



April 19, 2016

**For Immediate Release
Office of Public Information**

Crowder Theatre presents “To Kill a Mockingbird”

Neosho, MO – Crowder College Theatre presents “To Kill a Mockingbird”, by Harper Lee adapted by Christopher Sergel, April 28-30, 7:30pm nightly, plus a 2pm matinee on April 30, in the Elsie Plaster Community Center on the Neosho campus. Tickets are available at the door as follows: General Admission - \$8; Senior Citizens/non-Crowder students - \$5; Children - \$5; Crowder Students & Staff - \$4.

This production also has a special event planned for Saturday, April 30, starting at 5pm. Crowder’s Aggie Club and Theatre Department have teamed up to offer “Picnic and a Play”. The event will kick off with games on the Quad starting at 5pm, dinner at 6pm which includes a meal and show ticket. Price for Picnic and a Play is \$12-adults; \$5 children. Tickets may be purchased by calling: 417.455.5458.

NaTasha Davies, Director of Theatre, has cast the production with the following students and volunteers:

SCOUT.....	Kendall Platner (Neosho Jr. High)
JEM FINCH.....	Rodney Raap (Carthage)
ATTICUS FINCH.....	Harry Stuart (Neosho Jr. High Faculty)
CALPERNIA.....	Raina Norris (Monett)
MAUDIE ATKINSON.....	Sarah Neet (Granby High School Faculty)
STEPHANIE CRAWFORD.....	Caitlin Barker (Neosho)
ARTHUR RADLEY (BOO).....	Aaron Patrick (Neosho)
CHARLES BAKER HARRIS (DILL).....	Dayson Fickle (Pineville Middle School)
HECK TATE.....	Kyle Sternes (Granby)
JUDGE TAYLOR/CUNNINGHAM.....	Dalton Compton (Stella)
REV. SYKES.....	Amy Leyva (Seneca)
MAYELLA EWELL.....	Makenzie Schwalm (El Dorado Springs)
BOB EWELL.....	Zaq Ezell (Neosho)
MR. GILMER.....	Phillip Whipkey (Neosho)
TOM ROBINSON.....	Marcus Duncan (Neosho Jr. High)
CLERK/MOB MEMBER.....	Tyler Dallis (Exeter)
EXTRAS/MOB MEMBERS.....	Jason Leggett (Carl Junction), Becca Murray (Neosho), Mekedelawit Sida (Ethiopia) and volunteers from Neosho Middle School

Scout, a young girl in a quiet southern town, is about to experience the dramatic events that will affect the rest of her life. Wide-eyed Scout is fascinated with the sensitively revealed people of her small town, but, from the start, there’s a rumble of thunder just under the calm surface of the life here. The black people of the community have a special feeling about Scout’s father and she doesn’t know why. A few of her white friends are inexplicably hostile and Scout doesn’t understand this either. Unpleasant things



are shouted and the bewildered girl turns to her father. Atticus, a lawyer, explains that he's defending a young Negro wrongfully accused of a grave crime. Since this is causing such an upset, Scout wants to know why he's doing it. "Because if I didn't," her father replies, "I couldn't hold my head up." When she asks why take on such a hopeless fight—the time of the play is 1935—he tells her, "Simply because we were licked a hundred years before we started is no reason not to try." He goes on to prepare Scout for the trouble to come. "We're fighting our friends. But remember this, no matter how bitter things get, they're still our friends."

The Crowder Theatre Department believes in the importance of literacy among today's youth. Our season's theme "Bring a Book: Youth Literacy Campaign" lends itself to an opportunity for us to give back within our community. We've selected various dates throughout the season where we're offering free admission to anyone bringing a new children's book! Free admission will be honored with the donation of a children's book to the 2pm show on Saturday, April 30. The books will be donated to local children, in the hope that we can inspire reading outside of the classroom.

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Please contact NaTasha Davies, NatashaDavies@Crowder.edu or 417-455-5458 if you have additional questions. You may also contact my office.