



AMERICAN  
MUSICAL  
THEATRE  
SAN JOSE

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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **American Musical Theatre of San Jose Opens its 2008/2009 Season with the Uproarious Musical Comedy, *The Full Monty*, September 16-28, 2008**

**San Jose, CA; August 5, 2008:** It's the crowd-pleasing musical comedy about family, friendship and so much more. It's ***The Full Monty***. **American Musical Theatre of San Jose** opens its 74<sup>th</sup> Season with the acclaimed musical September 16 at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts. The show runs through September 28. The production is sponsored by **Hallmark Construction** and **jetBlue Airways**.

A group of unemployed steelworkers from Buffalo, New York, frustrated with life, women, and lack of work decide that regardless of looks, ability or anything else, they are going to replenish their empty wallets and boost their morale by becoming the best Chippendale-like dancers Buffalo has ever seen. These guys are hardly what you would think of as buff, and few can even dance but they simply take these problems in stride. These guys will have you screeching with laughter. As they work through various insecurities, they discover renewed self-esteem and the importance of friendship. Based on the popular Academy Award<sup>®</sup> nominee for Best Picture, this rousing musical comedy with book by **Terrence McNally** (*Ragtime*, *Master Class*) and music and lyrics by **David Yazbek** (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*) received 10 Tony Award<sup>®</sup> nominations including Best Musical during its Broadway run. **This production features adult language and mature themes and is recommended for ages 16 and up.**

After directing AMTSJ's acclaimed productions of *West Side Story*, *The King and I* and *Guys and Dolls*, **Stephen Bourneuf** returns to direct and choreograph ***The Full Monty***. Recently, Bourneuf won national recognition as associate choreographer on NBC's highly rated "Clash of the Choirs." Recent directing credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* for Stages St.

Louis and *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* for Carousel Dinner Theatre. **Barbara Day Turner** has served as musical director for more than 100 opera and musical theatre productions including AMTSJ's *The King and I* and *West Side Story*. She is the founder/director of the San Jose Chamber Orchestra and conducts regularly for Utah Festival Opera.

**Jim Newman** makes his AMTSJ debut in the leading role of Jerry. A Broadway veteran, Newman most recently appeared alongside David Hyde Pierce in the hit *Curtains*, as well as working with Liza Minnelli in *Minnelli on Minnelli*. Other New York appearances include *Sunset Boulevard*, *Steel Pier* and *The Who's Tommy*. **Eric Leviton** plays Dave, Jerry's lifelong best friend. Leviton has performed in the national tours of *Chicago*, *Seussical the Musical* (with Cathy Rigby) and *Damn Yankees* (with Jerry Lewis). **Alan Swadener**, who plays Malcolm, has toured in the national companies of *The Full Monty* and *RENT*. **David Gunderman** plays Harold. He has appeared on Broadway in *Meet Me in St. Louis* and *A Change in the Heir*. **Ian Leonard**, who plays Ethan, has toured in *The Sound of Music* and appeared at TheatreWorks in *My Antonia* and *Dessa Rose*. **Keith Tyrone** plays the feisty Horse. Tyrone's Broadway credits include *Once on this Island* and *Legs Diamond*. The women in the lives of these men include **Trisha Rapier** as Harold's wife, Vicki; **Sheri Sanders** as Georgie, Dave's wife; and **Zoe Vonder Haar** as Jeanette, the show-biz savvy musical director. Rapier has appeared on Broadway in *The Boy from Oz*, Sanders has toured in *Urinetown* and Vonder Haar has toured with *A Chorus Line* and worked regionally including numerous shows for Stages St. Louis. **Tony Sinclair** (Chip in AMTSJ's production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*) plays Nathan, Jerry's loyal son.

