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29th ANNUAL LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Here Lies Love and Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812
Lead Nominations with 11 Each, *Good Person of Szechwan* Most Nominated Play with 5
Playwright *Richard Nelson* to be inducted onto the *Playwrights' Sidewalk*

New York, NY (April 1, 2014) – The Off-Broadway League today announced nominations in 18 categories and one special award for the 2014 Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway. The Lortel Awards will be handed out on Sunday, May 4, 2014 at NYU Skirball Center beginning at 7:00pm EST, and hosted by acclaimed husband and wife actors and comedians, **Megan Mullally** and **Nick Offerman**. This year's event will once again benefit The Actors Fund.

This year's nominations saw a record-breaking eleven nominations go to both The Public Theater's *Here Lies Love* and critically praised musical *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*. The most nominations earned previously was eight each for *Urinetown* in 2002 and *Abigail's Party* in 2006.

This year **Richard Nelson** will be honored with induction onto the famed Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the Lucille Lortel Theatre. Nelson has had a long and illustrious career both on Broadway and Off, and previously won a Lortel Award in 2000 for Outstanding Musical for *James Joyce's The Dead*. The Playwrights' Sidewalk is New York's only permanent monument to the great Playwrights whose work has been performed Off-Broadway.

Today's honorees join previously announced special award recipient **Robyn Goodman**, who will be presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

A cocktail reception honoring the nominees will take place on Monday, April 21, from 5:00 – 7:00pm EST at The Pershing Square Signature Center, 480 W. 42nd Street (between 9th & 10th Aves).

The Off-Broadway League's Lortel Awards Producing & Administration Committee (Terry Byrne, Dean Carpenter, Denise Cooper, Margaret Cotter, George Forbes, Michael Page, Catherine Russell and Steven Showalter) produces the Lortel Awards ceremony. Acclaimed writer/director Michael Heitzman returns to direct the Lortel Awards for the fifth 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.

Members of the general public are again welcome to view the 7:00pm ceremony. Public tickets are \$75.00 and will be available starting April 2, 2014, via phone at 212.352.3101, online at www.nyuskirball.org and in person at the Skirball Center's Shagan Box Office (556 LaGuardia) from Tuesday – Sunday from 12 – 6pm.

For updates and news about the ceremony, hosts, presents and media releases, visit www.LortelAwards.org. Follow the Lortel Awards on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/LortelAwards> and like the awards on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/LortelAwards.com>.

2014 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Outstanding Play

Bad Jews

Produced by Roundabout Theatre Company
Written by Joshua Harmon

Domesticated

Produced by Lincoln Center Theater
Written by Bruce Norris

The Night Alive

Produced by Atlantic Theater Company, Originally Produced by the Donmar Warehouse
Written by Conor McPherson

The Open House

Produced by Signature Theatre
Written by Will Eno

Outstanding Musical

Fun Home

Produced by The Public Theater
Music by Jeanine Tesori, Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron
Based on the Alison Bechdel book

Here Lies Love

Produced by The Public Theater
Concept and Lyrics by David Byrne, Music by David Byrne and Fatboy Slim,
Additional Music by Tom Gandey and J Pardo

Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812

Produced by Howard & Janet Kagan, Paula Marie Black, John Logan, Lisa Matlin, Daveed Frazier,
Tom Smedes, Vertical Ent./Roman Gambourg/Lev Gelfer
Written by Dave Malloy

What's It All About? Bacharach Reimagined

Produced by New York Theatre Workshop
Music by Burt Bacharach, Lyrics by Hal David and Others
Conceived by Kyle Riabko and David Lane Seltzer

Outstanding Revival

Good Person of Szechwan

Produced by The Foundry Theatre
Written by Bertolt Brecht, Translation by John Willett

Hand to God

Produced by MCC Theater
Written by Robert Askins

London Wall

Produced by Mint Theater Company
Written by John van Druten

The Model Apartment

Produced by Primary Stages
Written by Donald Margulies

The Weir

Produced by The Irish Repertory Theatre
Written by Conor McPherson

Outstanding Solo Show

Buyer & Cellar

Produced by Darren Bagert, Dan Shaheen, Ted Snowdon, Daryl Roth, Martin Massman, Pat Flicker Addiss, Doug Nevin, Joan Raffé & Jhett Tolentino, Andrew Tobias, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater

Written by Jonathan Tolins

Performed by Michael Urie

How I Learned What I Learned

Produced by Signature Theatre

Written by August Wilson, Co-conceived with Todd Kreidler, in collaboration with Ruben Santiago-Hudson

Performed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson

Satchmo at the Waldorf

Produced by Long Wharf Theatre, Shakespeare and Company, Scott and Roxanne Bok, Roz and Jerry Meyer, Ronald Guttman, Shadowcatcher Entertainment, John LaMattina, Joey Parnes, S.D. Wagner, John Johnson

Written by Terry Teachout

Performed by John Douglas Thompson

Outstanding Director

Rachel Chavkin, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*

Lear deBessonnet, *Good Person of Szechwan*

Sam Gold, *Fun Home*

Alex Timbers, *Here Lies Love*

Moritz von Stuelpnagel, *Hand to God*

Outstanding Choreographer

Martha Clarke, *Chéri*

Marguerite Derricks, *Heathers: The Musical*

Danny Mefford, *Fun Home*

Annie-B Parson, *Here Lies Love*

Sonya Tayeh, *Kung Fu*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play

Steven Boyer, *Hand to God*

Jon DeVries, *Regular Singing*

Peter Friedman, *The Open House*

Taylor Mac, *Good Person of Szechwan*

Armando Riesco, *The Happiest Song Plays Last*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play

