



COLLEGE
of the
DESERT

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COLLEGE OF THE DESERT PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

**'A Funny Thing Happened on
the Way to the Forum'**

A musical by Stephen Sondheim

PALM DESERT, CA — College of the Desert (COD) Performing Arts celebrates Stephen Sondheim's joyous, musical romp through Rome, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." The full-scale production is at the McCallum Theatre complete with a live orchestra of 20 musicians. Performances run April 27-30, 2017.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" is a fast-paced farce that will have audiences rolling on the floor. Taken straight from the roots of comedy, "Forum" combines the ancient comedies of Plautus with a vaudevillian delivery. Pseudolus schemes to win the heart of the beautiful virgin, Philia, for his young master, Hero. In exchange, Hero will grant Pseudolus his freedom once and for all. However, things are never as easy as they seem. Chaos ensues with hair-brained schemes, case of mistaken identity, slamming doors and convoluted plot twists.

The production stars Lou Galvan as Pseudolus, Daniel Zepeda as Hero, Alisha Bates as Philia, Cameron Merrihew as Miles Gloriosus, Stan Jenson as Senex, Adina Lawson as Domina, Stegar Thompson as Hysterium and Mark Duebner as Lycus. The strong supporting cast features Jackson Dean, Heidi Hapner, Sam Martinez, Amber Mora, Rebecca Rodriguez, Victoria Rodriguez, Garnett Smith, Julia Smith, Nisandre Stewart and Sydney Tiszai. The production is directed and choreographed by Janet Miller with musical direction by Scott Smith.

Don't miss this hysterical musical based on the plays "Miles Gloriosus," "Pseudolus," and "Mostellaria" by Plautus. The original Broadway production won several Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Book. One of the funniest musicals ever written, FORUM promises: "something for everyone: a comedy tonight!"

Tickets and information:

<http://mccallumtheatre.com/index.php/shows/2016-2017-season/other-shows/the-forum?refe=3577>.

43500 Monterey Avenue, Palm Desert, CA 92260
760.346.8041 — www.collegeofthedesert.edu

The Desert Theatre League gave five awards to the COD production of "Victor/Victoria." The spring 2016 musical won the following awards: Outstanding Production Musical/Opera/Pageant; Outstanding Musical Director of a Musical/Opera/Pageant, Darlene Romano; The Michele Gaines Award for Outstanding Choreographer of a Musical/Opera/Pageant, Randy Slovacek; Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical/Opera/Pageant, Chelsey Clime; and The Ron Hamm Award for Outstanding Hair and Makeup Design, Lynda Shaeps.

About the Performing Arts Program:

College of the Desert's Theatre Arts curriculum includes course offerings that provide a general overview and history of the discipline, training in acting, makeup, design, technical production, and script analysis. Students can earn an Associates of Arts (AA) or an Associates of Arts for Transfer (AA-T). Both degrees require many of the same courses. Students don't have to be a theatre major to take the classes. Many find that the coursework can improve their ability to communicate, problem solve, speak publicly, build self-confidence and work successfully both collaboratively and independently. Details about the degree can be found on page 128 in the College Catalog online at <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/cs/Pages/default.aspx>.

About College of the Desert:

Established in 1958, College of the Desert (COD), located in Palm Desert, is an accredited community college serving eastern Riverside County, California. The College leads the region in providing quality, higher education, technical training and lifelong learning opportunities, in response to the dynamic needs of our diverse community. The College serves more than 14,000 credit students and 1,000 non-credit students each year and is the number one source of transfer students to California State University, San Bernardino Palm Desert Campus. For more information, visit www.collegeofthedesert.edu.

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