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

Pasadena Playhouse presents
The West Coast Premiere of
ANN

Written by and starring Holland Taylor

This limited engagement will mark Taylor’s farewell performances of the role she crafted to celebrate the legendary Ann Richards, former Governor of the state of Texas.

Directed by Benjamin Endsley Klein
March 22 – April 24, 2022

Tickets at pasadenaplayhouse.org or by calling 626-356-7529

February 23, 2022, Pasadena, CA | Pasadena Playhouse presents the West Coast premiere of **Ann** – written by and starring Holland Taylor and directed by Benjamin Endsley Klein from March 22 through April 24; the press opening is Saturday, March 26.

Tickets are available at pasadenaplayhouse.org, by phone at 626-356-7529, and at the box office at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101.

Tough as nails. Funny as hell. Emmy®-winning and Tony®-nominated Holland Taylor (*The Chair*, *Hollywood*, *Two and a Half Men*) brings the legendary Ann Richards to the stage for the last time in this dynamo Tony-nominated performance that captures the fire, heart, and brains of Ann herself. Ann’s down home charm and passion for fair play fuel her uncanny leadership and capacity for caring. Always ready with a laugh out loud zinger or a telling observation, this superstar in Texas politics ultimately became a national figure. A vividly remembered force of nature, Ann continues to inspire us still.

Holland Taylor (Playwright and Performer) has been a regular fixture of stage and screen for over four decades.

In 2020 she appeared in several notable projects. She received an Emmy nomination for her work in Ryan Murphy’s global hit limited series, *Hollywood*, opposite Patti LuPone, Dylan McDermott, Jim Parsons, and Darren Criss, which premiered on Netflix on May 1, 2020. Holland

plays veteran studio executive 'Ellen Kincaid', whom she imbues with the sort of charm, moxie, and quiet power necessary to combat the rigged Golden Age studio system that the series reimagines.

She also had a major supporting turn in the feature film, *Bill & Ted Face the Music*, the latest installment in the cult classic film series, in which she stars as 'The Great Leader' opposite Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter, reprising their iconic performances.

Next, in June 2020, PBS's *Great Performances* presented a filmed version of *Ann*. Holland wrote and starred in the production across the country and on Broadway, receiving a 2013 Tony® Award nomination for "Leading Actress in a Play". *Ann* was filmed on its Broadway set at Austin's Zach Theatre in Ann's home state of Texas. It currently streams internationally on BroadwayHD as well as on PBS' Passport. For *Ann*'s Broadway engagement at Lincoln Center's Beaumont Theatre, Holland also received Drama Desk and Drama League nominations, and the Outer Circle Critics Award for Best Solo Performance.

Currently, in an August 2021 release, Holland stars in *The Chair*, a Netflix series starring Sandra Oh and Jay Duplass, that tells the story of the newly appointed female Chair of the literature department in a "gray stone" university, and the various professors in her charge. Holland plays Professor Joan Hambling, a distinguished scholar putting up a fight at what seems like the end of the line. Bob Balaban, Nana Mensah, and David Morse star as fellow professors managing in the current embroiled climate of higher education. Holland also can be currently seen as Cybil Richards, the savvy chairwoman of the UBA board, on Apple TV+'s *The Morning Show* alongside Reese Witherspoon and Jennifer Aniston.

Holland won the Emmy® Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama Series in 1999 for her groundbreaking performance as 'Judge Roberta Kittleson' on ABC's legal drama *The Practice*. She has received a grand total of eight Emmy® nominations during her career, including a second for *The Practice*, one for her guest appearance on the comedy series *The Lot*, and her most recent nod for *Hollywood*. She received an incredible four nominations for her inspired work on CBS's #1 sitcom, *Two and a Half Men* on which she starred as 'Evelyn Harper' for its entire twelve-season run.

Her countless television credits also include the classic comedy *Bosom Buddies* starring Tom Hanks, the landmark series *The L Word*, NBC's sitcom *The Naked Truth*, and most recently David E. Kelley's *Mr. Mercedes*, starring Brendan Gleeson and based on a series of novels by Stephen King. She also starred in two auspicious Norman Lear projects: *The Powers That Be*, a short-lived but highly acclaimed political satire; as well as the NBC pilot, *Guess Who Died*, opposite Hector Elizondo.

