



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 25, 2010

## AMERICA'S FAVORITE FAMILY MUSICAL

# CATS

## RETURNS TO COLUMBUS FOR FIVE PERFORMANCES ONLY

What began as a musical about cats after Andrew Lloyd Webber picked up a book of poems in an airport bookshop has become one of the longest running shows in Broadway history. Winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, *CATS* features 20 of Andrew Lloyd Webber's timeless melodies, including the hit song "Memory."

CAPA and Broadway Across America present *CATS* at the Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.) November 19-21. Show times are Friday, November 19, at 8pm; Saturday, November 20, at 2pm & 8pm; and Sunday, November 21, at 1pm and 6:30pm. Tickets start at \$22.50 and can be purchased at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To purchase by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. The Ohio Theatre Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday from 9 am - 5 pm and Saturday from 10 am - 2 pm.

Produced by CATS-Eye, LLC, the national tour of *CATS* is the only production in North America sanctioned by Andrew Lloyd Webber. With original direction by Trevor Nunn and choreography by Gillian Lynne, this is the *CATS* credited with the British invasion of Broadway. The national tour of *CATS* recently celebrated its 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, holding its place as the longest continuously touring Broadway musical in history.

On May 11, 1981, *CATS* opened at the New London Theatre in the West End. Eight years later, it celebrated its first important milestone—after 3,358 performances, *CATS* became the longest-running musical in the history of British theatre. *CATS* played its final performance on its 21st birthday, May 11, 2002.

*CATS* opened on Broadway October 7, 1982, at the Winter Garden Theatre in New York City and continued to live up to its motto "Now and Forever." On June 19, 1997, *CATS* became the longest-running musical on Broadway. It ended its 18-year run on September 10, 2000, with 7,485 performances. That record was broken by *The Phantom of the Opera* on January 9, 2006, when *Phantom* celebrated its 7,486<sup>th</sup> curtain.

Based on T.S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, *CATS* won seven 1983 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical, Best Lighting, and Best Costumes.

In October of 1991, *CATS* became the longest continuously touring show in American theatre history. Five continents, 26 countries, more than 8.5 million audience members, and 27 years later, *CATS* is still America's most loved family musical. Celebrating not only 27 years but the birth of the musical spectacular, *CATS* is still revolutionary and awe inspiring.

### **CALENDAR LISTING**

**CAPA and Broadway Across America present *CATS***

**Friday, November 19, 8pm**

**Saturday, November 20, 2pm & 8pm**

**Sunday, November 21, 1pm & 6:30pm**

**Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)**

There's no better way to introduce your family to the wonders of live theater than with the magic, the mystery, the memory of *CATS*. Winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, *CATS* features 20 of Andrew Lloyd Webber's timeless melodies, including the hit song "Memory."

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The **Ohio Arts Council** helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the support of **the Robert Bartels, William C. and Naoma W. Denison, and Preston Davis Funds of The Columbus Foundation**, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973.

#### **About CAPA**

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Valentine Theatre (Toledo, OH), and the Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), **CAPA** is a non-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment. For more information, visit [www.capa.com](http://www.capa.com).

#### **About Broadway Across America**

Broadway Across America is owned and operated by British theatre producer John Gore (CEO) and entertainment industry veteran Thomas B. McGrath (Chairman). Broadway Across America presents first-class, touring Broadway musicals and plays, family productions, and other live events throughout a network of 43 North American cities. Broadway Across America is also dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse live theatre for productions on Broadway, across America, and throughout the world. Broadway Across America most recently produced the Broadway productions of *HAIR*, *WEST SIDE STORY*, and Irving Berlin's *WHITE CHRISTMAS*. Upcoming productions include *MINSKY'S*, *PROMISES*, *PROMISES*, *MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET*, and the West End production of *BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S*. Touring productions include Nickelodeon's *STORYTIME ADVENTURES* featuring Dora the Explorer, and *DREAMGIRLS*. For more information or to purchase tickets through an authorized agent, go to [www.BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com](http://www.BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com).

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