



7060 Hollywood Blvd.  
8th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
p 323 822 4800  
f 323 822 4880

150 West 30th Street  
19th Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
p 212 334 0333  
f 212 334 8444

Pall Mall Deposit  
124-128 Barlby Road  
Unit 27  
London, UK W10 6BL  
p +44 20 3008 6050  
f +44 20 3008 6054

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Press Contacts:**

Chris Kanarick: [CKanarick@id-pr.com](mailto:CKanarick@id-pr.com)  
Jill Ormand: [JOrmand@id-pr.com](mailto:JOrmand@id-pr.com)

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS**  
**TO BE HOSTED BY AASIF MANDVI AND MAURA TIERNEY**  
**SUNDAY MAY 5, 2013 AT NYU SKIRBALL CENTER**

*Todd Haimes to be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award*  
*Neil LaBute to be inducted onto famed Playwrights' Sidewalk*

**New York, NY (March 4, 2013)** – The Off-Broadway League today announced details for the 2013 Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway. The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Lortel Awards will be handed out on Sunday, May 5, 2013 at NYU Skirball Center, beginning at 7:00pm EST. The program will be hosted by acclaimed stage and screen actors Aasif Mandvi and Maura Tierney. Todd Haimes will be presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award and Neil LaBute will be inducted onto the Lucille Lortel Theatre's Playwrights' Sidewalk.

**Important Dates**

March 31, 2013	2012 – 2013 Off-Broadway season ends
April 3, 2013	Nomination Meeting; Nominees announced via press release at 5PM EST
April 4, 2013	Public tickets go on sale
April 22, 2013	Nominees Cocktail Reception
May 5, 2013	Award Ceremony at NYU Skirball Center

Members of the general public are welcome to view the 7:00pm ceremony. Public tickets are \$75.00 and will be available starting April 4, 2013, via phone at 212.352.3101, online at [www.nyuskirball.org](http://www.nyuskirball.org) and in person at the Skirball Center's Shagan Box Office, at 556 LaGuardia (Tuesday – Sunday from 12 – 6pm).

The Off-Broadway League's Lortel Awards Producing & Administration Committee (Terry Byrne, Denise Cooper, Margaret Cotter, George Forbes, Melanie Herman, Catherine Russell and Steven Showalter) produces the Lortel Awards Ceremony. Acclaimed writer and director Michael Heitzman returns to direct the Lortel Awards for the fourth consecutive year. The Lucille Lortel Awards is produced by special arrangement with the Lucille Lortel Foundation. Additional support provided by Theatre Development Fund.

Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, the Lucille Lortel Foundation, in addition to theatre journalists and academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee.

For updates and news about the ceremony, hosts, presenters and media releases, visit [www.LortelAwards.org](http://www.LortelAwards.org). Follow the Lortel Awards on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/LortelAwards> and become a fan on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/LortelAwards>.

**ABOUT OUR HOSTS**

**Aasif Mandvi** recently starred as the lead in the Lincoln Center Theater production of *Disgraced*, earning great critical acclaim. He currently appears as a correspondent on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and recently completed work on the Shawn Levy feature, *The Internship*, starring alongside Will Ferrell, Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn. Mandvi is the recipient of the 1999 OBIE Award for his critically acclaimed play, *Sakina's Restaurant*, which was conceived and performed by Mandvi as a one man show and served as the inspiration for his feature film, *Today's Special*, which he co-wrote and stars

in. Additional New York stage credits include the Broadway revival of *Oklahoma!*, *Homebody/Kabul* and *suBurbia*. Mandvi's film credits include *Airbender*, *The Proposal*, *Ghost Town*, *Music and Lyrics*, *Spider-Man 2*, *Ruby Sparks* and *Margin Call*. Television credits include *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Sex and the City*, *Sleeper Cell*, *The Sopranos*, *Law & Order* and *ER*.

Emmy-nominated actress, **Maura Tierney**, is perhaps best known for her role on the top-rated NBC series, *ER*, on which she starred for 8 seasons. She can currently be seen in a recurring role on the hit series, *The Good Wife*. Tierney is set to make her Broadway debut starring opposite Tom Hanks in Nora Ephron's final play, *Lucky Guy*, opening April 1 at the Broadhurst Theatre. In 2006, she starred in the Off-Broadway production of Neil LaBute's *Some Girl(s)* at the Lucille Lortel Theatre. Additional stage credits include Nicky Silver's *Three Changes* and, most recently, The Wooster Group's *North Atlantic*, opposite Frances McDormand. She also starred in Yasmina Reza's award winning *God of Carnage* at the prestigious Gate Theater in Dublin. On the big screen, Tierney earned critical praise for her starring roles in films such as *Primary Colors*, *Liar Liar*, opposite Jim Carrey, the Christopher Nolan directed *Insomnia*, opposite Al Pacino and Robin Williams and *Primal Fear*. Additional film credits include *Nature Calls*, *Baby Mama*, *Semi-Pro* and *Instinct*. Television credits include *Rescue Me*, *The Whole Truth* and the beloved comedy *Newsradio*.

