

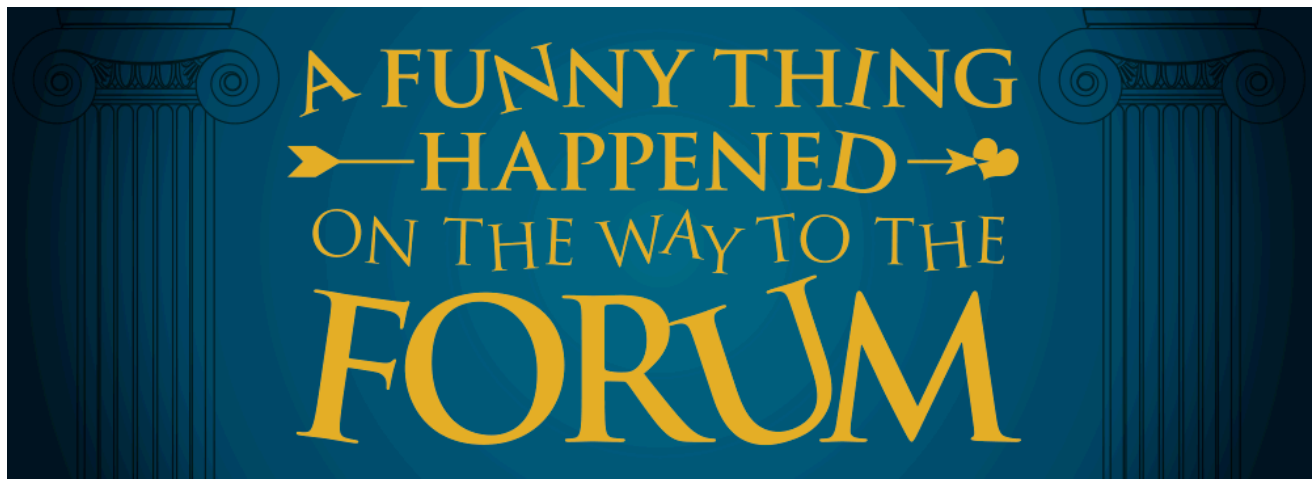
BROADWAY ROSE THEATRE COMPANY

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Broadway Rose Theatre Presents Broadway's Favorite Musical Farce



Tigard, OR – Broadway Rose Theatre Company continues its 25th anniversary season with ***A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum***, playing at the **Deb Fennell Auditorium**. Broadway's favorite musical farce is light, fast-paced, irreverent, and one of the funniest musicals ever written. Preview performance is Thursday, August 4 with opening night on **Friday, August 5**, and performances continuing through **August 21, 2016**. Evening performances are Thursday through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays, and on Saturdays, August 13 and 20. Performances are held at the Deb Fennell Auditorium located at 9000 SW Durham Road in Tigard. **Tickets are priced from \$30 to \$48** for adults (depending on date), with discounts available for groups and youth. For a full listing of show performances or to order tickets visit www.broadwayrose.org, call 503.620.5262, or visit the box office at 12850 SW Grant Ave., Tigard.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Stephen Sondheim's uproarious tribute to ancient Roman theatre and classic vaudeville, follows crafty slave Pseudolus as he seeks to win his freedom by helping his hapless master, Hero, woo the courtesan next door – who has, unfortunately, been promised to another suitor. A five-time Tony Award winner (including Best Musical and Best Book) filled with mistaken identities, clever wordplay, and slamming doors, Broadway's favorite musical farce has stood the test of time, combining

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slapstick, bawdy humor with witty, upbeat music to joyously deliver “something for everyone, a comedy tonight!”

“But don’t let the silliness fool you,” says director Abe Reybold. “The craft applied and care taken to create this nugget of escapism was provided by many of our country’s greatest theatre artists. Hal Prince, Jerome Robbins, George Abbott, Jack Cole, Zero Mostel, Burt Shevelove, and Larry Gelbart were all connected to the show. And it has the distinction of being the first musical on Broadway in which Stephen Sondheim wrote both the music and lyrics.”

The cast of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* features Dan Murphy (Pseudolus), Ethan Crystal (Hero), Kaitlyn Sage (Philia), Joe Theissen (Hysterium), Mike Dederian (Senex), Emily Sahler (Domina), Colin Wood (Miles Gloriosus), Norman Wilson (Lycus), and Kevin-Michael Moore (Erronius).

Based on the plays of Plautus, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* was written by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The Broadway Rose production is directed and choreographed by Abe Reybold, with music direction from Eric Nordin. The creative team includes Sean O’Skea (Set Designer), Elizabeth Poindexter (Costume Designer), Gene Dent (Lighting Designer), Brian Moen (Sound Designer), Jim Crino (Prop Designer), Dan Rosendahl (Wig Designer), and Jessica Junor (Production Stage Manager).

Broadway Rose’s 2016 season is funded in part by the **Regional Arts & Culture Council**, the **Oregon Arts Commission**, and the **City of Tigard**. The Title Sponsor is **Pearson Financial Group**. **PavelComm** is the Production Sponsor, and **The Oregonian** is the Media Sponsor.

BROADWAY ROSE THEATRE COMPANY, a nonprofit arts organization, is Oregon’s premier musical theatre company. Under the artistic direction of Sharon Maroney, Broadway Rose has been successfully producing musical theatre in Tigard since 1992 and plays an important role in enriching the community’s cultural arts. Committed to increasing opportunities for Oregonians to participate in the arts and working to retain Portland’s talent pool and attract new talent to the area, Broadway Rose is resolved to keeping live theatre affordable and make its productions accessible to all ages and members of the community.

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