Her memorable film roles include *Legally Blonde* opposite Reese Witherspoon, Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* starring Jim Carrey, *One Fine Day* with George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer, *George of the Jungle*, *Baby Mama*, starring Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, the classics *Romancing The Stone* and *Jewel of the Nile*, *To Die For*, starring Nicole Kidman, *Next Stop Wonderland*, *Happy Accidents*, *Spy Kids 2 & 3*, *Keeping the Faith*, *Gloria Bell*, starring Julianne Moore, and Jay Roach's *Bombshell*. Most recently, she co-starred in Netflix's hugely popular *To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You*.

A stage veteran, Holland most recently appeared on Broadway in 2016 opposite Nathan Lane and John Slattery in the Tony®-nominated revival of *The Front Page*; she made her Broadway debut in 1965 in the play *The Devils*. She also holds the distinction of having appeared in the historic Broadway flop, *Moose Murders*, having taken over for Eve Arden during previews a mere week before opening (and closing).

Her New York stage performances also include David Lindsay ABAIRE's dark comedy *Ripcord* at Manhattan Theatre Club; 'Bess' in *Breakfast with Less and Bess*; and the original productions of *Butley*, opposite Alan Bates, and A.R. Gurney's *The Cocktail Hour*. In Los Angeles, she has performed in *Kindertransport*, and played opposite Christopher Lloyd in Yasmina Reza's *The Unexpected Man* at the Geffen Playhouse. She has also narrated for the Los Angeles Philharmonic in Stravinsky's *Persephone* for Esa-Pekka Salonen, and for John Adams in Phillip Glass' *Akhmaten*. Maestro John Williams was the conductor as she delivered the spoken word in his *Harry Potter Suite* with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Holland was a dedicated student of Stella Adler, and has given talks about the work and cultural contribution of this great teacher. A proud Philadelphia native, she went to Westtown Friends School, and received her B.A. at Bennington College. In 2005, she became a student again, earning an M.A. from the University of Santa Monica.

Benjamin Endsley Klein (Director) was born in Charlotte, NC and is a proud alumnus of the University of Michigan. Director of *Ann* starring Tony Nominated actress Holland Taylor as Governor Ann Richards. Before playing Broadway's Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center, the production played Chicago and The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Selected credits as Director include *Pump Boys & Dinettes* and *First Date* at Pittsburgh CLO, *Bend in the Road* at New York Musical Theatre Festival (included in Huffington Post's "The Best Shows of 2013"), the world premiere musical *Hello Out There* at The Adirondack Theatre Festival, the East Coast Premiere of *Sick* by Zayd Dohrn at New Jersey Repertory, *Hairspray* at Charlottetown Festival (Prince Edward Island, Canada), *Notes to MariAnne* at the Eugene O'Neill Musical Theatre Conference, and *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* at The Old Globe in San Diego, CA. As Resident or Associate Director credits include *The Ferryman* (Tony Award Best Play), *Carousel*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Tony Award Best Play), *War Horse* at Lincoln Center Theater (Tony Award Best Play), *Love Never Dies* in the West End, *Hairspray* in the West End (Olivier Award for Best Musical), UK tour of *Hairspray*, Lincoln Center Theater's *The Coast of Utopia* (Tony Award Best Play), and Broadway, 1st National U.S. Tour, and regional productions of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. SDC Member.

ABOUT THE 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.

Calendar Listing for *Ann*

Ann

Written by and starring Holland Taylor

Directed by Benjamin Endsley Klein

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Venue: Pasadena Playhouse, 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Dates: Wednesday, March 22 to Sunday, April 24
Press opening Saturday, March 26 at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: Tickets start at \$30
Online -- pasadenaplayhouse.org
By phone at 626-356-7529
In person -- Pasadena Playhouse Box Office, located at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Information: For more information on all productions at Pasadena Playhouse visit pasadenaplayhouse.org.

Performance Schedule: Wednesday-Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.; Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Additional performance on Tuesday, March 22 at 8:00 p.m.
No performance Sunday, March 27
Sunday, April 24 closing night performance at 7:00 p.m.