### **ABOUT OUR HONOREES**

This year's recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award is **Todd Haimes**, who has been Artistic Director of the Roundabout Theatre Company since July 1, 1990. From 1983 to 1990, Mr. Haimes served as the theatre's Executive Director, overseeing the company's finances, marketing and fundraising. He is a member of the Board of Directors of A.R.T./New York and has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Yale School of Organization and Management. He has taught Theatre Administration in the Graduate Programs at the Yale School of Drama and Brooklyn College. He is a frequent lecturer and consultant.

Critically acclaimed playwright, screenwriter and director, **Neil LaBute** will be honored with an induction onto the famed Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre. Mr. LaBute will next direct MCC Theater's production of his play, *Reasons to Be Happy* this May. A "companion piece" to his savage comedy, *reasons to be pretty*, the play features the same four characters in different romantic pairings. LaBute's MCC production of *reasons to be pretty* debuted in 2008 at the Lucille Lortel Theatre before moving to Broadway the following year and earning three Tony® Award nominations. The play was billed as the third in a trilogy that included *The Shape of Things* and *Fat Pig*, all of which centered on the subject of physical beauty. His production of *The Mercy Seat* was among the first major theatrical responses to the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks and was both a critically acclaimed and a commercial success – selling out the length of its run. In film, LaBute directed Morgan Freeman, Renée Zellweger, Chris Rock and Greg Kinnear in the dark comedy *Nurse Betty* and also wrote and directed *In the Company of Men*, *Your Friends & Neighbors* and *Possession*, among others.

### **ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS**

The Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway were created in 1985 by the Off-Broadway League. The Lortel Awards recognize excellence Off-Broadway by honoring the invaluable contribution of artists to the theatre community. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, the Lucille Lortel Foundation in addition to theatre journalists and academics and other Off-Broadway professionals serve on the Voting Committee.

The awards may be given in the following categories: Play, Musical, Solo Show, Revival, Alternative Theatrical Experience, Director, Choreographer, Lead Actor and Actress, Featured Actor and Actress, Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Design. The following honorary awards may also be given: Lifetime Achievement, Body of Work (awarded to an institution), the Edith Oliver Award for Sustained Excellence, Service to Off-Broadway Award and induction onto the Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre in New York City. For more information, please see [www.LortelAwards.org](http://www.LortelAwards.org).

### **ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL FOUNDATION**

Lucille Lortel Foundation was created by Lucille Lortel to foster excellence and diversity in the theatre, as well as to faithfully preserve the rich history and support the continued prosperity of Off-Broadway. The Foundation has several major programs, including its general operating support program that has provided millions of dollars to small to mid-size theatres in New York City, universities, and theatre service organizations. The Foundation created and maintains the Internet Off-Broadway Data Base ([www.IOBDB.com](http://www.IOBDB.com)). For a listing of all of the Foundation's programs, previous Lortel Award nominees and recipients, information on the Lucille Lortel Theatre and Playwrights' Sidewalk, and much more, please visit [www.lortel.org](http://www.lortel.org).

### **ABOUT NYU SKIRBALL CENTER**

The Jack H. Skirball Center for the Performing Arts is the premier venue for the presentation of cultural and performing arts events for New York University and lower Manhattan. Led by executive producer Jay Oliva (President Emeritus, NYU) and senior director Michael Harrington, the programs of the Skirball Center reflect NYU's mission as an international center of scholarship, defined by excellence and innovation and shaped by an intellectually rich and diverse environment. A vital aspect of the Center's mission is to build young adult audiences for the future of live performance. [www.nyuskirball.org](http://www.nyuskirball.org).

### **ABOUT THEATRE DEVELOPMENT FUND (TDF)**

THEATRE DEVELOPMENT FUND was created in the conviction that the live theatrical arts afford a unique expression of the human condition that must be sustained and nurtured. It is dedicated to developing diverse audiences for live theatre and dance, and strengthening the performing arts community in New York City. Since 1968, TDF's programs have provided over 83 million people with access to performances at affordable prices and have returned over \$2.2 billion to thousands of productions. Best known for its TKTS Discount Booths (now in its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service in Times Square), TDF's membership, outreach, access (including its newly formed Autism Theatre Initiative) and education programs — as well as its Costume Collection — have introduced thousands of people to the theatre and helped make the unique experience of theatre available to everyone, including students and people with disabilities. Recent TDF honors include a 2011 Mayor's Award for Arts and Culture, a 2012 Tony Honor for Excellence for its Open Doors Arts Education Program and a 2012 New York Innovative Theatre Award for its support of the off-Off Broadway community. <http://www.tdf.org>.

###