The ensemble includes **Kikau Alvaro**, **Noel Anthony**, **Tami Dahbura**, **Lynda DiVito**, **Richard Frederick**, **David Gregory**, **Berwick Haynes**, **Rayna Hickman**,

**Beau Hirshfield, Michael Mendez, Shanon Orrock, Jessica Raaum and Donna Rapa-Olsen.**

The production team includes scenic consultant **Jean-Francois Revon**, costume designer **Cathleen Edwards**, lighting designer **Derek Duarte**, sound designer **Hage van Dijk**, and hair and make-up designer **Sharon Ridge**. Casting has been provided by **Gayle Seay & Scott Wojcik** for **Rosen & Wojcik Casting**. **Heath Belden** is the Production Stage Manager.

***The Full Monty*** will play the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd. September 16-28. The performance schedule is as follows: Tuesday-Saturday evenings at 8pm, Sunday evening at 6:30pm, Saturday matinee at 2pm and Sunday matinee at 1pm.

Single tickets for ***The Full Monty*** range in price from **\$20-\$75.00**. For tickets call **1.888.455.SHOW (7469)** or purchase online at **www.amtsj.org**. Group Sales (10 or more) are available by calling **408.453.1523** or **408.453.1574** or by e-mail: **groupsales@amtsj.org**.

Now in its 74<sup>th</sup> year, AMTSJ's 2008/2009 Subscription Season includes the Bay Area premiere of the revised Rodgers & Hammerstein romantic musical comedy ***Flower Drum Song***, October 28-November 9, 2008, the West Coast premiere of the spectacular family musical adventure **TARZAN<sup>®</sup>**, The Stage Musical, Based on the Disney Film, February 10-22, 2009 and the Tony Award<sup>®</sup>-winning, tap-dancing sensation **42<sup>nd</sup> Street**, April 14-26, 2009. Subscribers are not only first in line for priority seating, but are able to purchase tickets to special add-on shows before the public such as a pair of Tony Award<sup>®</sup> winners: the sizzling Best Revival of a Musical, **Chicago**, January 14-18, 2009 and the hilarious and irreverent Best Musical **Avenue Q**, March 4-8, 2009. To subscribe, please call

the box office at **1.888.455.SHOW** (Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm) or visit the website at **www.amtsj.org**.

As of this release AMTSJ's 2008/2009 Season Sponsors include Applied Materials, Citti's Florist, official florist of AMTSJ; City of San Jose, Doubletree Hotel, Equity Office Management, Hallmark Construction, jetBlue Airways, the official airline of AMTSJ; Larkspur Landing, the official hotel of AMTSJ casts and crew; Moreno & Associates, Paolo's Restaurant, official restaurant of AMTSJ; Target, Theatre Publications, and Wells Fargo Bank.

AMTSJ is proud to be a national leader in Accessibility Services and welcomes the opportunity to entertain Accessibility patrons with sign language-interpreted, audio-described and open captioning performances. Contact D.J. Zwicker-Sobrepeña, Director of Education & Outreach, at 408.453.1533 or email [education-outreach@amtsj.org](mailto:education-outreach@amtsj.org) for additional information and performance schedules.

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**FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: American Musical Theatre of San Jose presents THE FULL MONTY**

**WHAT:** Based on the Academy Award® nominee for Best Picture, ***The Full Monty*** follows a group of unemployed steelworkers who are frustrated by life, women, and lack of work. To ease their financial woes, they decide, regardless of their looks, to form a Chippendale-like dance troupe. These guys are hardly buff, and few can even dance but their sheer determination to succeed will have the audience howling with laughter. Adult language/mature themes. Ages 16 & up

**WHEN:** Opens: Tues. Sept. 16 (press night)/Closes: Sun. Sept. 28

**TIMES:** Tues-Sat @ 8pm/Sat @ 2pm/Sun @ 1pm & 6:30pm

**WHERE:** San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

255 Almaden Blvd. San Jose

**TICKETS/INFO:** Phone: 1.888.455.SHOW (7469) web: [www.amtsj.org](http://www.amtsj.org)

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**PRICES:** \$20-\$75