



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2009

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***Presenting- Rodgers & Hammerstein's Classic Musical
OKLAHOMA!***

July 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, August 1 at 8PM

July 12, 19, 26, August 1, 2 at 2:30PM

(Eustis, FL)... Bay Street Players opens Rodgers & Hammerstein's beloved musical, *Oklahoma!* July 10, 2009. The final production in BSP's award-winning 2008-2009 season, *Oklahoma!* will run four weeks through August 2, 2009 at the historic State Theatre in downtown Eustis. The production is sponsored by **Bowen, Radson, Schroth, PA** and **United Arts of Central Florida**.

Set in a Western Indian territory just after the turn-of-the-century, the high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provide the colorful background for this Rodgers & Hammerstein classic American love story. Although the road to true love is as bumpy as a surrey ride down a country road, this is one show that 'You Just Can't Say No' to!

With music by Richard Rodgers and Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, *Oklahoma!* is the product of their first collaboration. The musical is based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs. Favorite songs include: "Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin'", "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top", "I Cain't Say No", "People Will Say We're In Love", and "Oklahoma".

Artistic Director **David Clevinger** designed and directed the production. His team includes: **David Brown**, Musical Director; **William Dumas**, Lighting Designer; **Bonnie Swanson**, Costume Designer; **Tara Whitman**, Choreographer, and a cadre of community volunteers.

The cast features talent from all over Central Florida and includes: **Joel Warren** (*Curly*), **Ashley Willsey** (*Laurey*), **Rob Mobley** (*Will Parker*), **Whitney Abell** (*Ado Annie Carnes*), **James Meadows** (*Jud Fry*), **Ben Rush** (*Ali Hakim*) and **Deborah J. Carpenter** (*Aunt Eller*).

Oklahoma! opens July 10 and closes August 2. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday performances begin at 8:00 p.m. Sunday matinee performances begin at 2:30 p.m. Also, there is one Wednesday performance on July 29 at 8:00p.m., and one Saturday matinee performance on August 1 at 2:30 p.m. Patrons attending the opening night production on July 10 are invited to a complimentary reception with the cast following the performance at *Olivia's* cafe.

Tickets are \$18.00 except on Wednesday or Thursday when they are \$15.00. For reservations, call the Box Office at 352.357.7777 or visit www.baystreetplayers.org to purchase tickets online. Group discounts, gift certificates and 2009-2010 Season Tickets are available. Located at 109 N. Bay Street, Eustis, the Box Office hours are: 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 11:00a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Saturday performance days.

Bay Street Players is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit community theatre celebrating 34 seasons of live theatre in the historic 1922 State Theatre in downtown Eustis.

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