

**Date:** January 12, 2015

**To:** Bruce Glasscock, City Manager

**From:** Amy Fortenberry, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Subject:** Tier 1 Resident Theater Company

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The Courtyard Theater was built to support Community Theater and was the home of Plano Repertory Theater (PRT) for five production seasons. PRT has since dissolved and the Courtyard Theater has operated largely as a 3rd-party rental facility, occasionally housing a small selection of theatrical plays and musicals. This structure does not provide the citizens of Plano with a consistent place to experience quality live theatrical performances, nor does it wholly meet the true purpose of Courtyard Theater: to facilitate seasonal production of contemporary and popular theatrical plays and musicals.

In order to maximize the utility of Courtyard Theater, and with the support of City of Plano leadership, Plano Stages issued a "Call for Artists," inviting area theater companies to submit proposals to become the Tier 1 Resident Theater Company. The proposals were to include:

- An overview of the company's history and current structure
- Examples of past seasons as well as proposed future season selections
- Outline of past operational budgets and proposed future budgets
- Past critical reception and references from previous venues

The "Call for Artists" generated three submittals from local theatrical companies. A selection committee was formed consisting of City of Plano and PISD representatives to ensure a fair selection process. The committee conducted a thorough review and interview protocol. While all three submittals met the criteria, the committee has identified the best company to meet the goal of bringing quality contemporary and popular theatrical plays and musical back to Courtyard Theater.

It is the recommendation of the selection committee that the City of Plano enter into a negotiated agreement with Repertory Company Theatre (RCT) to become the Courtyard Theater's Tier-1 resident client.

The negotiated agreement will address the following:

- Terms re: Resident Client's responsibility for facility rental fees and operational expenses;
- Quantity and priority of dates for the Courtyard Theater calendar
- Length of the agreement (5-year agreement is recommended) and review/renewal periods;
- City's grant funding processes