Tracee Chimo, *Bad Jews*

Diane Davis, *The Model Apartment*

Carolyn McCormick, *The Open House*

Laurie Metcalf, *Domesticated*

Andrus Nichols, *Bedlam's Hamlet and Saint Joan*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical

Jeff Blumenkrantz, *Murder For Two*

Michael Cerveris, *Fun Home*

Jose Llana, *Here Lies Love*

Kyle Riabko, *What's It All About? Bacharach Reimagined*

Conrad Ricamora, *Here Lies Love*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical

Sydney Lucas, *Fun Home*

Ruthie Ann Miles, *Here Lies Love*

Alexandra Socha, *Fun Home*

Phillipa Soo, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*

Barrett Wilbert Weed, *Heathers: The Musical*

Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play

Carson Elrod, *The Explorers Club*
Philip Ettinger, *Bad Jews*
Russell G. Jones, *The Call*
Jeremy Shamos, *Dinner With Friends*
Fred Weller, *Reasons to Be Happy*

Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play

Hannah Bos, *The Open House*
Lynn Cohen, *I Remember Mama*
Lisa Kron, *Good Person of Szechwan*
Molly Ranson, *Bad Jews*
Sarah Stiles, *Hand to God*

Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical

Heath Calvert, *Nobody Loves You*
Nick Choksi, *Bunty Berman Presents...*
Blake DeLong, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Noah Hinsdale, *Fun Home*
Lucas Steele, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*

Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical

Uzo Aduba, *Venice*
Brittain Ashford, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Melody Butiu, *Here Lies Love*
Judy Kuhn, *Fun Home*
Shaina Taub, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*

Outstanding Scenic Design

Miriam Buether, *Love and Information*
David Korins, *Here Lies Love*
Mimi Lien, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Clint Ramos, *Appropriate*
Matt Saunders, *Good Person of Szechwan*

Outstanding Costume Design

Gabriel Berry and Andrea Hood, *Love and Information*
Clint Ramos, *Here Lies Love*
Anita Yavich, *The Explorers Club*
Paloma Young, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Catherine Zuber, *Far From Heaven*

Outstanding Lighting Design

Daniel Ionazzi, *The Jacksonian*
Bradley King, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Ben Stanton, *Fun Home*
Justin Townsend, *Here Lies Love*
Japhy Weideman, *What's It All About? Bacharach Reimagined*

Outstanding Sound Design

M.L. Dogg and Cody Spencer, *Here Lies Love*
Clive Goodwin, *What's It All About? Bacharach Reimagined*
Matt Hubbs, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*
Ryan Rumery, *The Hatmaker's Wife*
Christopher Shutt, *Love and Information*

SPECIAL AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award

Robyn Goodman

Playwrights' Sidewalk Inductee

Richard Nelson

NOMINATIONS BY SHOW

TITLE	TOTAL
Here Lies Love	11
Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812	11
Fun Home	9
Good Person of Szechwan	5
Bad Jews	4
Hand to God	4
The Open House	4
What's it All About? Bacharach Reimagined	4
Love and Information	3
Domesticated	2
The Explorers Club	2
Heathers: The Musical	2
The Model Apartment	2
Appropriate	1
Bedlam's Hamlet and Saint Joan	1
Bunty Berman Presents...	1
Buyer & Cellar	1
The Call	1
Chéri	1
Dinner with Friends	1
Far From Heaven	1
The Happiest Song Plays Last	1
The Hatmaker's Wife	1
How I Learned What I Learned	1
I Remember Mama	1
The Jacksonian	1
Kung Fu	1
London Wall	1
Murder For Two	1
The Night Alive	1
Nobody Loves You	1
Reasons to be Happy	1
Regular Singing	1
Satchmo at the Waldorf	1
Venice	1
The Weir	1

ABOUT RICHARD NELSON

Richard Nelson's recent plays include a four-play series for the Public Theater called *The Apple Family*, (*Regular Singing*, *Sorry, Sweet and Sad* and *That Hopey Changey Thing*), *Farewell to the Theatre* (Hampstead Theatre), *Nikolai and the Others* (Lincoln Center Theater) and *Conversations in Tusculum* (Public). Other plays include *Frank's Home*, *Rodney's Wife*, *Franny's Way*, *Madame Melville*, *Goodnight Children Everywhere*, *The General From America*, *New England*, *Two Shakespearean Actors*, *Some Americans Abroad* and the musicals, *James Joyce's The Dead* and *My Life With Albertine*. He wrote the screenplays for the films *Hyde Park-on-Hudson* and *Ethan Frome*. Nelson has received a Tony Award and a Lortel Award (Best Book of a Musical for *James Joyce's The Dead*), an Olivier Award (Best Play for *Goodnight Children Everywhere*), two other Tony nominations, a second Olivier nomination, two OBIE's, a New York Drama Critics Circle Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Lila Wallace-Readers' Digest Writers Award. He is the recipient of the PEN/Laura Pels Master Playwright Award, an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and he is an Honorary Associate Artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company, which has produced ten of his plays. He lives in Rhinebeck, New York.

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. Awards may be given in the following categories: Play, Musical, Solo Show, Revival, Alternative Theatrical Experience, Director, Choreographer, Lead Actor and Actress in a Play and Musical, Featured Actor and Actress in a Play and Musical, 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.

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). 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.

ABOUT NYU SKIRBALL CENTER

The Jack H. Skirball Center for the Performing Arts is the premiere 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 Executive 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.

ABOUT THEATRE DEVELOPMENT FUND (TDF)

Theatre Development Fund, a not-for-profit service organization for the performing arts, 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 85 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, 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, a 2012 New York Innovative Theatre Award for its support of the Off-Off-Broadway community and a 2013 Lucille Lortel honor for "Outstanding Body of Work" in support of the Off-Broadway community. For more information go to: www.tdf.org.

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