

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TIMELINE THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES SECOND EXTENSION
OF ITS ACCLAIMED CHICAGO PREMIERE OF ALAN BENNETT'S
THE HISTORY BOYS – NOW PLAYING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27**

**THE FIRST PLAY OF TIMELINE'S 2009-10 SEASON, ARTHUR MILLER'S
ALL MY SONS, MOVED TO CHICAGO'S GREENHOUSE THEATER CENTER**

As a result of unprecedented ticket demand resulting in 15 weeks of sold-out performances, TimeLine Theatre Company announces a second extension of its critically acclaimed Chicago premiere of *The History Boys* by Alan Bennett, directed by Nick Bowling. TimeLine will continue the play, originally scheduled to close on June 21 and previously extended to August 2, now through September 27, 2009, at TimeLine Theatre, 615 Wellington Ave., Chicago.

Tickets for *The History Boys* extension are available online at timelinetheatre.com or via phone by calling the TimeLine Theatre Box Office at **773.281.TIME (8463)**.

While *The History Boys* continues at TimeLine's home on Wellington Avenue, the company will launch the 2009-10 season as scheduled by moving its production of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* to the Greenhouse Theater Center Downstairs Mainstage, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, just 8 blocks south of TimeLine. *All My Sons* performance dates remain the same as previously announced: August 31 – October 4, 2009 (previews 8/27 – 8/30). Press Opening for *All My Sons* is Monday, August 31 at 7 p.m. Tickets for *All My Sons* will go on sale July 22, 2009. FlexPass subscriptions for TimeLine's 2009-10 season are currently available for \$85 - \$112. Further details about the production are still to be announced.

"*The History Boys* has been a phenomenon, introducing thousands of new audience members to TimeLine's unique mission and art for the first time," said TimeLine Artistic Director PJ Powers. "We are poised to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities this remarkable show provides, while maintaining our commitment to a new season and new artistic endeavors. And at a time when many organizations are cutting back and playing it safe, we are energized to be pushing our organization forward and maximizing every opportunity."

***The History Boys* Performance Schedule**

The performance schedule for *The History Boys* between June 24 and September 27 is: Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

EXCEPTIONS TO THIS SCHEDULE ARE:

- No performance on Saturday, June 27 at 3 p.m.
- No performance on Sunday, June 28
- No performance on Saturday, July 4 at 3 p.m.
- No performances Wednesday, August 5 through Sunday, August 9
- No performance on Saturday, August 15 at 3 p.m.
- The Sunday, August 16 performance will begin at 7 p.m.

The History Boys runs 3 hours and 10 minutes, including one intermission.

***The History Boys* Tickets**

Tickets for *The History Boys* extension performances are \$32 (Wednesday – Friday) or \$42 (Saturday & Sunday). Student tickets are \$10 off regular price, with valid ID. Group rates for groups of 10 or more are available. Advance purchase is strongly recommended as performances regularly sell out.

About *The History Boys*

The recipient of more than 30 major awards, including Tony and Olivier awards for Best New Play, *The History Boys* follows a rambunctious group of clever young men as they pursue higher learning, games, sexual identity and a place at university under the guidance of three wildly different teachers and a headmaster obsessed with results. Set during the 1980s in northern England, it is a hilarious and provocative play about the anarchy of adolescence and the purpose of education — specifically, how history should be taught.

TimeLine's production of *The History Boys* has been met with critical and audience response unprecedented in the company's history, with performances selling out weeks in advance and nearly universal praise in reviews:

The Wall Street Journal: "Nick Bowling's staging is actually more effective in certain key ways than the original National Theatre production ... one of the smartest shows I've seen all season ... I strongly suggest that you hurry to [see it], no matter whether you live in, near or remotely close to Chicago."

Chicago Tribune: "More intimate, more enveloping, more stirring, and in places more emotionally sophisticated ... [a] simply astonishing level of authenticity in sound, look and mood. ... A triumphant revision, Chicago-style."

Chicago Sun-Times: "One of those Chicago productions that exults in the glory of the ensemble ... altogether remarkable ... in many ways better than the excellent Broadway edition ... Nabbing the rights to this play was a coup for TimeLine, but no theater could have done a finer job."

Photos, audio and video excerpts and interviews available upon request.

***The History Boys* Location/Transportation/Parking/Accessibility**

TimeLine Theatre is located at 615 W. Wellington Ave., inside the Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ building, near the corner of Wellington and Broadway in Chicago's Lakeview East neighborhood. CTA El stops at Diversey (Brown/Purple lines) and Belmont (Red/Brown/Purple lines) are nearby. CTA busses #36-Broadway, #76-Diversey, #77-Belmont, #22-Clark and #8-Halsted stop nearby. There are two flights of stairs totaling 18 steps between the street and the theater, with no elevator. Visit timelinetheatre.com for complete directions and parking information.

PARKING DEAL: Park for up to 6 hours for \$8 (with validation) at the Standard Parking lots at Broadway Center, 2846 N. Broadway, and Century Center, 2836 N. Clark St. There is also limited street parking, and several other paid parking facilities, located nearby.

***The History Boys* Audience Resources**

An extensive production Study Guide, video previews, events information and many other details are available at timelinetheatre.com/history_boys.

Sponsors

TimeLine's 2008-09 season is sponsored in part by the **McCormick Foundation**. The extension of *The History Boys* is sponsored in part by **Bernard Holicky**.

About TimeLine Theatre Company

Founded in April 1997, TimeLine Theatre Company's mission is to present stories inspired by history that connect with today's social and political issues. TimeLine has presented 38 previous productions, including six world premieres and 10 Chicago premieres. Praised as "a must-see company" (*Chicago Sun-Times*) and a "fast-rising Chicago company" (*The New York Times*) and recipient of the 2006 Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence and the 2008 Richard Goodman Strategic Planning Award from the Association for Strategic Planning, TimeLine has received 37 Non-Equity Jeff Awards, including an award for Outstanding Production in six of the past eight seasons. TimeLine's 2008-09 season is presented under contract with Actors Equity Association.

TimeLine is led by Artistic Director PJ Powers and Managing Director Elizabeth K. Auman. Company members are Nick Bowling, Janet Ulrich Brooks, Lara Goetsch, Juliet Hart, David Parkes, PJ Powers and Benjamin Thiem. TimeLine is a member of the League of Chicago Theatres, Theatre Communications Group and the Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce.