011); *One Hit Wonder* (Arr & Orch); *Peep Show* (Orchestrations-Vegas, 2009-2013); *Asphalt Beach* (Orchestrations); *Bright Lights, Big City; Seth Rudetsky's Broadway 101; Hair In Concert* (Orchestrations – Grammy Nominated Album); *Pippin* (Dance Arr.-2006 Tour). During his time living in NYC, Jesse also served as music director to Clay Aiken from 2004-2008, both conducting and arranging for many of his tours. Jesse was also the keyboardist/arranger/music supervisor of the funk/soul band Nick Blaemire and The Hustle, and the final music director/arranger for *The Midtown Men*, a 60's celebration performed by the original cast of Broadway's *Jersey Boys*.

He produced, arranged & orchestrated albums for Scott Alan, Kooman & Dimond, Daniel Reichard, Michael Longoria, and more. After 15 years in NYC, Jesse relocated to Los Angeles to take over as the Music Supervisor of the entertainment company For The Record Live! He supervised, arranged, and orchestrated FTR Live's productions of *Baz: Star Crossed Love* (The Venetian, Las Vegas); *The Brat Pack Live* (Norwegian Cruise Lines & Break Room 86); *Scorsese: American Crime Requiem* (The Wallis Annenberg); and the critically acclaimed *Love Actually Live!*, a mutli-media celebration of the hit holiday classic film, which will have an album release in the 2020 holiday season. Jesse produced and arranged music for Germany's EuroPark and cowrote a song for Disney's *Galaxy's Edge*. TV credits include: *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* (Orchestrations) and *Good Trouble* (Original Song "Fat Bitch" Music & Arrangement).

#### **Mark Hollmann**

Mark Hollmann won the Tony Award<sup>®</sup>, the Obie Award, and the National Broadway Theatre Award for his music and lyrics to *Urinetown: The Musical*, which went from the 1999 New York International Fringe Festival (FringeNYC) to receive 10 Tony Award<sup>®</sup> nominations and 11 Drama Desk Award nominations and win the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Drama League Award, and the Lucille Lortel Award for best musical. His other shows as composer/lyricist include *The Sting* (Paper Mill Playhouse), *ZM* (Village Theatre Beta Series), *Yeast Nation* (FringeNYC 2011) and *Bigfoot And Other Lost Souls* (Perseverance Theatre). For TV, he has written songs for the Disney Channel's *Johnny And The Sprites*. He is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) and the Dramatists Guild of America and has served on the council of the Dramatists Guild as well as on the Tony Award<sup>®</sup> Nominating Committee.

#### **Erin Quin Purcell**

A Graduate of the University of Iowa theatre program and Playwright's Workshop her credits include several collaborations with creative partner Greg Jackson including *Duet! A Romantic Fable* (Broadway Play Publishing) *The Fiona Apple Kwanzaa Explosion* (PSNBC) the musical *A Fish Story* (for which they received a grant from the Jonathan Larson Foundation) and the Russ Meyer inspired *Go-Go Kitty, Go!* (Outstanding Play, 2005 New York Fringe Festival). Their last project was a collaboration with Songwriter Hall of Fame's Holly Knight, whose hits included Tina Turner's "The Best", Pat Bennetar's "Invincible" and Patty Smythe's "Warrior" called: *Love is a battlefield*.

#### **Jay Reiss**

Jay Reiss is one of the creators of *The Twenty Fifth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, which won two Tony awards, and made his Broadway acting debut as the Bee's word pronouncer, Vice Principal Douglas Panch. He co-wrote the screenplay for the 2012 release, *The Oranges*, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival, and starred Hugh Laurie, Allison Janney, Oliver Platt and Catherine Keener. He wrote the documentary *New Wave: Dare To Be Different*, about legendary NY radio Station WLIR. It premiered at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival and can be seen on Showtime. Jay is a graduate of The Juilliard School's playwriting program.

#### **About PlayhouseLive**

PlayhouseLive breaks down the physical boundaries of theater walls and opens access to audiences all over the world. It is also integrated into the Pasadena Playhouse's Community at Play program which remove barriers to arts participation and ensures free and low-cost ways to engage with the arts. Distribution channels include a standalone website, iPhone and Android apps, AppleTV, Amazon FireTV, Roku, Chromecast, and AirPlay, among others. Powered by Pasadena Playhouse, PlayhouseLive programming will include new filmed productions, staged readings, and cabarets, as well as original series, documentaries, and theater classes. It is a home for a wide array of theatrical voices through new and revisited work. PlayhouseLive also serves as an online companion to the work that Pasadena Playhouse and partner theaters create on our stages once live theater performances resume.

#### **About Pasadena Playhouse**

Pasadena Playhouse is a place where people have gathered for 100 years to experience bold and important theater. It is one of the most prolific theaters in American history with a legacy of profound theatrical impact and courageous new work. In 1937, the Playhouse was officially recognized as the State Theater of California for its contribution and commitment to the dramatic arts. Today, it continues that tradition of excellence under the helm of Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman. Dedicated to enriching lives through theater, community programs and learning initiatives, Pasadena Playhouse is a living force in the community.

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