

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DRIVING MISS DAISY

By Alfred Uhry

September 26 – October 19, 2008

(Eustis, FL)... Driving Miss Daisy opens Friday, September 26, 2008 and runs four weekends closing October 19, 2008 at the historic State theatre in downtown Eustis. This Pulitzer Prize winning production launches Bay Street Players into its 34th Season.

The play begins in 1948 Atlanta when an independent, aging Jewish widow reluctantly surrenders the driver's seat to Hoke Coburn, a proud, soft-spoken black man and a Southern Baptist. Over the course of 25 years, Hoke becomes not only her loyal chauffeur, but against all odds, her best friend. The show has been hailed as a smash hit comedy and it has earned a Pulitzer Prize, an Academy Award (starring Jessica Tandy, Morgan Freeman and Dan Aykroyd), and an Obie Award. Artistic Director David Clevinger, who also directed and designed the show, assembled a stellar cast and production team including: William Dumas as Lighting Designer, and Bonnie Swanson as Costume Designer. Driving Miss Daisy, written by Alfred Uhry, stars Michael Morman, Francie Moon, and Glen Howard.

Michael Morman (Hoke Colburn) has over twenty five years of entertainment experience performing in the Central Florida region. After a 16 year hiatus from the stage, Michael recently participated in an ensemble reading of The Ghosts of Sleepy Hollow at the Playfest in Orlando. He returns to the stage to recreate Hoke, the last role he performed before his 16 year break. Francie Moon (Daisy Werthan), recently received the Dolly Award for Best Actress in a Play for her portrayal of Annie Sullivan in last season's The Miracle Worker at Bay Street Players. Glen Howard (Boolie Werthan) has appeared in numerous productions in Central Florida, and he was last seen at Bay Street Players in the hit musical, Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?

Driving Miss Daisy runs September 26-October 19, 2008. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings performances begin at 8:00 p.m. Sunday matinee performances begin at 2:30 p.m. Also, there is one Wednesday performance on October 15 at 8:00p.m., and one Saturday matinee performance on October 18 at 2:30 p.m. Patrons attending the opening night production on September 26 are invited to a champagne reception with the cast following the performance.

Tickets are \$18.00 except on Wednesday or Thursday when they are \$15.00. Call the Box Office at 352.357.7777 or visit www.baystreetplayers.org to purchase tickets online. Group discounts, season tickets and gift certificates are available. The Box Office is located at the historic State Theatre, 109 N. Bay Street, Eustis and it is open from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Driving Miss Daisy is sponsored in part by Brown and Brown Insurance of Leesburg and United Arts of Central Florida.

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