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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vanities Stars are Better than Fair!

5th Avenue Theatre and ACT collaborate on Northwest premiere of new musical

SEATTLE, WA –Casting of principals for *Vanities: A New Musical*, with music and lyrics by David Kirshenbaum and a book by Jack Heifner, based on Heifner's 1976 play of the same name.

Also, here's some info about the cast:

KATHYCayman Ilika
JOANNE.....Jennifer Sue Johnson
MARY.....Billie Wildrick

Jenni Sue and Billie are of course together again in Texas after appearing together in DAS BBQ last season. Cayman was seen here as Patsy Cline in ALWAYS PATSY CLINE, which played in the Bullitt, and won a Footlight Award for her performance as Miss Julie in the Village's Showboat. You can reach Cayman at 206.920.1635, or by e-mail at: caymanilika@gmail.com

Based on the smash hit 1976 comedy that ran for 1,785 performances Off-Broadway, *Vanities: A New Musical* is a funny, sexy and poignant look at the journey of three All-American girls as they mature from cheerleaders to sorority sisters to independent women. Spanning the turbulent '60s through the late '80s, VANITIES celebrates the lives and loves of three best friends caught up in rapidly changing times.

The show's director is David Armstrong, the Executive Producer and Artistic Director of The 5th Avenue, and the show's musical director is Ian Eisendrath, The 5th's Resident Musical Director. The show's set is being designed by Matt Smucker, whose work at The 5th includes last season's critically acclaimed *Candide*

Cayman was in *Candide* and Jennifer was in *On The town*.
Matt Smucker Scenery
Cathy Hunt Costumes

Tom Sturge Lighting
Ken Travis Sound

5th Ave has a pre-sale to YOUR subs only, Aug 3-17.

Then, tickets officially go on sale to the public Aug 17, which is the basic reason for the release.
-ticketing: all sorted and single tickets are the same for both ACT and 5th, which are \$65

Based on his own Ja

mes Michener's Pulitzer Prize-winning collection of short stories "Tales of the South Pacific," the musical focuses on French plantation owner Emile de Becque and his love interest, Nellie Forbush, a naïve young nurse from Arkansas. Set against the backdrop of the Second World War, *South Pacific* offers a lushly romantic score while challenging audiences with themes of racial intolerance and bigotry.

Tickets for *Vanities*, as well as season subscriptions to the 2009-2010 Season, are available over the phone by calling 206-625-1900/toll-free 888-5TH-4TIX (584-4849), in person at the box office at 1308 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101, or online at www.5thavenue.org.

The 5th Avenue Theatre is Seattle's premier musical theater. In 1980, the non-profit 5th Avenue Theatre began producing and presenting top-quality live musical theater for the cultural enrichment of the Northwest community. The 5th Avenue Theatre maintains a subscription audience of over 25,000 and an annual attendance of more than 287,000. It ranks among the nation's largest and most respected musical theater companies. The Theatre is committed to encouraging the next generation of theatergoers through its Educational Outreach Program which includes: The Adventure Musical Theatre Touring Company, The 5th Avenue High School Musical Theatre Awards, the Student Matinee Program and Spotlight Nights. Unique in its Chinese-inspired design, the exquisite theater opened in 1926 as a venue for vaudeville and film. Today, under the leadership of Executive Producer and Artistic Director David Armstrong, Managing Director Bernie Griffin and Producing Director Bill Berry, The 5th Avenue Theatre continues to achieve the highest standards in all aspects of artistic endeavors and facility operations, while preserving its artistic, architectural and historic legacy. Visit www.5thavenue.org.

Special thanks to The 5th's 2011 Corporate Co-Sponsors Safeco Insurance and US Bank.

Please contact **John Longenbaugh**, Public Relations Manager, at **(206) 625-1418** with questions or to schedule individual interviews.